



UNEXPECTED GRACES

Let us Remember

...



That we are in the Holy Presence of God.

UNEXPECTED
GRACES

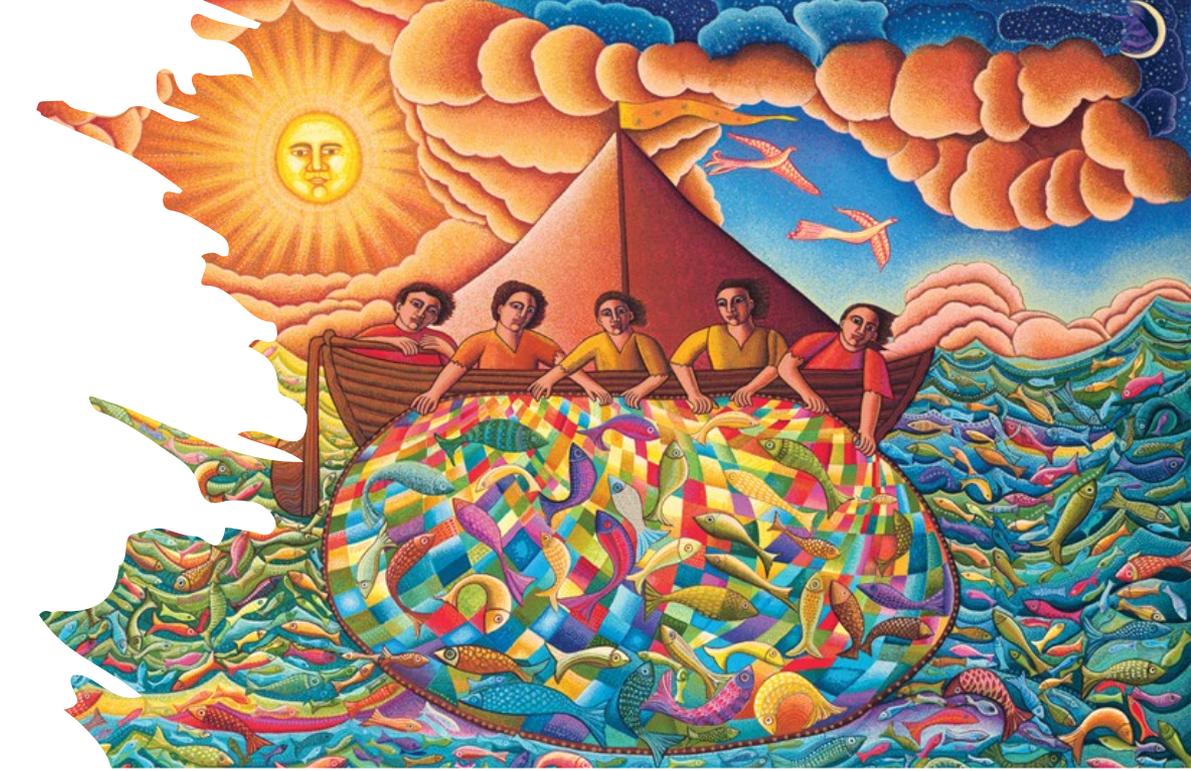
- **Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them,**
- **“Friends, have you any fish?”**
- **“No,” they answered.**
- **He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.”**
- **When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.**



- Our present sufferings are nothing compared to the glory that will be revealed to us. (Rom 8:18)

- Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Heb 11:1)

- They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” (Luke 24:32)





- Ronald Rolheiser speaks of a time in 2011 when he had 168 days of chemotherapy for his colon cancer. He kept journal, saying “I’ll get through this! I’ll endure it!”
- One day, about halfway through, he had a revelation.
- ...I woke up, I woke up to the fact that I was putting my life on hold, that I wasn’t really living but only enduring each day in order check it off and eventually reach that magical 168th day when I could start living again. I realized that I was wasting a season of my life. Moreover, I realized that what I was living through was sometimes rich precisely because of the impact of chemotherapy in my life.





- That realization remains one of the special graces in my life... The coronavirus has put us all, in effect, on a conscripted sabbatical and it's subjecting those who have contracted it to their own type of chemotherapy. And the danger is that we will put our lives on hold as we go through this extraordinary time and will just endure rather than let ourselves be graced by what lies within this uninvited season.
- Yes, there will be frustration and pain in living this through, but that's not incompatible with happiness.



- I invite you to reflect on the unexpected graces that you – and your school community – have received because of this “uninvited season.”

- What bountiful “fish” have come into your net when you were asked to cast it on the other side of your boat?

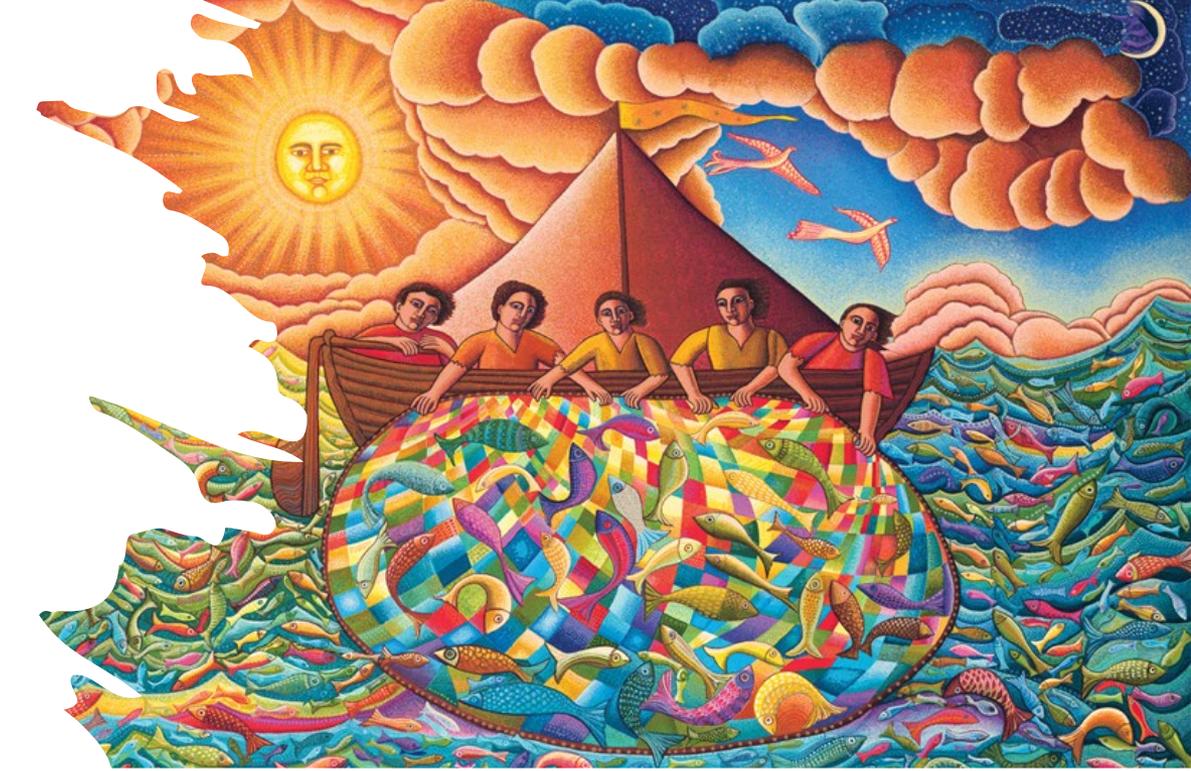
- As you listen to the song, pray a prayer from the heart for yourself, your family, and your community.



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Live Jesus in Our Hearts . . . Forever!