



Reflection from Fr. Mike Roach

My brother David passed away in his sleep this Tuesday. He had stage 4 pancreatic cancer since February 2020. David experienced tremendous sickness from chemo, and yet he enjoyed life with his family, going on trips and vacations. Last Saturday we had a big family gathering with all my nieces and nephews attending. What a great celebration! Monday, he went on hospice. On Wednesday morning, he never woke up.

In the Gospel, the disciples are terrified because of the storm at sea, and they say, "Teacher, doesn't it matter to you that we are going to drown?" The sea calmed and Jesus tells them, "Why are you so terrified? Why are you lacking faith?"

We are asked us not to panic, not to spend our time worrying or being anxious. We are called to trust in the power of God at work among us.

I have seen that work of God in my family over this year and a half. My brother is peaceful in God's arms and reunited with my folks. He was the youngest of our family and a very quiet, reserved person. We will probably have a very private family service soon. I really appreciate the thoughts and prayers from everyone. May we continue God's good work among us here at St. James, and be there for one another as you have been there for me.

Blessings to all fathers on this 'Father's Day', and to those great fathers and grandfathers who have gone before us. Let us be that source of strength and comfort for one another.

*~ Peace,
Fr. Mike*