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CNS documentary service

Walking on Water in a Skeptical Age

Archbishop Blase J. Cupich

Archbishop Blase J. Cupich began his service as archbishop of Chicago by calling on the church to put aside "fears and the allure of false securities and leap into the turbulent but creative waters of life in the world with the guidance of God and the charge of the Gospel." In the homily at his installation Mass Nov. 18 in Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral, he said the Gospel account of Jesus walking on water helps Catholics understand "how the risen Lord is working in our midst today and how disciples in all ages, how the church in our time should view its mission." Peter's terror during the storm at sea put him in a unique position to "witness for the church in all ages through his successors the power of the Resurrection to vanquish all fears, disap-

"Join Christ in seeking out, inviting and accompanying ... those to whom he sends us."

pointments, hesitations and doubts," he said. Decrying the "great polarization in church and society" today, Archbishop Cupich challenged Catholics to "leave behind our comforting convictions that episodic Sunday Mass attendance is good enough, that we don't really have to change our habitual bad behavior, our unhealthy dependencies, our inordinate attachments, because we can get by as we are, because they have not gotten us into any serious trouble yet or just because we are afraid of the unknown." His homily follows.

b *ienvenido, Witam, Mabuhay, Dobro došli, Welcome.*

I am delighted and honored to be your archbishop.

So many of you in this cathedral today have come — from near and so very far — friends and family, brother bishops and priests, religious, lay women and men. Former parishioners and pastors from Omaha, Rapid City, Spokane have joined us as well. Your being here consoles me with the hope that our friendships will continue to endure in the years ahead.

Last night I had a chance to welcome my brother bishops, and now I am pleased to greet our papal nuncio, Archbishop Viganò. We all know how demanding your schedule is, archbishop, and so we offer our thanks to you, not only for being with us today but for all you do to so ably represent Pope Francis, our Holy Father, who is well-loved and who makes us proud.

When it came to selecting a date for the

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