

HOLY ROSARY PARISH - WESTMOUNT, NS

PARISH PRIEST – FR. DOUG MURPHY

June 20th,
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Greetings to everyone. There are better days ahead! The announcement on Tuesday now allows for 25% of capacity up to 50 people. Stay tuned for more info.

**PLEASE NOTE; OUR CHURCHES WILL BE OPEN THIS WEEKEND!!!!
PASS THE WORD ON TO YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS-----WE WILL
BE LIMITED TO 50. IT WILL BE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE.**

Best wishes to the fathers in our parish family on their special day this weekend. The importance of the father in the family is being highlighted more and more in our society and culture these days. We thank God for the example and dedication of the fathers in our parish and community.

In the Gospel for the 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Jesus and his disciples are in the midst of a storm at sea. Jesus is asleep while the disciples are fearing for their lives. Jesus is awakened and calms the wind and the seas. "Quiet, be still." As we continue on our human journey and our journey as disciples of Jesus let us keep turning to Jesus in times of trial and times of joy, knowing that Jesus is present in the boat besides us whether we encounter stormy weather or calm seas.

In the Gardiner Museum in Boston there is a painting by Rembrandt entitled, "The Storm on the Sea of Galilee." It is Rembrandt's interpretation of this scene. It shows panic etched on the faces of the disciples, as their small vessel is being raised up on a high wave, about to be crashed down. Two of the disciples are attempting to rouse Jesus who is asleep in the stern of the boat. But if you look more closely, you will discover that there is something that is not quite right. There are too many people in the picture. So you count them. There are fourteen. There should only be thirteen (twelve disciples and Jesus). But instead there are fourteen. It is then that you notice that one of the men in the boat is Rembrandt. He has painted himself into the picture. He has placed himself in the same boat--- Which is precisely what we should do. It is the way we are supposed to interpret

this passage. We are in the boat with Jesus, faithful but frightened. There is no immunity for any of us. We are caught up in the same fix. I suspect most of us would rather be numbered with the exception. Either we would like to believe that storms will never strike us or that Faith will never fail us.

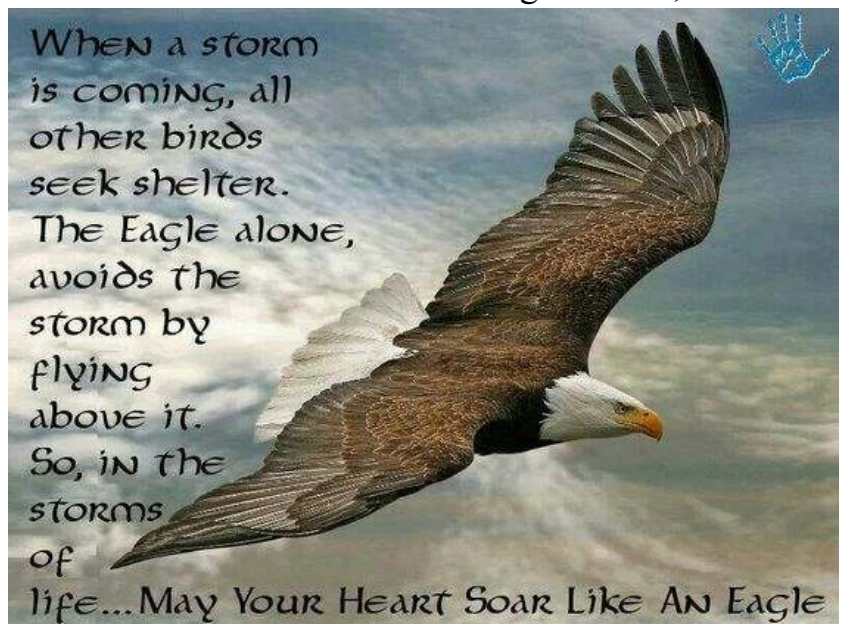
Pastor's Tidbits:.....Thanks to all who continue to drop off their Sunday collection We received a donation of \$1000 from the Knights of Columbus, Council 9476. They have generously made the donation to the parishes in the area.....Our sympathy to the family of the late Pauline Cooke formerly of Haliday St. She was on my First Friday Communion Call list for many years. The burial was on Friday (18th).....The Pastoral Appointments were announced this week. We will be welcoming six more priests from Nigeria, members of two religious communities. Three will cover the parishes from Inverness to the Margarees and two in Bras d'Or.

Feasts this week: Monday: St. Aloysius Gonzaga, religious; Tuesday: St. John Fisher & St. Thomas More, martyrs Thursday: The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Do you know that an eagle knows when a storm is approaching long before it breaks? The eagle will fly to some high spot and wait for the winds to come. When the storm hits, it sets its wings so that the wind will pick it up and lift it above the storm. While the storm rages below, the eagle is soaring above it. The eagle does not escape the storm. It simply uses the storm to lift it higher. It rises on the winds that bring the storm. When the storms of life come upon us, and all of us will experience them, we can rise above them by setting our minds and our belief on God.

The storms do not have to overcome us. We can allow God's power to lift us above them. God enables us to ride the winds of the storm that bring sickness, tragedy, failure, and disappointment into our lives.

We can soar above the storm. We need to remember that it is not the burdens of life that weigh us down, but how we handle them. The Bible says, Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. Is 40: 31



When a storm
is coming, all
other birds
seek shelter.
The Eagle alone,
avoids the
storm by
flying
above it.
So, in the
storms
of
life... May Your Heart Soar Like AN Eagle

