Reflection by: Sister Eileen Ivory, OP

The words and images from today’s scripture are a study in contrasts. On one hand, deep despair. On the other, high hopes.

Fires and melting glaciers, Abaco devastated by Hurricane Dorian, an impeachment inquiry, multitudes of migrant people seeking a new homeland, rioting in the streets, violent talk and violent acts and on and on. Well, you might say that covers some of the despair but what about hope? The prophet Habakkuk, having given expression to the despair that followed after calling upon God and seemingly not been heard, is finally answered and told to write down the vision because the vision still has its time and will not disappoint. It will surely come.

That’s a pretty hopeful promise. In the midst of all the craziness that is life today, what is the vision to which you cling? How are you able to acknowledge the ugliness while still anticipating that vision? In today’s Gospel the apostles seem to have the answer…they ask: increase our faith. They’re told it doesn’t even take a lot of faith, just a small bit and you can bring balance to life’s contrasts. Sounds like good advice.