

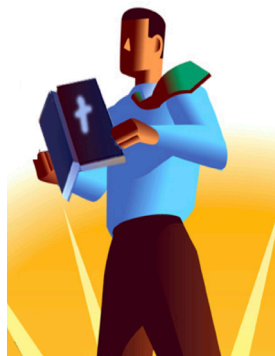
# Mobile Rooster



September, 2020

"Something Worth Crowing About"

## Matt 14:22-23



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Editor  
Bobbie Genovese

Graphic Design  
Sam Genovese

Send articles or information to:

Sam Genovese  
sam.genovese455@yahoo.com  
or phone 334-792-1656

An avid duck hunter was in the market for a new bird dog. His search ended when he found a dog that could actually walk on water to retrieve ducks. Shocked by this find, he was sure none of his friends would believe him. He wanted to break the news to a friend of his, a pessimist by nature. So he invites his friend to hunt with him and his new dog. As they waited on the shore, a flock of ducks flew by. They fired. A duck falls into the water. The dog responded jumping into the water. The dog began to walk across the water to retrieve the bird, never getting more than his paws wet. The friend saw everything but did not say a single word. On the drive home the hunter asked his friend, "Did you notice anything unusual about my new dog?" "I sure did," responded his friend. "He can't swim!"

Perhaps this was Peter's problem. He didn't want to admit he couldn't swim. We know very well the story of Jesus walking on the water. It depicts the power and majesty of our Lord Jesus Christ. After all who but God has control over nature. It also reveals the weakness of our faith through the person of Peter. Sometimes we are like Peter and the disciples in the boat. We are buffeted by the storms of life instilling fear and doubt in living out our faith; fear that we will be rejected or looked down upon for our faith in Jesus Christ; doubts that, when challenged, we cannot stand firm in our faith.

Two times in the Gospel of Matthew Jesus is with the disciples on the Sea of Galilee. Both times they encounter bad weather and become afraid and look to Jesus to save them. Jesus responds to them, "Why are you terrified, oh you of little faith." The disciples response to Jesus is "What sort of man is this, whom even the winds and the sea obey?" In the second instance, the disciples see Jesus coming to them on the water. They think it is a ghost until Jesus assures them it is He. Both times the disciples are in fear of what is happening to them.

### *Does FEAR lead to having FAITH?*

When Peter sees Jesus on the water, he asks Jesus, "If it is you Lord, tell me to come to you." Here, Peter is testing his faith. Faith that he can do what Jesus does. But something happens to Peter. He becomes frightened. He doubts. He doubts not because he doesn't have faith in Jesus. He doubts himself. As Peter sinks he realizes, maybe I cannot do what Jesus does. It's impossible. Hence Jesus rebukes Peter. "Oh you of little faith, why did you doubt."

This happens to us too. We doubt. We think our faith is too little. Our faith falls short. Why? Perhaps we think like Peter. We doubt ourselves. Maybe we don't want to lose our sense of security. We don't want to step out of our



**A Word From**  
**Deacon Rick Risher**  
Cursillo Spiritual Director

## “LORD, I WANT TO KNOW YOU”.

As Jesus was teaching in the temple area he said, “How do David himself, inspired by the holy Spirit, said: ‘The Lord said to my lord, “Sit at my right hand until I place your enemies under your feet. (Mark 12:37) David himself calls him ‘lord’; so how is he his son?” [The] great crowd heard this with delight.

Are you a fan of brainteasers and riddles? You know, the ones that go like this: if the only sister of your mother’s only brother has an only child, what is that child’s relationship to you? (Answer: that child is you.)

The point of these puzzles is to get you thinking outside the box. And that’s the point of Jesus’ question in today’s Gospel: how could he be the son of David if David calls him Lord? If you were one of the scribes, you could answer part of the riddle. The scribes taught that the Messiah would indeed be the son of David, meaning “descendant” of David. But that didn’t explain how Jesus could also be David’s Lord. Unless you dared to think differently. Unless you understood that Jesus is more than a man—that he is God incarnate. the scribes claim that the Messiah is the son of David? By asking this question, Jesus was trying to get the crowd and the scribes to see that the Messiah was more than they expected. He

wasn’t an earthly king. He didn’t come to free Israel from Roman oppression. He came to free everyone from slavery to sin. Jesus was the fulfillment of all the Scriptures, not just the ones that spoke of Israel’s future freedom and prosperity.

What are your expectations of Jesus? What kind of box have you tried to confine him to? Maybe you think of him as a loving and forgiving God but one who is also carefully tallying up all your transgressions. Maybe you want a closer relationship with him, but you can’t help but picture him as unapproachable or distant. Maybe you believe Jesus can heal people, but you don’t think he would ever heal you or any of your loved ones.

God cannot be put into a box—and that’s really good news! Today, spend some time asking him to show you how you might be placing limits on him. He wants you to know him in a way that goes far beyond all your preconceived notions about who he is. Only as you lay aside your own ideas about the Lord can he show you just what a great, loving, forgiving, wonder-working God he truly is!

“Lord, I want to know you. *Come and reveal more of yourself to me.*”

### Fall Weekends 2020

**ALL WEEKENDS HAVE BEEN  
CANCELLED UNTIL THE VIRUS  
IS CANCELLED**

### Scheduled Cursillo Weekends

*Cursillos are generally scheduled for a Men’s Weekend and a Women’s Weekend each fall at the Visitation Monastery in Mobile, and a Men’s Weekend and Women’s Weekend each spring at the Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat in Holy Trinity (Fort Mitchell). We currently have no weekends scheduled.*



## Continued from page 1

comfort zones into the waters of pure faith. To have faith in Jesus, faith in ourselves to do what Jesus asks of us.

Faith is mixed with doubts and fear. This doesn't mean we do not have faith or lack faith. It could be this lack of faith is nothing more than a fear of letting go, letting go and allowing Jesus to be in control. Peter let go of his fear to do what Jesus told him to do. COME! Jesus invites us to do the same. Come to me with your fears. Come to me with your doubts.

When we find ourselves in situations where fear and doubts swirl around in our mind are we crying out to Jesus as Peter did? "LORD SAVE ME!" Lord help me! Do we ask Jesus to save us from my fears? Lord take away my doubts! Lord show me the way to believe in you. Jesus wants us to be who he made us to be. Our doubts and lack of faith do not hinder His belief in us. We're in the same boat as Peter and the disciples. When we find ourselves in danger of being swallowed up in the storms of life, we keep our eyes focused on Jesus.

We have our fears as we encounter uncertainty in our lives. We lack faith only if we think we do not know that Jesus is with us. If we keep our eyes on Jesus and our ears open to his encouragement, we can be assured he will say to us. "It is I, do not be afraid." It's up to us to take a step, that tiny leap of faith knowing Jesus has faith in us. He believes in us. He does not doubt what we are capable of doing for Him.

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## De Colores! Theresa Gorman

With COVID, many of us are unable to partake in small groups, Ultreya, and School of Leaders. Some are doing small groups online and a limited number are meeting while social distancing. So we are going to try "face-to-face" contact for a School of Leaders for the whole Archdiocese! We do need to see each other and reconnect (Zoom invitation to follow for the virtual School)!

"Whom Shall I Send" by Fr. Frank S. Salmani will be our tool for School. (If you've already read this, please come to share your insights!) Please pray for the participation of the laity and some of our priests, deacons and religious for the doctrinal talks. Together, I think this can be amazing!

We will meet the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. Together we will share our thoughts and ideas (school) and remember that each of us are called (to be leaders). Be well and be blessed. **De Colores! Theresa Gorman**

PS - please share this with others who may not be on this distribution list. This is a reminder, sent out once a month, about your mobilecursillo.org mailing list memberships. It includes your subscription info and how to use it to change it or unsubscribe from a list.

You can visit the URLs to change your membership status or configuration, including unsubscribing, setting digest-style delivery or disabling delivery altogether (e.g., for a vacation), and so on.

In addition to the URL interfaces, you can also use email to make such changes. For more info, send a message to the "-request" address of the list (for example, [cursillistas-request@mobilecursillo.org](mailto:cursillistas-request@mobilecursillo.org)) containing just the word "help" in the message body, and an email message will be sent to you with instructions.

If you have questions, problems, comments, etc, send them to [cursillistas-owner@mobilecursillo.org](mailto:cursillistas-owner@mobilecursillo.org). Thanks!

***Please continue your palanca for our world, our movement, and each other. I look forward when our Cursillo Community will be able to come together once again. In the interim, please remain patient and stay safe. God bless you all!***

**Cursillistas have a voice / Please email your articles to [sam.genovese455@yahoo.com](mailto:sam.genovese455@yahoo.com) and we will publish them each month.**





*Something Worth  
Crowing About*

## I AM BEING CALLED TO SHARE ANOTHER STORY.

I shared the below story on social media this past weekend (kind of like the policeman story. I have never shared my cross/peace medal stories (until the policeman story) but for some reason I am supposed to share them now, at least a couple of them. I have been on this journey for maybe 10 to 12 years (handing out these medals) when called. Only my wife and my small group prayer brothers have heard my stories. But for some reason I am supposed to share them.

I am being called to share another story. I don't know why, but while having a cup of coffee on the back patio this morning, this memory came to me. I have had many of these encounters, but this one I am supposed to share.

Sweetwater TN, Holiday Inn Express, a couple of years ago. I'm a traveling sales guy so I am always in hotels. It is early in the morning and I am headed out the door of my hotel room to get a cup of coffee in the lobby....got on my gym shorts and a tee shirt and my flops. I open the door to leave and "something" calls me back. I walk over to the desk and see my cross/peace token and put it in my pocket....no idea why....but when I am called to do something like that, I do it (be not afraid....right?). Off I go. The coffee is filling up my cup. Literally next to me at the first table are three people, a couple who look to be in their 70s (I found out just a minute later that they were brother and sister), and an older woman (I am guessing 90s) with curlers in her hair. My coffee had finished pouring and I put on the lid and was about to head back up to my room, but something made me turn to the elderly woman. I looked at her and said, "A pretty lady like you getting her

hair all fixed up and ready for the day. Don't be stirring up any trouble." She looked at me with what I can only call lonely/sad eyes and said, "Oh no. I'm headed home to Florida. I just buried my husband in Kentucky....and now I am headed back home."

My heart completely melted on the spot. And then the Holy Spirit came over me. I said to the woman, "You are not going to believe this but I have something for you. I was leaving my hotel room and the Holy Spirit made me turn around and grab something off the desk. I now know why.....you are supposed to have it." I reached in my pocket and grabbed the cross/peace token. I showed it to her and said, "if you want this, it is yours. You are supposed to have this. I am sure of it." She reached out her elderly hand and took mine with the cross/peace token. She just held my hand. She looked at me and said, "I so very much want what you have for me. My husband was a preacher and his name was Jeff."

I could not believe what I was hearing. I told her that my name was Jeff. I looked over and now the brother and sister were in tears. They had obviously driven their mother to the funeral and now they were witnessing the encounter between me and their mother. The elderly woman was still holding my hand and she gently took the cross/peace token and clutched it in her hand. It was hard for me to talk, but I said, "I am so very thankful for meeting you. Peace be with you and safe travels back to Florida. She asked if she could hug me. I said, "Absolutely." We hugged and that was that. I picked up my coffee and headed back to my hotel room. It was an amazing encounter. Have a great week.....