



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO
Office of Family & Faith Formation

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XII Sunday in Ordinary Time

with Fr. Michael Vaughan, Pastor
Good Shepherd Parish, Elk Grove

Gospel

Mark 4:35-41

On that day, as evening drew on, Jesus said to his disciples: "Let us cross to the other side." Leaving the crowd, they took Jesus with them in the boat just as he was.

And other boats were with him. A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat, so that it was already filling up. Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion.

They woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Quiet! Be still!"

The wind ceased and there was great calm.

Then he asked them, "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?" They were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?"

(1st Reading : Jb 38:1, 8-11. 2nd Reading: 2 Cor 5:14-17)

Reflection

"For the love of Christ urges us on." (2 Corinthians 5:14)

St. Paul in the second reading this Sunday gives us a glimpse of the motivating factor in his life. The Lord shared with Ananias when Paul was baptized all that he would have to suffer for him. Paul himself later will share in detail all the different hardships he had endured for Christ.

Those who Christ calls his friends, he gives a share of his cross. The apostles considered as trophies those pains. How many times we are tempted to throw in the towel or call it quits when we feel we can't give any more. At that very moment we recall all that the Lord has done for us and out of nowhere we find strength to carry on.



<https://www.cathopic.com/photo/8579-jovenes-misioneros-camino>

Questions for Reflection:

Have I experienced that where my human limitations end, the grace of God begins?

When I am tempted to stop fighting does the thought of Christ crucified out of love for me give me strength?

Is there an area of my life where I lack generosity that increased love for Christ can't solve?

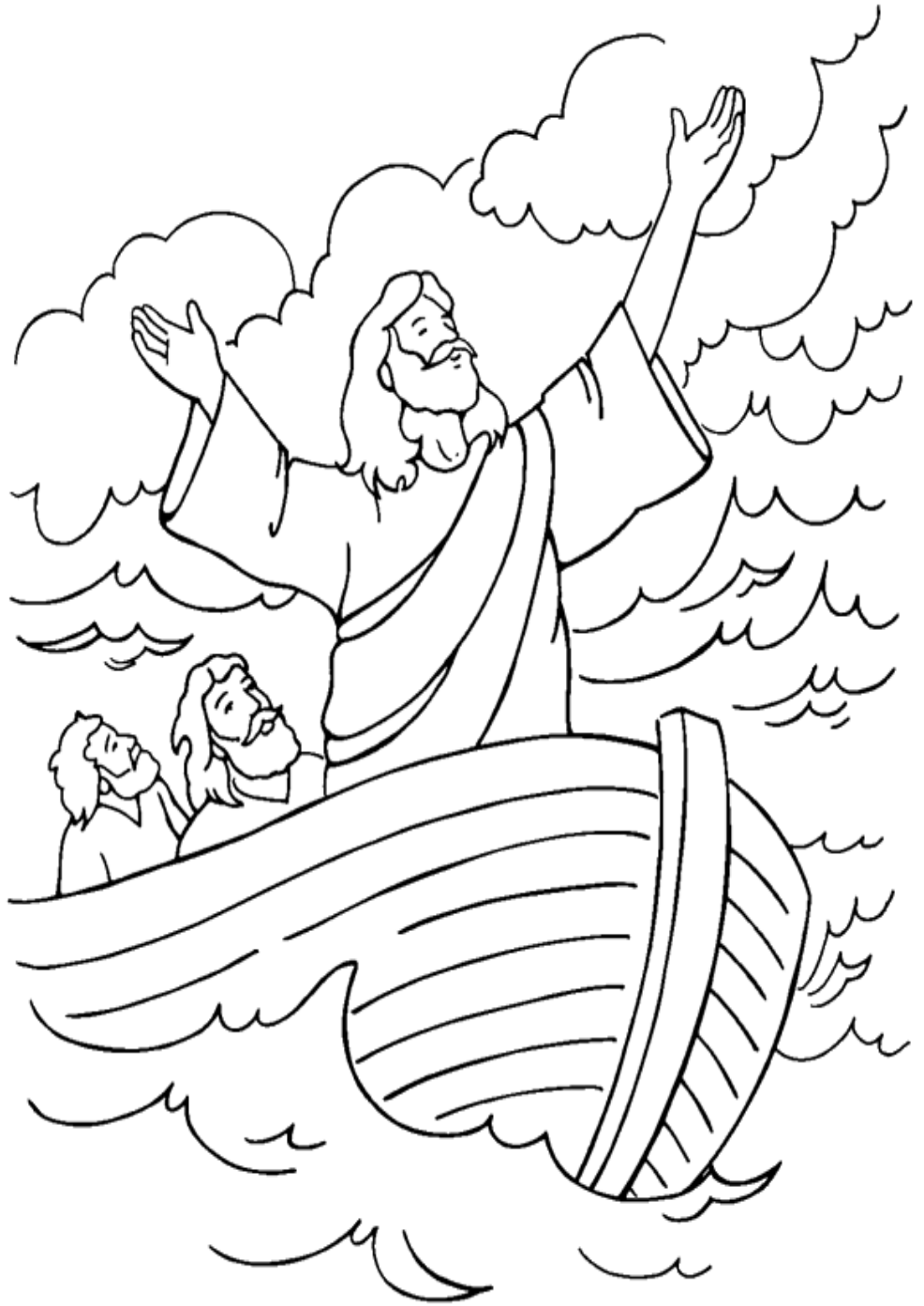
Psalm

92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, Most High,
To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

The just one shall flourish like the palm tree, like a cedar of Lebanon shall he grow. They that are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.

They shall bear fruit even in old age; vigorous and sturdy shall they be, Declaring how just is the LORD, my rock, in whom there is no wrong.



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