

FROM FR. DEO

Aug. 9, 2026



“Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.”

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

God is good, all the time...All the time, God is good!

When was the last time you cried out, “Lord, help me; Lord, save me”? How many times have you made a promise to God: “Lord, if you get me out of this difficult situation, I will come back to you?” Like Peter in today’s Gospel, we all face storms that make us afraid. Let us invite Jesus into those storms and trust Him to calm our hearts.

I grew up across the street from my home parish. Parishioners would leave bicycles at our house while attending Mass, and my mother would lock the gate before taking us to Mass. Since my brother and I sat in the children’s section, we came up with a secret plan. We told our mother we needed to use the bathroom at home, got the house keys, and sneaked out after the Gospel to ride bicycles, hoping no one would notice.

Things didn’t go as planned. My brother fell, injured his arm, and damaged the bicycle. When we failed to fix it, it felt like our whole world was falling apart! Terrified, we returned to church and prayed for God’s help. Our mother eventually discovered everything and involved the pastor. We were forgiven, but our punishment was to become altar servers, under the watchful eyes of our mother and pastor! The Lord got us out of trouble, and somehow, the altar became my place—and has remained so until today. God truly works in mysterious ways!

The story of these two mischievous boys connects in some way with Peter and the disciples. When a storm strikes their boat, they are terrified. Peter steps out in faith toward Jesus, but when he focuses on the strong wind instead of Jesus, he begins to sink. His problem was not the storm itself, but that he took his eyes off Jesus. When he cries out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reaches out His hand and catches him.

We all have our “Peter moments” when life’s storms overwhelm us—a serious illness, a struggling marriage, financial worries, or fear of the future. Yet Jesus always comes toward us. Let us recognize Him and cry out, “Lord, save me!” He reaches out His hand and says, “Take courage; it is I. Do not be afraid.” This Sunday, name your storms and place them in the hands of the living Lord.

In Parish news: Our Generation-to-Generation campaign is underway, and we are currently in the silent phase, meeting with parishioners to discuss the campaign. You may receive a call from one of our volunteers; please take the time to speak with them and prayerfully allow the Holy Spirit to guide your discernment. Thank you for your continued love and support of our parish.

Next Saturday, we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary with an 8:30 a.m. Mass. Although it is not a holy day of obligation this year, as it falls on Saturday, we are encouraged to honor and celebrate Our Blessed Mother assumed to Heaven.

St Elizabeth of the Trinity, Pray for Us!

See you in church!

In Christ,

Fr Deo