

Mark 5:21-24,35-43

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

While he was still speaking some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'Little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.



**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
ORDINARY TIME**

Year B

27th June 2021

Arise! Your Faith Has Made You Whole



In last Sunday's gospel Jesus's might and authority were emphasised when He rebuked the wind and calmed the waves. Jesus was being portrayed as the Creator overcoming evil, bringing order out of chaos, restoring life - made in the image of God - to the Father.

Today's passage, which follows after the calming of the storm, presents us with two examples showing Jesus's power: the healing of the haemorrhaging woman and the raising of Jairus' daughter. By curing sickness and raising the dead Jesus is proclaiming: *"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, even though he dies will live"* (John 11.25). We are being called to live by faith, confident that the Lord has conquered our sin and death.

Opening Prayer

O God, who through the grace of adoption chose us to be children of light, grant, we pray, that we may not be wrapped in the darkness of error but always be seen to stand in the bright light of truth.

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

Death was not God's doing, he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living. To be – for this he created all; the world's created things have health in them, in them no fatal poison can be found, and Hades holds no power on earth; for virtue is undying. Yet God did make man imperishable, he made him in the image of his own nature; it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world, as those who are his partners will discover.

Today's First Reading prepares us for our Gospel reading – the raising of Jairus' daughter. The Book of Wisdom is attributed to King Solomon (991 BC), but in fact, it is much later, written in the last century BC, influenced greatly by modern Greek thought. In today's short passage the author reflects on the mystery of death, which afflicts every living creature on earth. How can a good God who has created life, tolerate death, he asks? His resulting thought is that death is not of God's making. We were made imperishable; made in the image of God's own nature; death came through the evil one. It is through the death of Jesus that our lives will be restored to the Father.

Psalms 29(30):2,4-6,11-13

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing:
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.

2 Corinthians 8:7,9,13-15

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.

Over the past several weeks we have been listening to Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians, written around 57AD. In today's passage, Paul is encouraging a collection to assist the struggling Church in Jerusalem. He reminds the people how Christ emptied himself for our sake. He made himself poor, so that we might become rich. In the same way, we should give of ourselves and from the gifts we have, to help others, especially those in need. St James reminds us that “faith without works, is no faith at all”. (James 2)

Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ abolished death
and he has proclaimed life through the Good News. **Alleluia!**

(Gospel overleaf)

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, who graciously accomplish the effects of your mysteries,
grant, we pray, that the deeds by which we serve you may be worthy of
these sacred gifts.

Prayer after Communion

May this divine sacrifice we have offered and received fill us with life, O
Lord, we pray, so that, bound to you in lasting charity,
we may bear fruit that lasts for ever.