

April 13, 2024

Daily Reflections

Journeying through Easter



Center for Spiritual Development

SHARING CREATOR'S POWER

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Today's Gospel

When it was evening, the disciples of Jesus went down to the sea, embarked in a boat, and went across the sea to Capernaum. It had already grown dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea was stirred up because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they began to be afraid. But he said to them, "It is I. Do not be afraid." They wanted to take him into the boat, but the boat immediately arrived at the shore to which they were heading.

JOHN 6:16-21

Reflection

The Sea of Galilee is noted here. Large bodies of water were not considered "friendly." In fact, in Greek and Roman culture the sea is an important deity noted for violence. Here Jesus demonstrates his cosmic powers as he "walks on

the sea.” [It may be an allusion to Job 9:8 as God “treads upon the crests of the sea.”] Once again, the author of this gospel mentions it is dark. No wonder the disciples were afraid! Seeing Jesus, or an apparition of someone else, walking on the unfriendly sea in the dark would be an appropriate cause of fear!

His voice and words calm them: “It is I. Do not be afraid.” The next verse indicates they believed him and were assured since they wanted to take him into their boat with them. Then we are told that the boat arrived immediately at the shore to which they were heading. Their destination was reached while on the water in the dark with Jesus by their side.



For Pondering

- How do you connect with Jesus when you are afraid? What reminds you of His presence?
 - Recall the last time you heard "Do not be afraid. It is I." What is most important about that experience? How would you respond right now?
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For Prayer

May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

PSALM 33:22

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