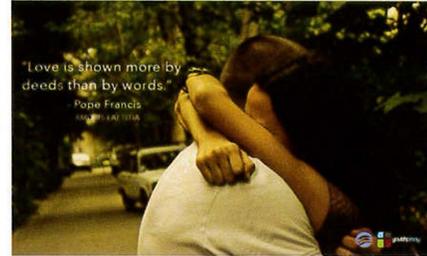
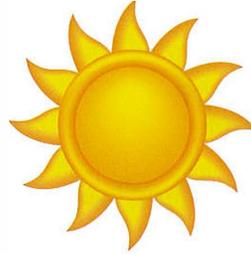


# LIVING FAITH

## NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S



### THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

**Matthew 14: 22-33**

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

### REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

"Do not be afraid." Jesus speaks these reassuring words many, many times in his interactions with people in the Gospels. Today, he shares these same words with us.

Have you ever thought about what the opposite of love is? Some say that the opposite of love is hate, while others say that the opposite of love is indifference. Perhaps there is a way that the opposite of love is fear. Fear paralyzes us, and makes us unfree. Love sets us free and mobilizes us for action.

Fear never comes from God. Next time you are afraid, remember those words, and ask God to set you free from fear, so that you can act freely, in love. Then, remember that you are called to set others free, too.

# JESUS WALKS ON THE WATER

a colouring page to help you reflect...



Subscribe to our weekly catechetical Resource. E-mail: [Familycatechesis@rcsj.org](mailto:Familycatechesis@rcsj.org)

Visit@ [www.rcsj.org](http://www.rcsj.org)

# *I Believe...*

## THE MYSTERY OF FAITH: THE MYSTERY OF JESUS CHRIST—WHO IS HE? (PART 2)

Reflections by Fr. Gregory Carruthers, SJ

Jesus is one Divine Person in two natures. When Jesus says "I" it is always the one Divine Person who speaks. But what about his two natures?

With Jesus, as with us, we need to distinguish between "person" and "nature". They are not the same thing, though most people assume they are.

"Nature" refers to what a thing is, what makes it what it is and not something else. If we ask, "what is electricity?" we want to know what makes electricity what it is; we are asking about the nature of electricity. Similarly, if we ask "what is a human being?" we want to know what makes a human being, human; what is human nature?

"Person", however, refers to the identity of someone who possesses a nature. If we ask "who am I?" we are not asking about our nature, we are asking about the identity of myself as a person, for example, am I the son/daughter of royalty or of homeless parents.

In Jesus we have seen earlier that the Someone is always a Divine Person, the Eternal Word/Son of God.

But what is the nature that Jesus possesses? Does Jesus possess a divine nature or a human nature? The answer is: after the Annunciation, he possesses BOTH!

Before the Annunciation, the Eternal Word/Son of God possesses fully the one divine nature (as do the Father and the Holy Spirit). After the Annunciation, the Eternal Word also takes to himself a full human nature - just like ours. Jesus, then, becomes the Word-made-flesh. That is, after the Annunciation, Jesus (1) is and always remains a Divine Person; (2) he still keeps his divine nature full and intact; but (3) when Mary says "Behold the handmaid of the Lord!", at that moment "the Word is made flesh", that is, the Eternal Word now also takes to himself a full human nature, conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary.

The Mystery of Jesus is that he is one Divine Person (Eternal Son of God) in two natures (a fully divine nature and a fully human nature; hence he is true God and true man).

## FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY AUGUST 15TH

The Assumption of Mary into Heaven, often shortened to the Assumption and also known as the Falling Asleep of the Blessed Virgin Mary, was the bodily taking up of the Virgin Mary into Heaven at the end of her earthly life.



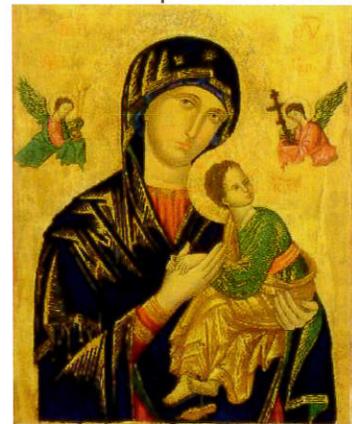
The Catholic Church teaches as dogma of the Assumption of Mary, which means that the Virgin Mary "having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory". This doctrine was dogmatically defined by Pope Pius XII in the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus* by exercising papal infallibility.

### “LADY DAY” IN NEWFOUNDLAND

In Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as Ireland, August 15 is sometimes known as Lady Day. On August 15, in some communities, there is a tradition that the fish caught on this day was to be given to the church as dues.



In Canada, Assumption Day is the Fête Nationale of the Acadians, of whom she is the patron saint.



### SWIMMING ON “LADY DAY”

In many places in Newfoundland, it is taught that “Lady Day” is the last day of swimming in fresh water, but the first day that it might be safe to swim in salt water.

For more about Roman Catholic beliefs about Mary visit: <http://bustedhalo.com/video/mary-in-two-minutes>