

Reflection— — *Lord save me I am sinking!*

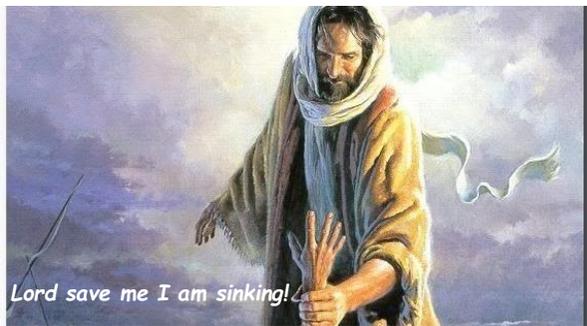
Today's Gospel directly follows last week's account of Jesus feeding a crowd of more than 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. For the sake of the crowds, Jesus had postponed his time of solitude. Now, at last, Jesus finds some time for quiet and prayer. He sends his disciples ahead of him by boat, dismisses the crowds, and then withdraws to the mountain to pray.

The disciples do not fare well. They struggle to weather the wind and waves, making little progress in their journey. We are reminded of a previous story in [Chapter 8](#) of Matthew's Gospel, when Jesus calms the seas. This time, however, Jesus does not calm the seas, and the disciples do not express fear until they see Jesus walking toward them on the water. In this story it is not the storm that is feared but the sight of Jesus before them, whom they mistake for a ghost.

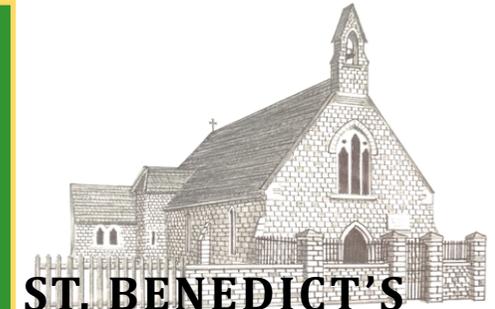
Clues like these suggest that this story is about the disciples' growing understanding of the identity of Jesus. In continuity with [last week's Gospel](#) about the feeding of the multitude, today's Gospel is also about what the disciples' faith in Jesus will enable them to do. In last week's Gospel, when the disciples see the crowds, they ask Jesus to send the crowds away. Jesus turns the situation around, telling the disciples to feed the crowd with the provisions that they have. Both of these Gospels tell us much about ministry.

Jesus calls to the disciples and calms their fears. He is not a ghost. The impulsive Peter seeks proof that the person is indeed Jesus.

Jesus calls to the disciples and calms their fears. He is not a ghost. The impulsive Peter asks Jesus to call him out onto the water, and Jesus grants this request. Peter's fear and doubt overtake him, however, once he is walking on the water. Jesus reaches out to Peter and saves him. When Jesus and Peter enter the boat, Matthew reports that the wind ceases, and the disciples confess that Jesus is the Son of God.



**THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY
OF ORDINARY TIME**
Saturday 8th August 2020
Vigil Mass 4 pm
Sunday 9th August Mass
at 9.30am



**ST. BENEDICT'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Owen Street, Atherstone
Warwickshire, CV9 1DG

Parish Priest: Fr. Paul R. Lomas

E mail: Stbenedict.atherstone@rcaob.org.uk

Tel No: 01827 736286

Website: www.saintbenedictscatherstone.com

Saturday 8th **The 19TH** Vigil Mass 4pm *Parishioners*
Sunday 9th **of Ordinary Time** Mass 9.30 am *Sean Loma RIP*
Monday 10th St. Laurence Dn, Martyr **NO MASS**
Tuesday 11th St. Clare Mass 10 am *Peter Tacon RIP*
Wednesday 12th Feria, Mass 10 am *All those away from home.*
Thursday 13th Feria, Mass 10 am *Veronica Johnson RIP*
Friday 14th Feria, Ap. Mass 10 am *All those who mourn lost
loved ones.*

Saturday 15th THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Vigil Mass 4 pm *Parishioners*

Sunday 16th Mass 9.30 am *All those on front line fighting the pandemic*

Next Week : THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Saturday 15th August 2020 Vigil Mass 4 pm

Sunday 16th August 9.30am



Archdiocese of Birmingham is a Registered Charity 234216

IF YOU ARE GOING TO COME TO MASS THIS WEEKEND YOU NEED TO INFORM FR. PAUL BY TELEPHONE – 07973239942 OR E MAIL Fr.paul.lomas@rcaob.org.uk

COVID 19 VIRUS IS STILL PREVALENT SO KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE FROM EACH OTHER. TOUCH AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE.



MASS ATTENDANCE IN THE MONTH OF JULY

2020	4/5	NOT OPEN	11/12	32
	18/19	30	25/27	28

We offer sympathy to Anne Senter and her family on the burial of he brother Brendan Duigan last Thursday. Also to Sean & Fritz Loma on the death of their 23 year old son Sean last Thursday (6th Aug) after a battle with cancer. May they both rest in peace.

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH DURING THE PANDEMIC

The work of the parish goes on and needs financing. We still need your support, even more so as without our weekly congregations and visitors, finances are tighter. Recognising that many parishioners may be struggling financially, there is no expectation to give where you are unable to do so. However if you can, it would be much appreciated. Either cash or a cheque handed IN AT Mass or through the presbytery door. You can donate via standing order or a single donation if easier. We are grateful to those who pay by standing order already. Thank you for your support. With only 30-35 coming to mass at weekends we are missing the cash that we usually receive each week.

The work on the church roof above sanctuary, was to be completed this week, but there is a wasp nest in the roof and that needs dealing with first! Also the French drain around the perimeter of the church, and the rented property (9 Owen Street) needs urgent repair work too. We have to fund this

THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASSES THIS WEEKEND. WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD THAT WE HAVE ARRIVED AT THIS POINT. PLEASE :-

1. SANITISE YOUR HANDS WHEN ARRIVING AND LEAVING CHURCH.
2. WEAR FACE COVERING AT ALL TIMES.
3. ONLY SIT ON PEWS WHERE DIRECTED TO.
4. MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING AT ALL TIMES. (NO PHYSICAL CONTACT AT EXCHANGE OF PEACE).
5. WHEN RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION, DO SO ON HAND ONLY AND MOVE WHEN DIRECTED TO.
6. THERE ARE NO NEWS SHEETS HANDED OUT, NO HYMN BOOKS TO HOLD, NO SINGING BECAUSE OF SPREAD OF VIRUS.
7. LEAVE CHURCH AFTER MASS WHEN DIRECTED BY STEWARDS.

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Did you notice the beautiful flower display before the altar last Sunday. Well you can see it again this weekend. It is a lovely arrangement and was provided by a parishioner. If people make a donation for flowers we could have a display like or similar to that each week.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

This was resumed from this weekend. 1st/2nd August 2020 It will be Saturday morning 11.30 to 12 noon each week. Due to the social distancing it will be on the benches in the front presbytery garden. Please telephone to let me know your coming 07973239942.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

May the Communion we share today with the members of our parish family who are at home or in hospital, remind us to live for one another and give them a sense of belonging to our family and to this celebration.

Mass each day continues to be shown live on my Facebook page—Paul Roy Lomas. It is also available to use after the Mass has ended in case you can't be on your computer, smart phone