

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John  
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,  
August 9, 2020**

**JESUS WALKED ON THE WATER**



In this Sunday's Gospel passage, we hear how the disciples are struggling against the wind and waves as they attempt to sail across Lake Galilee. As they are struggling to get the boat to the shore, Jesus comes to them walking on the water. They are terrified and think they are seeing a ghost. When they realize that it is Jesus, Peter asks Jesus to order him to come to him. Jesus does and Peter takes a few steps onto the sea, but soon he begins to sink.

We might ask ourselves why Jesus came walking on the water in the first place.

Jesus might have done it to bring the disciples to a deeper faith in him. For at the end of the passage they proclaim, "Truly, you are the Son of God." Perhaps Jesus strode across the waves to show his miraculous powers. He could do what others could not.

Perhaps there is a more obvious reason why Jesus walked on the water. He did what he did so that he could come to the aid of his disciples. When he arrived and stepped into the boat, "the wind died down."

That wondrous event is a reminder that Jesus did the same thing for us. The Son of God took on flesh and came to humanity's rescue as it was being tossed about by evil, selfishness, darkness, and sin. Jesus, the Son of God, came to rescue us not by walking on the waters of the sea but by walking across the gulf between heaven and earth. Jesus walked on the "water" for our sake.

Let us not forget to pray for each other,

Father John Carlos