

## MASS TIMES

**Weekend Masses:** YANCHEP: 6 p.m. Saturday Vigil, St James Anglican Church, 2 Lagoon Drive. GUILDERTON: 8 a.m. Sunday, Guilderton Community Hall, Wedge Street. LANCELIN: 9.45 a.m. Sunday, 33 Gingin Road, Lancelin.

**Confessions:** before Mass on request

**Weekday Masses:** Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9 a.m. at the presbytery, Wednesdays 3 p.m. at Bethanie Beachside Aged Care.

**Priest:** Fr Augustine Puthota, **Presbytery:** 3 Blaxland Avenue, Two Rocks, Western Australia 6037. Telephone: +61-8-9561 2172

**New Website!** <http://yanchepcatholic.org/> email: [yanchepcatholic@gmail.com](mailto:yanchepcatholic@gmail.com).

### We pray for the sick of our community, especially:

Pat Murphy, Ken and Toni Meek, Delores Servais, Michael Ford, Jim Walsh, Paula Cope, Pat Barone, Joy Jackson, Anita Pitcher, Deanna and Murray Burge.

### Communion Antiphon

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem; he feeds you with the finest wheat.

### URGENT APPEAL FROM CHALDEAN CATHOLIC PATRIARCH (continued ...)

Patriarch Sako estimates that in the near future Christians could number only 50,000. The militant Islamists seek to establish a caliphate across the Middle East. These Sunni jihadists embrace a radical form of Islam that echoes the 7<sup>th</sup> century. Anger at corrupt regimes, the exploitation of oil wealth by the West – and the moral decay of this same West – has engendered an aggressive, regressive ideology, rejecting all that does not coincide with this fundamentalist vision of Islam.

Local Christians too have been given an ultimatum: convert to Islam, pay the 'jizya' – a tax levied on an Islamic state's non-Muslim citizens – leave or die. Half a million Christians and Muslims have fled seeking shelter in Christian villages near the Kurdish controlled regions in northern Iraq. In his letter, Patriarch Sako is no less stinging in his reproach of the silence of moderate Muslims: "We are equally shocked and indignant by the absence of a vigorous position taken by the Muslims and their religious leaders, not the least because the actions of these factions represent a menace for the Muslims themselves." This leaves the Church alone calling for the unity and the restoration of the religious mosaic that was Iraq. "As for the Church, she finds herself completely alone, more than ever; nevertheless her leaders are strongly required to react before it is too late in applying the necessary pressure on the international community as well as those other decision-makers in view of fundamental answers necessary to the scandalous crimes and the destructive conspiracies that affect, above all, unarmed citizens in Iraq, Syria, and in Palestine-Gaza." In an earlier, more hopeful interview with the Patriarch, I asked him about how he kept his faith. "It is not easy. Sometimes we are upset, we are exhausted," he said. "I studied history – Christian history and ancient history in Iraq and also the Church fathers. It was the same situation. Our church was a martyr Church, but always there was hope – as Tertullian says the blood of the martyrs is the seed of faith and I think this is our hope and I do believe Islam will change. Islam cannot stay as it is now. Fundamentalism, extremism has no future."

# Sunday Bulletin

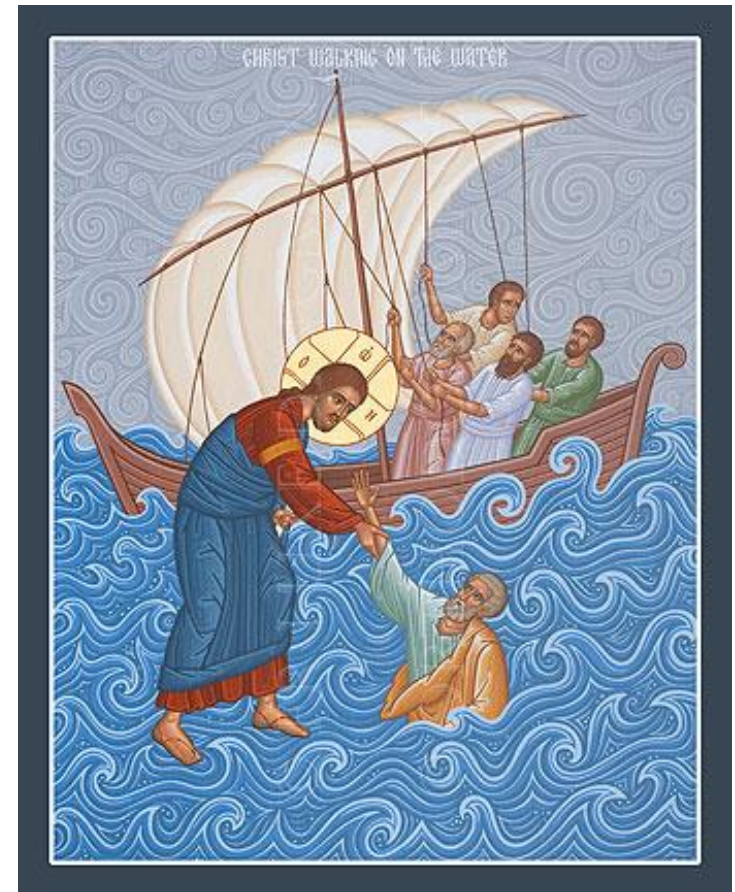
19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

### Entrance Antiphon

Lord, be true to your covenant, forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Rise up, O God, and defend your cause; do not ignore the shouts of your enemies.

Christ walking on the Sea, icon downloaded from [http://www.orthodoximages.com/feasts\\_christ.html](http://www.orthodoximages.com/feasts_christ.html)



### First Reading

1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

*Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.*

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of the Lord, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**      **Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8**

**R. Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land.    **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven.    **R.**

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps.    **R.**

**Second Reading**      **Romans 9:1-5**

*I would willingly be condemned if it would help my people.*

What I want to say now is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**      **Psalm 129:5**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I hope in the Lord,

I trust in his word.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**      **Matthew 14:22-33**

*Command me to come to you over the water.*

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**URGENT APPEAL FROM CHALDEAN CATHOLIC PATRIARCH by Mark von Riedemann**

"It is time to take a principled stand: the situation calls for concrete action, a gesture of solidarity in the face of an existential crisis — 'we will either be or will not be.'" It is an angry condemnation of an indifferent world. The words are unpolished and bitter. They exude disillusionment; they reject a world obsessed with consumption, in awe of comfort, blind to evil and deaf to the cry of the innocent. "In fact, speeches are good for nothing, so too declarations that rehash condemnations and indignation; the same can be said for protest marches."

These words are taken from the Aug. 5, 2014, letter by Iraq's Chaldean Patriarch Louis Raphael Sako. It is addressed to Pope Francis, his fellow prelates leading the Churches in the Middle East and the presidents of Catholic bishops' conferences around the world. He laments the world's silence about plight of Christians in his country. What is different about this letter, however, is the tone. Over the years the Patriarch has warned, cajoled, and appealed. Today he is shouting; a prophetic voice shouting that without immediate international intervention the ancient Christian community of Iraq will cease to exist.

When Saddam Hussein was toppled in 2003, there were more than 60,000 Christians living in Mosul. Today there are at most 200, mainly those too poor or weak to flee. This microcosm reflects the wider state of Christianity across Iraq. Prior to the 2003 US-led military invasion Christians numbered 1.4 million. Today the tally stands at 300,000 and, thanks to the rapid advance of the Islamic State (formerly ISIS) across swathes of Syria and Iraq, those figures are declining rapidly. (continued over page ..)