

Fr. JC's Pastoral Letter

My dear Little Flower,

At the height of summer, I find myself walking the streets of Copenhagen and Stockholm with friends and, of course, with Flat St. Thérèse.

We have visited churches, shared meals, laughed, rested, and enjoyed the grace of simply being together. Friendship itself can become a prayer. In every church we enter, I carry your intentions with me: your joys, your worries, your families, your grief, and the prayers you have entrusted to God.

This Sunday, Elijah discovers that the Lord is found in the gentle whisper. Perhaps God is speaking to us in the same way: through a quiet church, an honest conversation, the laughter of friends, or a moment when our hearts finally become still.

In the Gospel, the disciples are caught in a storm. Jesus comes toward them, walking upon the water. Peter steps out in faith, but when he notices the wind, fear takes over and he begins to sink.

His prayer is simple: "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reaches out and catches him. Sometimes, we might feel as though we are walking upon uncertain waters. The winds are strong. The waves are high. We may also be tired of trying to appear brave. Remember this: Jesus is already walking toward you.

From across the ocean, I carry you in my heart. I bring your names into these churches and place your needs before the Lord. Wherever I kneel in prayer, the Church of the Little Flower kneels with me. May the Lord meet you in the gentle whisper, steady you in the storm, and remind you that his hand is always closer than the waves.

Your parish priest,
Fr. JC



**ENGAGE
ENCOUNTER
EXPERIENCE**

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