

# Tuesday 18th in Ordinary Time

**Gospel text (Mt 14,22-36):** After the crowds have eaten their fill, Jesus obliged his disciples to get into the boat and go ahead of him to the other side, while He sent the crowd away. And having sent the people away, He went up the mountain by himself to pray. At nightfall, He was there alone.

Meanwhile, the boat was very far from land, dangerously rocked by the waves for the wind was against it. At daybreak, Jesus came to them walking on the lake. When they saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, thinking that it was a ghost. And they cried out in fear. But at once Jesus said to them, «Courage! Don't be afraid. It's me!» (...).

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## *The "power of God"*

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)

*(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)*

Today, Jesus Christ shows us the genuine "power of God". Just a few hours before, He had been feeding a crowd with the miraculous multiplication of the loaves, and they endeavored to make him a king. By hiding, Jesus rejected this interpretation of his kingship. But now He wants to show the Apostles who He is: while walking on the waters, He soothed them with the majestic "I Am" (the name of God).

God's power is not like that of the powerful of this world. God's ways are different. God does not enter into competition with earthly powers in this world. He does not marshal His divisions alongside other divisions. He contrasts the noisy and ostentatious power of this world with the defenseless power of love, which succumbs to death on the Cross and, yet, it is the new divine reality that opposes injustice and ushers in the Kingdom of God.

—O Jesus, help us to understand that the power of God is different, that the Messiah must come into the glory and reach the glory through suffering.

