

Tuesday Reflection 23 March 2021

Boating - Part 2

Last Tuesday, we took up a seafaring image, likening our ego to a boat. The main message was taken up by Fr Naz when he wrote of the ‘imagery of the fading ego leading to being conscious of our dependence on each other’.

Today, let us carry the image of our ego-boat’s journey a step further.

For the time being we need a boat, an ego, as a vessel to carry us through the journey of life - however, we must remember that the ego is but a vessel, it is not the essence of our being.

What is it, then, that leads so many of us to defend our ego-boat so vigorously? Is it perhaps fear? Fear of the wind and the waves that toss us around on the sea of life? Fear of shipwreck that might cast us up on an alien shore? Fear of pirates who might hijack our boat?

Fear is a very real emotion; together with envy it probably motivates more of our actions and attitudes than we would care to admit - look at how many advertisements trade on these emotions.

When the sudden storm blew up on the Sea of Galilee and threatened to swamp their boat, the disciples were understandably afraid, but Jesus questioned their fear - “Why are you so afraid?” - before calming the wind and the waves. The disciples were fortunate that they had Jesus in the boat with them.

Do we have Him in ours?

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