

Use it or lose it?

If you can't stand the heat get out of the kitchen! A saying which used to be quite common. It makes good sense to get out of a stressful situation. This week's Gospel reading turns that upside down. Who on earth would leave the relative safety of a boat in a gale? Well of course no one except perhaps those invited by the one true Son of the living God (Matthew 14).

Peter had received such an invite and, keeping his eyes on his friend, found he was somehow able to avoid sinking. Wow! However it all turned a little less 'wowey' when Peter averted his eyes. He sees the waves, whipped up by the strong wind, and the waters begin to submerge him. Fortunately the supreme lifeguard puts out a hand and rescues him with that famous phrase 'You of little faith'. This could easily be translated as 'little faithers' with a hint of friendly correction. It's a phrase Jesus uses more than once. In fact there's an affirmation behind it too. To be a little faither is a good start, considering faith as small as a mustard seed is enough to move mountains. A small measure of faith is the biggest step we can ever take. After all, the hardest part of any journey is the first steps (Matthew 17).



The amount of faith we live by is, ultimately, between ourselves and God. What matters more is whether we use the faith we have. It's a case of use or lose, and none of us want that, do we?