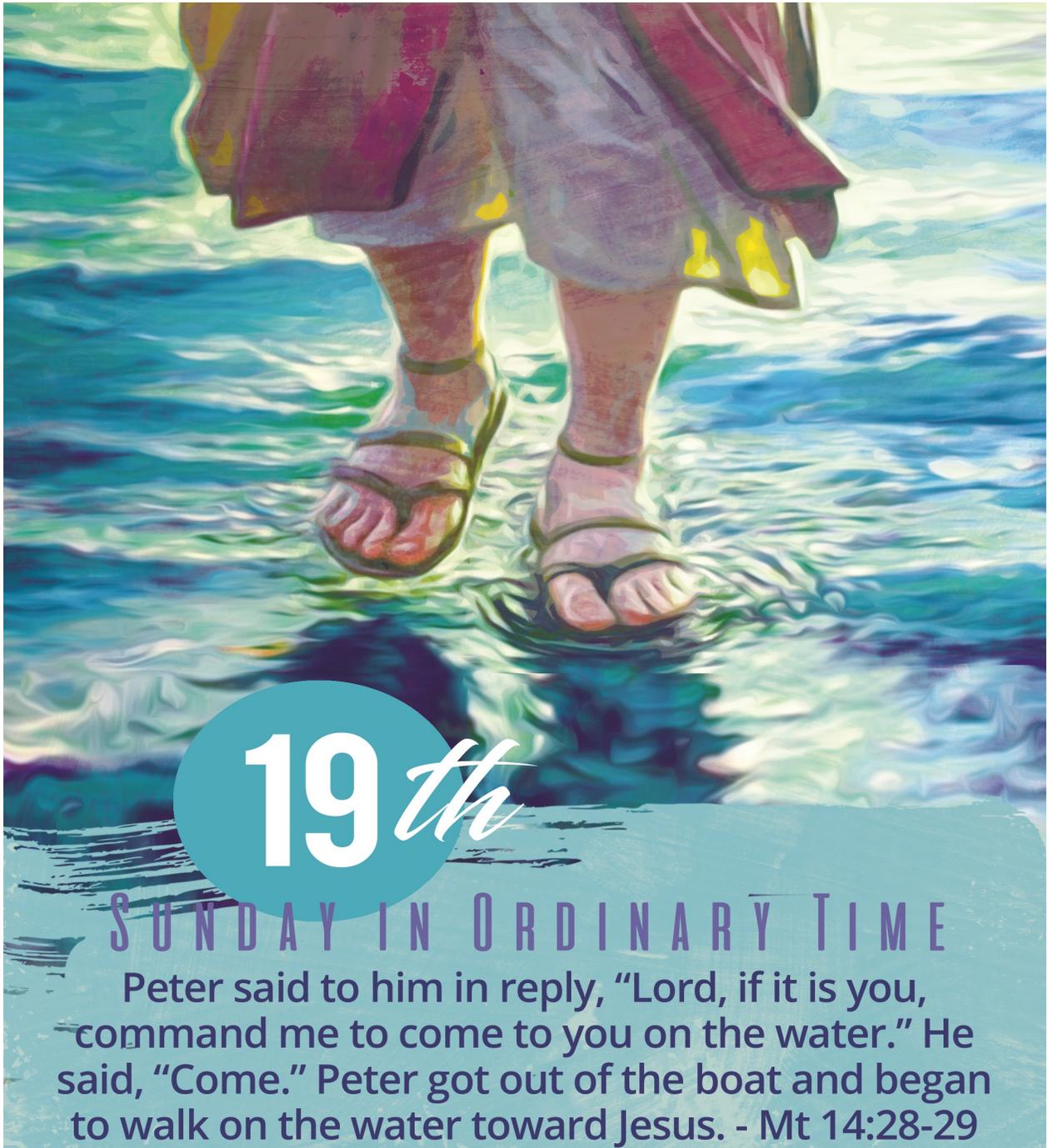




18th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 9, 2020

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH



**19<sup>th</sup>**  
**SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you,  
command me to come to you on the water." He  
said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began  
to walk on the water toward Jesus. - Mt 14:28-29

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## FATHER MARK'S NOTES

*I know many have heard that loving others is a deep expression of our love for God, but have we ever heard that love for creation is also a deep expression of our love of God?*

### **Our Gospel This Week and Created Week 3**

I hope everyone has been able to read, study, and discussion the documents provided in our message series “Created.” This week, week 3, we pivot away from looking at creation as a wonderful gift, to challenging ourselves to see that our love for God is profoundly expressed in our love for one another -- and for creation. And, I’m not sure we have ever seen it that way. I know many have heard that loving others is a deep expression of our love for God, but have we ever heard that love for creation is also a deep expression of our love of God.

Given our Gospel today, how is God calling us from the comfort and safety of the boat to walk into the chaos and storm? Or, how is God calling us not to be afraid of the wind, the waves, and into the chaos of true discipleship? Is God calling us, not to the safety of the boat, but to go forward toward Him, which may even mean walking on water? Is it a call to a more profound commitment to Jesus, commitment to one another, and commitment to respect this beautiful gift of creation? Doing it without God hasn’t gotten us very far. We need to constantly reach out to Jesus, go forward, getting out of the boat and putting one foot in front of the other.

So, let me ask: How are things going in your walk of Faith? Are we moving forward, doing all we can? Now, please understand me, I’m not speaking to those whose health could be compromised by coming to Mass. And, I want to say here, we are doing all we can to make Church a safe environment. And, if you have thought deeply about all this and have made a decision – I honor that – whatever it is. If we, since the pandemic, are spiritually drifting, how can I begin again to go forward. This is something each of us must ask ourselves. I ask myself that question each day. What must I do to commit myself ever more deeply to become an intentional disciple of Jesus? I think it’s the question and challenge of the Gospel and our day!!!

### **Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Virgin Mary**

The Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Virgin Mary, August 15, lands on a Saturday this year so the obligation has been lifted for the holy day. We will be celebrating the feast day at St. Michael’s at 6 pm on Friday, August 14, and at Our Mother of Sorrows at 8 am on Saturday, August 15. Please join us as we celebrate and recall the spiritual and physical departure of the mother of Jesus from the earth.



We've discussed that ALL IS GIFT, and we've explored the reality that GOD IS PRESENT throughout all of creation. Now, we are invited to come to see that all **LIFE HAS DIGNITY**. Because we all exist as intentional acts of creation by a loving God, each of us possesses an infinite dignity — yes, all of us, including you! What does this mean for how we are called to treat others and treat creation? Join us for Week Three of Created to learn more: [unitybelt.com/created](http://unitybelt.com/created)

- If you could be any animal in all of creation for a day, what would you be?
- What is your gut reaction to the idea that all life has dignity?
- What do you think about the idea that our value isn't based on being "useful"?
- If you could see all people the way that God sees, how do you think that would affect you?
- How do you feel about the seemingly impossible task of loving all of creation?
- What strikes you the most about the story of St. Maximilian Kolbe?
- What's one tangible thing you can change in your own life to reflect the inherent dignity of all creation?

## OMOS OUTREACH

<p>BROKEN DINNER AUGUST 6</p>	<p>The first Thursday of each month, OMOS takes a turn to prepare a meal for @55 people who have difficulty obtaining a warm meal. Thanks to our volunteers for the warm pasta/broccoli dish with salad and dessert! You make a difference! Watch for sign-ups to the Broken Dinner on September 3.</p>
<p>WESTMONT LUNCHES MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS</p>	<p>Each Monday and Thursday, lunch items are provided to kids who may not always have a prepared meal at home. We can all share in the needs of the community, so if you have two hours to spare to pick up and hand out the lunches, please contact Linda, 691-0661.</p>
<p><b>NEW</b> Those who need an extra hand</p>	<p>There is a small team of people who volunteer their time to help those who are struggling financially/physically with small jobs in and around their home or out in the community. Contact OMOS if you need help OR if you would like to volunteer for this ministry. We welcome skilled and not so skilled people to help us with a variety of tasks. Be the hands and feet of Christ!</p>
<p>FOOD COLLECTION</p>	<p>Our food bins keep filling up! When you are grocery shopping pick up extra non-perishables for the St. Clement's Food Pantry or the SVDP Tuna Noodle Dinner. The bins are located behind Holy Grounds. Drive up and drop off!</p>
<p>SERVICE SATURDAY AUGUST 15</p>	<p>St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store—Meet at 10 am to sort, tag, and hang clothes. OR Community Food Truck Distribution—Meet at Johnstown High School at 11 am to help unload the truck and distribute food.</p>

## 7 Reasons To Join A Small Group:

### 1. Fellowship

Being able to come together each week with others who have the same interest as I do is a true blessing. Fellowship is so important and is spoken about many times in the Bible.

*"We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have **fellowship** with us. And our **fellowship** is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ."* 1 John 1:3

### 2. Sharing God's Work

Sharing in your small group the many ways God has been working in your life is one of my favorite things to listen to and share. It is personal, and many times you can see the difference or the impact that event has had on another person in your group.

*"For I am the LORD your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, **Do not fear; I will help you.**"* Isaiah 41:13

### 3. Support

We are surrounded by others who are reading God's word and applying it to their daily lives. So when we get support from within our small groups, we can support advice with the support of what the Bible is telling us.

*"What you are doing is not good. You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; **you cannot handle it alone.**"* Exodus 18:17-18

### 4. Planting and Watering

There will be believers in many different stages of their walk with Jesus. By discussing scripture and your experiences with God, you can be planting new seeds among the group, especially those who have gained much wisdom from the Bible. Just as others may be planting seeds, others can be right behind you watering them, supporting those thoughts and in-depth discussions, then it is God's turn to do the rest! This is the beauty of small groups!

*"What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. **So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.** The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building."* 1 Corinthians 3: 5-9

### 5. Discussing God's Word

Participation in an in-depth discussion of scripture verses fills you differently. It widens the meaning of the scripture and lets you see it from a different light by hearing it from another group member. This is something you benefit from because we hear and see the scripture's effect on others' hearts, not just our own.

*"For the **word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**"* Hebrews 4:12

### 6. Growing Together

As you take on new studies within your group, you will see the fruit your group produces, both individually and as a whole. Some of that growth can be small, but it doesn't mean it is not fruitful.

*"...We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: **bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God**"* Colossians 1: 9-10

### 7. Praying Together

Ending each small group gathering with prayer is so important. It allows you to pray intimately for the other group members, build a stronger relationship, and allow the Holy Spirit to be present at a quiet moment.

*"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. **We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.** And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit because **the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.**"* Romans 8: 26-27

If you currently are not a part of a small group, maybe now is the time. Reach out to your friends and start a group today. The growth you have seen within yourself just from studying God's Word individually will grow substantially faster and stronger through the fellowship of your group members! If you would like help finding a group sign, up online, and we will get you connected.

## WEEKLY & MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Monday, August 10  
6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration  
8 a.m.—Mass

Tuesday, August 11  
6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration  
7:30 a.m.—Confession  
8 a.m.—Mass

Wednesday, August 12  
7:00 a.m.—Praise and Worship  
4:30 p.m.—Eucharistic Adoration  
5:30 p.m.—Confessions  
6 p.m.—Mass

Thursday, August 13  
6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration  
8 a.m.—Mass

Friday, August 14  
6 p.m.—Mass at St. Michaels  
**Server:** Tim Burgess

Saturday, August 15  
8 a.m.—Mass at OMOS

Saturday, August 15  
3 pm—Confessions  
4 p.m.—Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Haley Kessler  
**Lector:** Cathy Vigna  
**Euch. Min.** Linda Rosenbaum, Tom Simmons, Michelle Petrell

Saturday, August 15  
6 p.m.—Mass at St. Michaels

**Server:** Serenity Williams  
**Lector:** Mary Ann Rizzuto

Sunday, August 16  
8:30 a.m.—Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Caden Miller  
**Lector:** Adeline Mishler  
**Euch. Min:** Carol Battaglia, Kim Belskey, Ron Golias

Sunday, August 16  
11:00—Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Joseph Gritzer  
**Lector:** Tom Polacek  
**Euch. Min:** Maria Nesmith, Amy Bradley, Gil McDonald

**12:30 p.m.**—Communion outside Mass



## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 8—Vigil  
4:00 p.m. Ed Sheehan, Sr. (wife, FloAnn)  
6:00 p.m. Patricia Kessler (Nancy Lill)

Sunday, August 9 -19th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:30 a.m. John Zupa (Patty & Kathy)  
11:00 a.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of Nick & Donna Antonazzo (wedding Anniversary)

Monday, August 10  
8:00 a.m. Liz Danielli (Ken & Michelle St. Clair)

Tuesday, August 11  
8:00 a.m. Robert Reese (Louise Fisher)

Wednesday, August 12  
6:00 p.m. Sandra Orlosky (Justin & Tom)

Thursday, August 13  
8:00 a.m. Donald Loeper (Bernadette Wolff)

Friday, August 14—Vigil—Assumption of Our Blessed Virgin Mary  
6:00 p.m.. Mary Jane Pfaller (Theresa & Jane Pfaller)

Saturday, August 15—Assumption of Our Blessed Virgin Mary  
8:00 a.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of St. Michaels & OMOS Parishioners

Saturday, August 15—Vigil  
4:00 p.m. Mary Jane Messich (Chip & Maria Ziegler)  
6:00 p.m. Michael Burgess (Gene Vamos)

Sunday, August 16 –20th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:30 a.m. Stephen Mosorjak (Tim & Jackie Ayres)  
11:00 a.m. Paul Burns (wife, Dolly & Family)

## WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: 2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 [5]/Jn 12:24-26  
Tuesday: Ez 2:8—3:4/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 [103a]/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14  
Wednesday: Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [4b]/Mt 18:15-20  
Thursday: Ez 12:1-12/Ps 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62 [cf. 7b]/Mt 18:21—19:1  
Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [1c]/Mt 19:3-12  
Saturday: *Vigil:* 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 [8] 1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28. *Day:* Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 [10bc]/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56  
Next Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [4]/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28