

## Homily • Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time • Cycle B

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This has been a challenging and difficult week. Like many of you, I and Father Coyle share the feelings of anger, disbelief, embarrassment, and great sadness.

I wish to express my sincerest apologies to all survivors of abuse – especially those who have suffered abuse from my brother priests. I also want to express my personal respect to all survivors for their courage in bringing this darkness into the light. It is my hope and prayer that all victims of abuse may know healing, dignity, and peace.

It is important we remember in our prayers all survivors of abuse. May the Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal their wounds and give them peace.

Together, let us pray for the courage and humility to create and maintain a culture of safety in our parish, school, and community as we continue our efforts to protect and heal.

It is important to remember that God is present in every storm. The same Jesus who we hear in the Gospel today is here with us now.

So now, let us fix our hearts and minds on Jesus. We have heard His word, now we prepare to receive Him in Holy Communion.

Let's prepare to receive the peace that can only come from Him, the peace of Christ that overcomes all distress.

Even though we are wounded by the failures of men let us not lose faith but accept the grace to believe, hope and love in Christ and His Church.

And pray that all of us, priest and laity, by the grace of this Most Blessed Sacrament, may always strive to live in a manner worthy of the call we have received.

Very Reverend Neil S. Sullivan, VF  
August 4, 2018