

Trinity News

Pentecost IX The Mirrors of the Sea and Shadows of the Wind

Sayings:

1. **Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass; it's about learning to dance in the rain.**
2. **"You might have to fight a battle more than once to win it."** Margaret Thatcher
3. **Faith can move mountains, but don't be surprised if God hands you a shovel.** Symbol: A tree with a cheeky face peering out one side and a hand with a shovel poking out on the other side!
4. **You must look for the opportunity in every difficulty; instead of being paralysed at the thought of the difficulty in every opportunity.** Symbol: A baby asleep on a furry rug hanging on to the rolled-up edge of the rug.
5. **The shovel sinks deep into soft soil** – Chinese saying. Symbol: The Sacred Heart of Christ and every tender-hearted human

Silhouettes:

Christ alone on a shore in sand and silence.

Evening casts shadows on the sea and covers the mirrors of its depths.

The figure on the shore sees the rowers, his disciples, straining at the oars against the wind. They are steadily moving out of sight in the encroaching dusk.

We are to visualize a fishing boat like a bobbing cork at night on a choppy lake stirred by wind.

During the night Jesus' need to be with them overcomes physical hindrances and normal boundaries and barriers. He comes on a moonlit path to them on the water. They are afraid when they see the silhouette.

Saying: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Then he climbs into the boat with them and the wind drops.

The simplicity of the story disguises the complexities. It is like that in every human situation. God forgives, human's reject. Love breaks barriers down. It is hard to hide from real love. It comes looking for us like Christ in the night. His mother came to him like that when as a child he was frightened in the night. We endlessly repeat our first fears. When someone speaks words of encouragement and hope and love we should treasure them like a beautiful pearl in a crystal case. We should recall them again and again and hear them spoken once more in the halls of memory. Then we will see the faces and hear the words and touch them with the fingers of our memory. Remember the story told today. Hear the only words spoken in it, words to quell fear and to encourage. They row, Christ walks to them and climbs into the boat. The wind dies down. They come to shore. Between one shore and the other side there is a miniature lifetime. Everything changes on the sea, but the land is firm under their feet. Then the waves of human disquiet and bubbling spontaneity start rolling towards them. Therein is the test of what they have learned from the Master on the way.

Bishop Arthur Jones

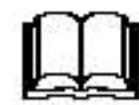
THIS WEEK:

July 31, Tuesday.

- Bible Study, 10am
- Group Discussion @ the Tutton's

August 2, Thursday.

- Midweek Eucharist, 10am, Chapel.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Exodus 16:2-4,9-15
Psalm 78:14-20,23-25
Ephesians 4:17-25
John 6:24-35