

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2020  
Have Faith

### Gather Together...

Take time together as a family, find a quiet space, perhaps play some music, light a candle and sit comfortably.



### *Make the Sign of the Cross*

### Listen Together...

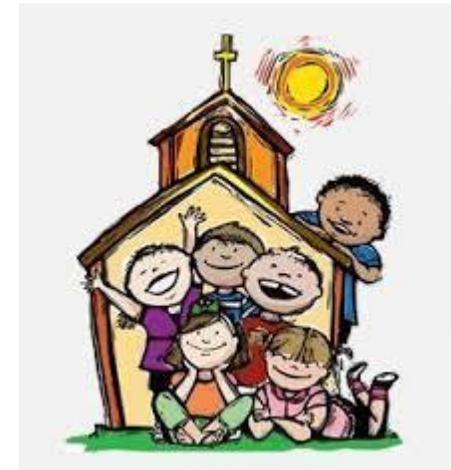
Listen to this week's scripture, from the Gospel according to Matthew...

Before going up to the hills to pray alone, Jesus told his disciples to sail to the other side of the lake. As night fell, the wind grew stronger and the disciples' boat was tossed about by the waves. Suddenly, they saw someone coming towards the boat, walking on the water and they were terrified because they thought it was a ghost! But Jesus called to them. 'Do not be afraid. It is me.'

Peter shouted to Jesus, 'Lord, if that really is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come!' Jesus called.

So Peter climbed out of the boat and lowered himself onto the water. Looking straight at Jesus he began to walk towards him but as he moved further from the boat and felt the strength of the wind, he grew afraid. Suddenly, he began to sink and he called out 'Save me Jesus!'

As Jesus reached out his hand and pulled Peter to safety he said 'Why did you not trust me Peter?' When they got back to the boat the other disciples knelt before Jesus and said 'You truly are the Son of God.'



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Respond Together...

- At first, what did the disciples think was coming towards them? Can you imagine how frightening it must have been to suddenly see someone walking on top of the water on a dark and stormy night?
- What did Jesus say to them to calm them down? 'Do not be afraid' is a phrase we hear a lot of throughout the Bible. It reminds us to be courageous when we might not be feeling very brave and it reminds us that if we trust in Jesus we have nothing to fear.
- What do you think was so special about Peter that allowed him to walk on the water towards Jesus? Peter was the one chosen by Jesus to be the 'rock', the foundation of the Church. He was the first one to realise that Jesus truly was the Son of God.
- What happened to Peter when he felt the strength of the wind? He began to sink beneath the waves because, just for a moment, his faith weakened and he felt afraid. Sometimes we can be like Peter, full of courage but sometime let down by our fear of the unknown. The important thing is that we keep trying to always find our faith, even in times of worry.

Pray Together...

Lord Jesus, give us the courage and faith of Peter whose belief was so strong that he could walk across water to Jesus. In times of weakness reach out your hand to us and rescue us from our doubts. Amen.

