

# TRINITY NEWS

WEEK 29. July 14, 2019. Proper 10

*"Some went down to the sea in ships \*and plied their trade in deep waters.  
They beheld the works of the lord \* and his wonders in the deep. (Ps. 107: 23-240)*

*I* feel that people today are losing a sense of connection to the sea. I don't mean the beach, I mean the oceans, or the deeps as the psalmist would have it. Few travel by boat anymore, and those who do usually sail around in floating hotels that don't have the same feel to them that yesteryear's ocean liners did.

Those of my generation however (and I know there are a few of you lurking about out there) do remember the days when instead of flying back to Manila, or Caracas after your summer leave or furlough, you sailed back, embarking with your bags and trunks, and sometimes a full household, on a voyage that took not many hours, but many days, perhaps several weeks. The liners themselves were elegant but functional ships, all polished wood and brass, smaller than today's cruise ships and so much closer to the sea. They were designed for travelers, not vacationers, and carried cargo as well. Usually you made calls at several ports, some exotic, others not; there was always time to disembark and go shopping, see the sights. And the length of the trip gave you time to make friends, even form a community and accumulate memories that would last a lifetime.

And I'm sure those who share my experience would agree with me, that there's no place you can grasp the full glory and wonder of God's awesome creation quite like the upper deck of a solitary ship plowing through some vast ocean, days from land, under a cloudless night sky. The view from a 747 just can't compare.

But, of course, there are still thousands and thousands who do ply their trade in deep waters and who by their strenuous labor do far more for this world than most of us realize – indeed, it is they and the ships on which they sail and serve that link us together into one global community. We may no longer go down to the sea and ships and behold the wonders of God's works, but they do, and we owe them much. And I'm looking forward to honoring their service this morning and praising God for the wonders of Creation to which they bear special witness.