

NEVER THE SAME AGAIN
DAY 6 COMPANION SHEET

The grace to ask for today is:

To know Jesus more clearly; to love him more dearly; to follow him more nearly.

Scripture Passage: Mk 4.36-40

“Leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat just as he was. Other boats were with them. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, ‘Teacher do you not care that we are perishing?’ He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, ‘Peace! Be still!’ Then the wind ceased and there was a dead calm. ‘Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?’

Invite St. Jean de Lalande (1620-1646) to spend the day with you:

Jean de Lalande was not a Jesuit. He was a *donné*, or lay volunteer. Fr. Paul Ragueneau wrote in the Jesuit Relations “The *donnés* assisted the Jesuits by their labour and industry, with a courage, a faithfulness and a holiness that assuredly are not of earth and look to God alone for their reward, deeming themselves only too happy to pour forth not only their sweat, but, if need be, all their blood to contribute as much as they can toward the conversion of the Indians.” Jean de Lalande was killed on October 19, 1646, the day after Isaac Jogues, whom he was accompanying on a peace mission. He was 26.

Read and reflect on what Pope Francis says:

Google: *Moment of Prayer “Urbi et Orbi” Blessing, alone in the rain, March 27, 2020* ‘*Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?*’ Lord, your word this evening strikes us and regards us,

all of us. In this world, that you love more than we do, we have gone ahead at breakneck speed, feeling powerful and able to do anything. Greedy for profit, we let ourselves get caught up in things, and lured away by haste. We did not stop at your reproach to us, we were not shaken awake by wars or injustice across the world, nor did we listen to the cry of the poor or of our ailing planet. We carried on regardless, thinking we would stay healthy in a world that was sick. Now that we are in a stormy sea, we implore you: ‘Wake up, Lord’. ‘*Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?*’ Lord you are calling to us, calling us to faith. Which is not so much believing that you exist, but coming to you and trusting in you. Your call reverberates urgently: ‘Be converted!’ You are calling on us to seize this time of trial as a time of *choosing*. It is not the time of your judgement, but of our judgement: a time to choose what matters and not what passes away, a time to separate what is necessary from what is not. It is a time to get our lives back on track with regard to you, Lord, and to others... Our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people – often forgotten people -who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines nor on the grand catwalks of the latest show, but who without any doubt are in these very days writing the decisive events of our time: doctors, nurses, supermarket employees, cleaners, caregivers, providers of transport, law and order forces, volunteers, priests, religious men and women and so very many others who have understood that no one reaches salvation by themselves. ‘*Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?*’ Faith begins when we realize we are in need of salvation. We are not self sufficient; by ourselves we flounder; we need the Lord, like

ancient navigators needed the stars. Let us invite Jesus into the boats of our lives. Let us hand over our fears to him so that he can conquer them. Like the disciples, we will experience that with him on board there will be no shipwreck. Because this is God’s strength: turning to the good everything that happens to us, even the bad things. He brings serenity into our storms, because with God life never dies... He is risen and is living by our side”

A Poem: FOOTPRINTS

One night I dreamed a dream. As I was walking along the beach with my Lord, across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life. For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, one belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand. I noticed that at many times along the path of life, especially at the very lowest and saddest times, there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you said once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life, there was only one set of footprints. I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you, never ever, during your trials and testings. When you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Google: *The Lord's My Shepherd (Crimond)*

Additional Scripture Passages:

Mt 15.32-39; Lk 7.11-17; Lk 13.10-17; Jn 8.1-