

## EXPLORING THE SUNDAY GOSPEL AT HOME

# GALES

### EXPLORING NEXT SUNDAY'S THEME

#### *Reflecting on the Gospel*

*Jesus stills the storm (Matthew 14: 22-33)*

Jesus and the disciples had come away by boat to find a quiet place. Instead they found a crowd of five thousand people. After the feeding Jesus sends the disciples back into the boat and he withdraws up the mountain to pray. The winds rose quickly, the sea is stirred up and the disciples are afraid. Jesus comes to them through the gale and the winds drop. Here is good evidence that Jesus does not desert his disciples in their hour of need when buffeted by the gales of life.

Our image to stimulate reflection on this passage is *gales*.

#### *Extracts from the Gospel passage (Matthew 14: 29-32)*

So Peter got out of the boat,  
started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus.  
But when he noticed the strong wind,  
he became frightened, and beginning to sink,  
he cried out, 'Lord, save me!'  
Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him,  
saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?'  
When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

#### *Gospel prayer*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you came to Peter  
when he was in distress.  
Come to us when we are battered by the storms of life,  
that we may grasp your steady hand;  
for you are our God.  
Amen.

## **ENGAGING WITH THE THEME AT HOME**

### ***Reflecting and meditating***

Reflect on the narrative about the storm at sea in Matthew 14: 22-33:

- what details in the passage catch your attention?
- what big ideas does the passage spark in your mind?
- what most touches your heart in the passage?
- what most stretches your mind and makes you think in the passage?

### ***Thinking and talking***

- what do you make of Jesus sending the disciples away?
- what do you understand by Jesus calming the storm?
- what do you make of Jesus walking on the water?
- what do you understand by the encounter between Jesus and Peter?
- what does this narrative say for us today?

### ***Using your Bible***

See how Matthew develops Mark's account of the storm by adding the narrative about Peter attempting to walk on the water. See how John's account also tells of this storm following the feeding of the 5,000:

- Mark 6: 45-51
- John 6: 15-21

Explore passages in the Old Testament that speak of the destructive power of wind and waves:

- Psalm 65: 5-8
- Psalm 89: 5-10

### ***Exploring online***

- explore pictures and videos of storms at sea
- explore the Godly Play video of Jesus calming the storm
- explore classic art of storms at sea

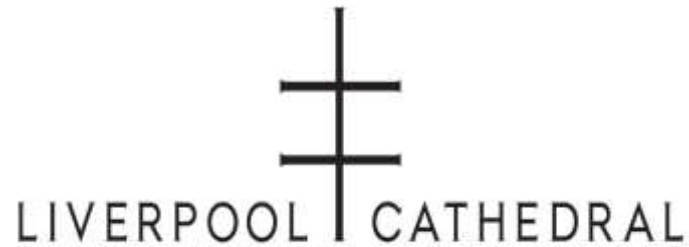
### ***Drawing on experience***

- reflect on your experience of being caught in a gale
- reflect on your experience of the damaging effect of wind and water
- reflect on your experience of being buffeted by the gales of life

## PROPER 14 (YEAR A) SUNDAY 9 AUGUST 2020

### *Creating and making*

- make a model boat for Jesus and his disciples
- collect pictures of storms at sea and on land for a poster: Jesus calmed the storm
- create a collage showing the storm, the boat, Jesus, and Peter
- create a reflection, poem or prayer on the theme of gales



## **EXPLORING THE SUNDAY GOSPEL AT HOME**

Each week we are inviting people in their homes to look forward to those Sunday services that follow the Revised Common Lectionary Gospel readings. We employ the SIFT approach (Sensing, Intuition, Feeling, and Thinking) to encourage reflection on the Sunday Gospel. We are suggesting a variety of ways in which people of all ages, and households working together, may engage with the Gospel reading and celebrate that engagement with shared activities.

Our invitation then is for you to share your reflections, prayers and photos of your creative work with the Cathedral by emailing them to [Nelson.Pike@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:Nelson.Pike@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk)

These materials have been developed by the Canon Theologian of Liverpool Cathedral working in collaboration with the staff team here at the Cathedral, and with sponsorship and support from the St Mary's Centre in Wales and the St Christopher's College Trust.



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