

JUNE 5, 2016



TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



1 KINGS 17:17–24

PSALM 38:2, 4, 5–6, 11, 12, 13

GALATIANS 1:11–19

LUKE 7:11–17

REFLECTION

Today we encounter another miracle of Jesus in the Gospel reading. This is no small miracle. Jesus raises from the dead the son of a grieving widowed woman he encounters in Nain. This is the first of three people that Jesus brings back to life. Jesus also brought Jairus' daughter back from the dead as well as his friend, Lazarus. Jesus' miracle also echoes what happens in today's Old Testament reading in which Elijah asks God to return the breath of the son of the woman he was staying with. The son is brought back to life. So why did Jesus do this? In the Scripture account, it says that "he was moved with pity for her" (Luke 7:13). He saw her pain and wanted to help just as he did in so many of the other miracles. He helped without her even asking. Today we are reminded of the divinity of Jesus. We have looked at the humanness of Jesus and what he had in common with us. Now we see Jesus as the Son of God. We recognize that this is no ordinary man. Jesus didn't do the miracle to make a name for himself or his own glory. Many were afraid of Jesus after he brought this man back to life. Still many recognized that "God has visited his people" (Luke 7:16). Jesus helped and brought life because he saw the pain in the woman and he gave her son back to her. The miracle was done because of love. We know and recognize the divinity in Jesus because of his wondrous acts.



IMAGES OF THE HEALING OF THE MAN IN NAIN

www.bing.com/images/search?q=healing+of+the+man+in+Nain&qvt=healing+of+the+man+in+Nain&FORM=IGRE

ACTION

Take a look at some artists' renditions of today's Gospel. Jesus was just walking through town and he encountered a woman in pain. He reached out and helped. As you walk through your week, pay attention to those around you. Do you see anyone in pain? If there is something you can do to ease their pain, reach out to them. You may send an encouraging card or give someone a smile. You can open doors for someone or help another carry a heavy load. Even a listening ear can be a great comfort. Even the small gestures of love help, and Jesus' love lives on in us.

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- Is there anything "dead" within you that needs new life (such as a bitter attitude being replaced with a positive one)?