

ased on the gospel for Sunday 13 August- Matthew 14:22-33

"They saw him walking on the sea."

This story of Peter walking on water always makes me think of skimming stones across the water as a child. Peter leaps out of the boat and skips across the water, keeping his eyes on Jesus and then reality hits him. He sees the large waves and Jesus, still a long way off, and he begins to doubt Jesus' invitation and down he goes.

The rest of the disciples must be stunned- both by Jesus' appearance on the water and then by Peter getting out of the boat and running towards him, then beginning to sink. Peter's cry, "Save me!" is the cry many of us call out when times are tough and like the apostles when we are saved we realise Jesus was with us all the time.

Our faith is tested greatly these days. In many countries, Christians are persecuted and even wearing a Christian symbol is looked upon as ridiculous superstition or offensive to others and to speak about our faith holds us up to the mockery of unbelievers.

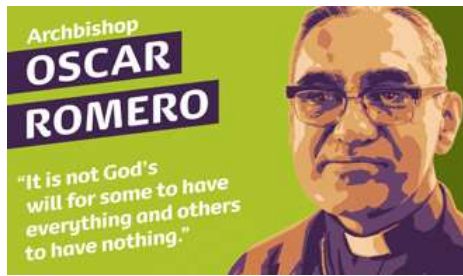
When our faith is tested, like the apostles, let us remember that Jesus is with us.



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Help me, O God, to profess my faith in you and to pray for those for whom believing in you means persecution and death. I pray also for persecutors that they may learn of your love and care for them. Amen.