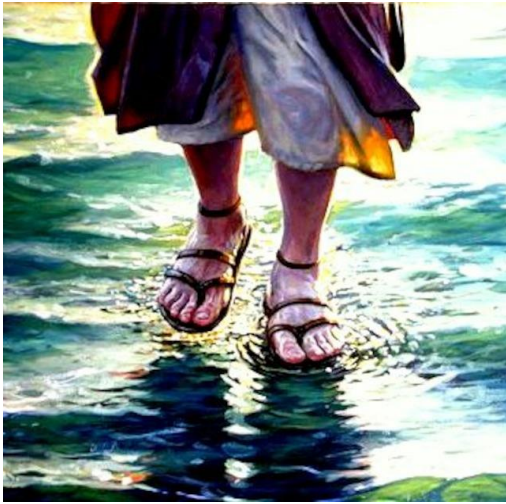


Reflection and Prayers for 19th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A



The hand of God is a human hand. Jesus reaches out to guide us, steady us, support us - all the things a touch of the hand can do. Peter found that also in Jesus - when he took his eyes off the Lord on the water, he began to sink. The Lord then held him close. Like Peter, we are always walking on water, putting our trust in Jesus Christ. We trust in him for protection in the most frightening times of life, like at the hour of

death. At times we can do nothing for those we love except place them in the hand of God, knowing that God loves them more than we do. Excerpt from Sacred Space – Jesuits

For the Church: that by faith we may live wholeheartedly for God and confidently face all challenges bearing much fruit. **We pray to the Lord.**

For all who have lost faith: that the Spirit of God will renew their hearts and open a new springtime of hope so that they come to a new relationship with the living God. **We pray to the Lord.**

This week the whole Church community is called to pray for an increase in vocations, and to support and encourage those discerning their vocation. We pray for young people in our community and our families that they may be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and that the Lord enlighten and give them the grace and courage to respond to His call. **We pray to the Lord.**

For all whose faith is tested, particularly those held captive; those fleeing violence, those in competitive businesses and young people who are starting out in new life situations: that they may draw upon their foundational principles in making decisions. **We pray to the Lord.**

For all who serve in dangerous settings especially police, firefighters, medical professionals and members of the military: that God will protect. **We pray to the Lord.**

For peace and justice and those grieving loss of life particularly the persecuted: that they may know God's comforting presence. **We pray to the Lord.**

For all parishioners and loved ones who have died: that God will meet them face to face on their journey to eternal life. **We pray to the Lord.**

Holy God, you speak to us in the wonder of creation and in the mystery of your Son. Deliver us from fear and call us to faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord.