

saint John fisher chapel

UNIVERSITY PARISH

June 20, 2021 ● The 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Kean Perspective: "Jesus is in Charge"

The powerful image of Jesus asleep at the back of the boat which is being tossed about in a storm raises in my mind an unusual side thought – wow, Jesus was a really heavy sleeper! Though that is a valid point to consider, the first reading from the Book of Job brings a deeper understanding to the gospel.



We hear a section near the end of the Book of Job where Job, whose suffering is legendary, spends most of the book pleading for God to give him a response as to why he has been suffering so much. Three of Job's friends arrive along with an excited youth

who, one at a time, try to convince Job that he should just curse God and die and thus be done with all the suffering (great friends, right?!). Finally, Job receives his response from the Lord God. It is a strong response too, one that could be likened to buffeting winds coming from a storm. Nevertheless, after receiving such chastising, Job is content. He doesn't mind being rebuffed; the only important thing is that the Lord is there to respond to him. God is harsh also to the "friends" in defense of Job, but the friends just seem to disappear. God declares that he has set limits to the proud waves, that they shall come to a certain point and no farther. God sets the limits on the chaos of the world; God is in charge!

When Jesus is awakened by the disciples who cry to him like scared children, he immediately stills the waves. Jesus is in charge. The disciples are amazed and, like Job, their fears evaporate in the wonder of what just happened. Jesus is more than a miracle worker for healings – more importantly, Jesus shows mastery over creation. Various prophets demonstrated the ministry of miraculous healing that Jesus manifested, but only Moses could come close to claiming such a miracle over creation in the parting of the Red Sea. Of course, in that instance it was clear that Moses was operating as an instrument of God. Jesus calms the storm of his own authority. No wonder the apostles are awestruck, and to their credit they turn their attention immediately to Jesus.

In youth ministry there is a popular song called, "Our God is an Awesome God." This scene of the calming of the storm is a reminder of that reality. Sometimes people are surprised when, faced with a ministerial challenge, I can smile, shrug my shoulders, and say, "We'll carry on." At those moments, I remember that our God is an awesome God, and that Jesus is ultimately in charge. He cares for us just as much as he did for the apostles in the boat. As long as we can turn to him in moments of prayer, we can carry on with the confidence of Job who faced much bigger trials.

—Fr. Jim Kean

ST. JOHN FISHER CHAPEL

UNIVERSITY PARISH

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[Facebook.com/SJFCUP](https://www.facebook.com/SJFCUP)

MASS TIMES

Tuesday:

12:15pm Mass

Wednesday:

12:15pm Mass

Thursday:

7:15pm Mass

Friday:

12:15pm Mass

Saturday:

8:30am Mass

Sunday:

10:00am & 6:00pm Mass

CONFESSION TIMES

Tuesday, 1:05-1:50pm (Drive-thru)

Thursday, 6:00pm in Church

Saturday, 9:00am in Church

PRAYER & DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration

1:00pm every Tuesday

6:00pm every Thursday

Parish Rosary

8:00am every Saturday

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24

Psalms: 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

6/20/21 at 10:00am - *Fr. John Dudek*
at 6:00pm - *Fr. Bob Voiland*

6/21/21 at 12:15pm - *Fr. Zaid Chabaan*

6/22/21 at 12:15pm - Sean Robinson

6/23/21 at 7:15pm - *James Radich, III*

6/24/21 at 12:15pm - *Fr. John Carlin*

6/25/21 at 9:00am - *Fr. Jim Kean*

PARISH CONTACTS

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PROGRAM SURVEY

If you are a family (registered or non-registered) with children in grades K-12, please take a moment to fill out the short survey found at www.sjfchapel.org to help us better plan for Religious Ed. at St. John Fisher.



FINANCE UPDATE

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Our Offertory is the primary source of funds for our day-

to-day operations. Donations through our online giving program are deposited daily.

For the week ending June 13, 2021:

Envelopes: \$1,394

Electronic: \$1,733

Total: \$3,127

For Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

YTD Offertory Collected: \$275,173

YTD Offertory Budgeted: \$400,533

Over/(Short) from Budget: (\$125,360)

Our current year to date offertory shortfall of (\$125,360) is measured against an offertory budget target which is about 46% below our past giving level.



THE SEMINARIAN

FATHERHOOD

One of the many Blessings in my life is to have wonderful Christian friends who are fathers now. Inter-

acting with their kids I am always amazed at the mark of their father i.e., my friends. I was recently invited for lunch at my friend Mike's house. His Son Tommy, who turned one this Easter, started taking baby steps. With

a big smile Mike started cheering for Tommy "Come on, Tommy! You can do it! Let go and come to Daddy!" Suddenly Tommy with shaky knees started taking a few steps with a bright smile and, upon stumbling, his face turned into a look of horror. But the minute Tommy saw Mike extending his hand he had his smile back and ran into Mike's arms. It made me reflect on three of the many aspects of fatherhood: Caring, Life-giving and Tender love.

A father is **caring** because within his fatherhood he recognizes and acknowledges God the Father's providential care. The very existence of the world is an expression of the goodness of God. God is Father as the origin of creatures in their contingency by granting them existence, caring for them, and making possible their continued life and independence. A human father is a good father to the extent that he reflects God the Father in his own life and vocation. God's love is made knowable to us in and through our concrete human experiences, most particularly through human experiences of love.

A father is **life-giving** in the capacity of participating in God's creative power. It is far broader and deeper than we realize because it originates in God the Father, who from the beginning has inscribed this life-giving aspiration into our beings, body and soul, as part of the mystery of being made in his "image and likeness."

A father **loves** his family tenderly. St. Joseph is a tender and loving father. Through St. Joseph's fatherhood, Jesus saw the tender love of God. Joseph taught him how to walk and offered him his loving embrace when he fell. Joseph teaches us to tenderly look upon our falls, weaknesses, and poverty. Similarly watching my father going to Church and expressing his faith outside the Church always inspired me on my path to Seminary. Watching my dad reading scripture every day and praying instilled in me a desire to seek God. We never spoke about a vocation to the priesthood much, but his example as a father was enough for me to embrace my own calling. I am incredibly grateful to all the fatherly figures in my life who have nurtured faith in me.

The challenge is before us men. Now more than ever, the world, the Church, our community, and our family need our fatherhood. Let us recommit ourselves and accept this awesome vocation to be fathers co-operating whole heartedly with our Father in heaven like St. Joseph.

Happy Father's day!
-Michael Bruno

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