

The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 20, 2021

The Book of Job is believed to be based on Babylonian Folk tale about a holy man who says he knows God and believes himself to be in good standing with that God. Then terrible events happen to him and his family. All these events challenge Job to remain strong in his faith, but Job is at his end. He demands that God come down and explain his action to Job. But God replies to Job's demands with these words: "Who shut within the doors the sea, ..."

I urge you to read the book of Job. The poetry is beautiful and passionate. The relationship between God and Job is fascinating and poignant.

In the Gospel, Mark writes about the storm at sea. Even after witnessing to Jesus' many healings and miracles, their fears overtake them. Frantically they awaken him and demand that he does something about it. With just two words he commands the wind and rain to stop. With this action the disciples [and we] are reminded about the challenge in the Book of Job: God addresses the storm and says: "Thus far shall you come but no farther and here shall your proud waves be stilled!" In their shocking amazement, these Jewish disciples are reminded that it is God who stops the storm. So, who is this man?