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Based on the gospel for 20 June, Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Mark 4:35-41

"Then it began to blow a great gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped."

Have you ever felt unsettled by the power of a storm? It is a power that is beyond our control. There are many people who in this last year may have experienced a similar feeling about COVID. I know I did at times, because events during the pandemic have also been beyond our control.

Maybe some of us have felt that the boats of our lives have been swamped by the waves. Or that Jesus is asleep in the stern. Seemingly, inattentive to our needs. Yet, this reading reminds us to have faith, all is not lost, for he is with us.

Holding onto this hope, let us remember and help to show to others, that Jesus' eyes are fixed on each of us and especially those of us who feel overwhelmed. Let us remember that his hands are there to lift us up. How his feet are walking gently in our wake.

I wonder if we can speak to the storm and provide some stillness to those who are being rocked. I also wonder if we hear Jesus' voice over the howl of the wind and the crash of the waves. I pray that this is so.

Jesus, help me to be attentive to the needs of my sisters and brothers. Help me to advocate for calm conditions so that every person, wherever they are in the world, may sail the boat of their own lives without fear of the storm and be artisans of their own destiny.

Amen.



Our response to the G7

Director Christine Allen said that G7 leaders had "not adequately heard the voice of the world's poor."

[Read more](#)



Volunteers' Month 2021

Throughout June we are celebrating our wonderful volunteers with a series of online events.

Celebrate with us



Prayer resources

Join us in prayer for a fairer world where all people may live free from poverty.

Pray with us

This reflection and prayer were written by Chris Bird, a former member of our Step into the Gap programme.



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