

How does Oscar Romero's life help to show us what God is like?



The ones who have a voice must
speak for those who are voiceless.

— *Oscar Romero* —

AZ QUOTES

El Salvador





Oscar Romero
1917-1980

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A special person



Oscar Romero
was born on **15**
August 1917 in
El Salvador,
Central America.

When he left **school**
he became a
carpenter, but soon
decided he wanted
to become a **priest**.

El Salvador at the time

A few families were **very** rich **and owned** lots of **land**. Most people **were** poor **and** earned very little.

People **became** very angry **at this** unfairness.

But the rich **were** very powerful. **If** anybody complained **they were** put in prison **or** even killed.



A quiet man



In **1977 Oscar Romero** became the **Archbishop** of **San Salvador**, the capital.

He was a **quiet, shy man** and nobody thought he would **speak out** about how **poor people** were being treated.

They **thought** he would be **too afraid**.

A friend's influence



Romero's **friend Fr. Rutilio Grande** worked with **poor communities**. He spoke out about how **unfair** things were and demanded better living conditions for **poor people**.

For this he was shot dead.

His death **upset** and **angered Romero**, who insisted on **justice** for his friend. This never happened.

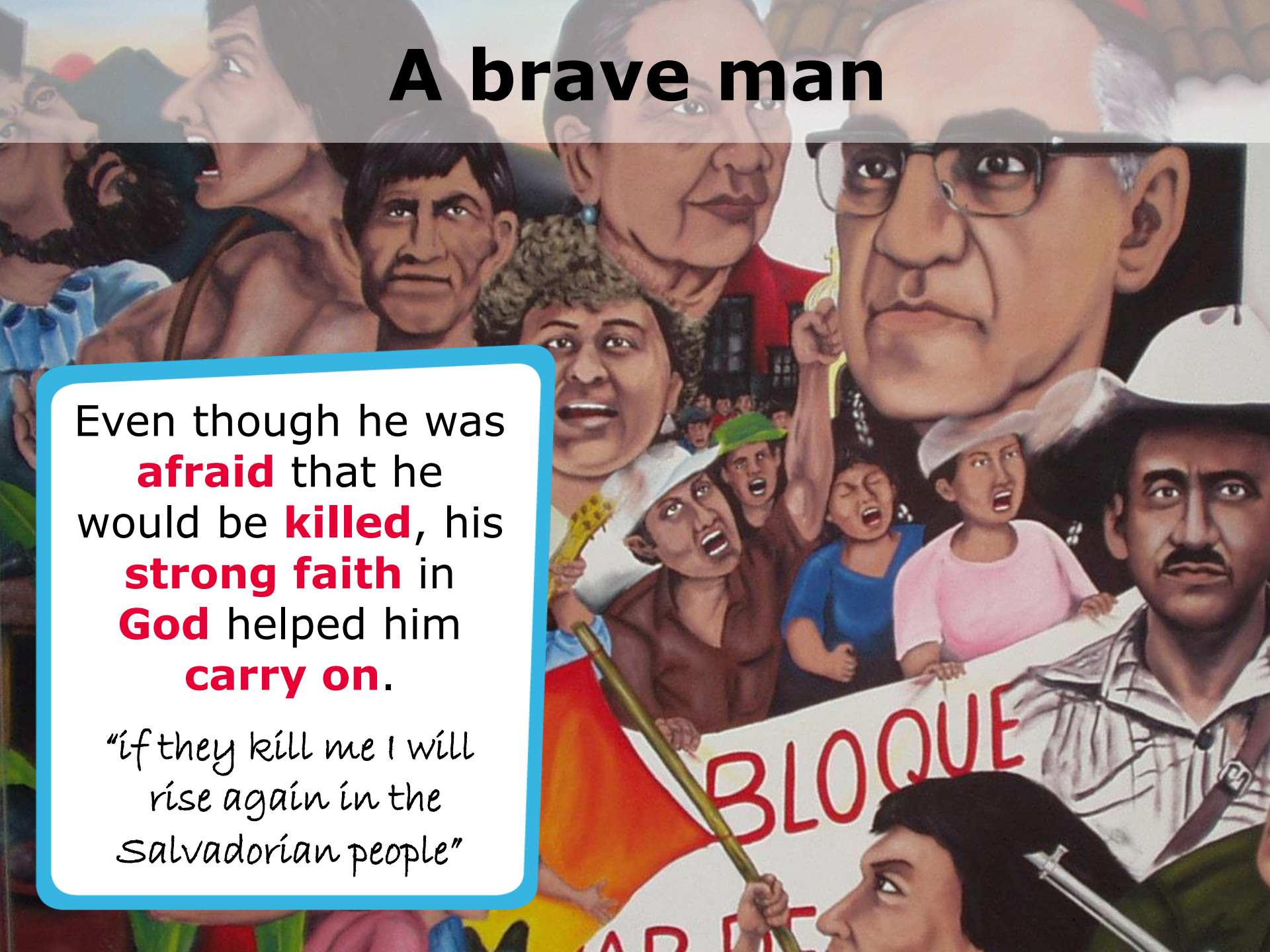
A voice for the voiceless

"Many would like the poor to keep on saying it is God's will for them to live that way. But it is not God's will for some to have everything and others to have nothing. That cannot be of God."

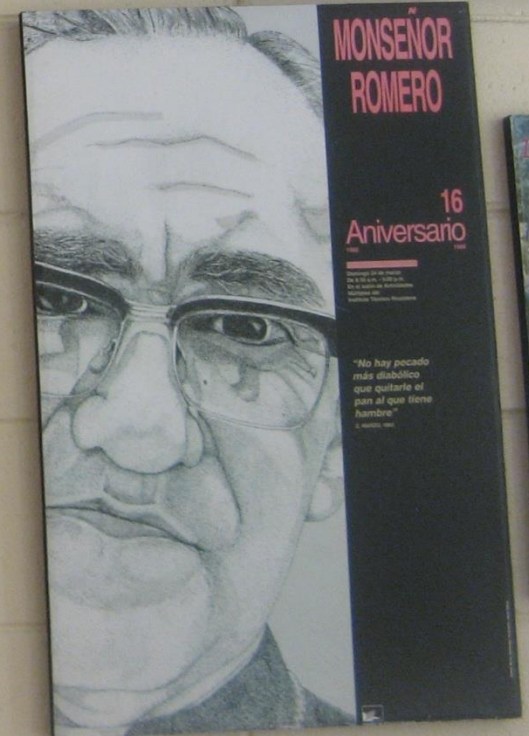
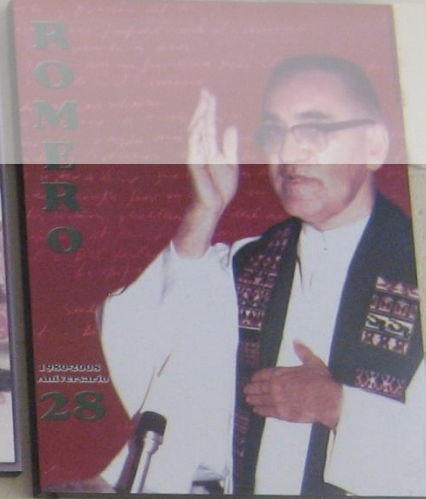
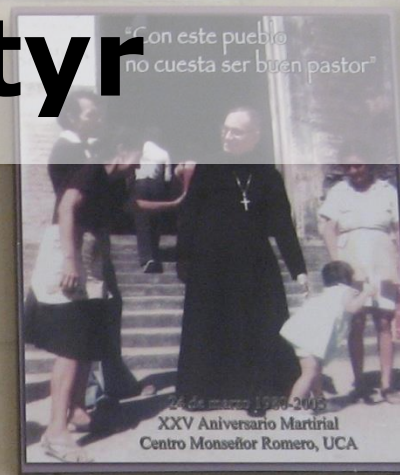
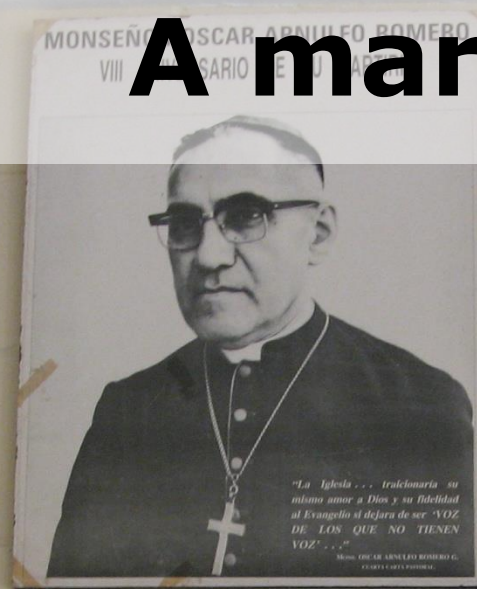
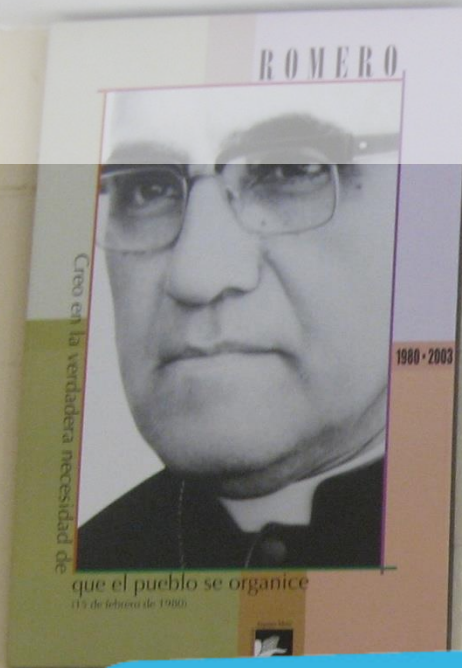
A brave man

Even though he was **afraid** that he would be **killed**, his **strong faith** in **God** helped him **carry on**.

*"if they kill me I will
rise again in the
salvadorian people"*



A martyr



On **24th March 1980**,
Oscar Romero was
celebrating Mass. A car
drew up and a **shot** was
fired through the open
church door.

Oscar Romero was killed.

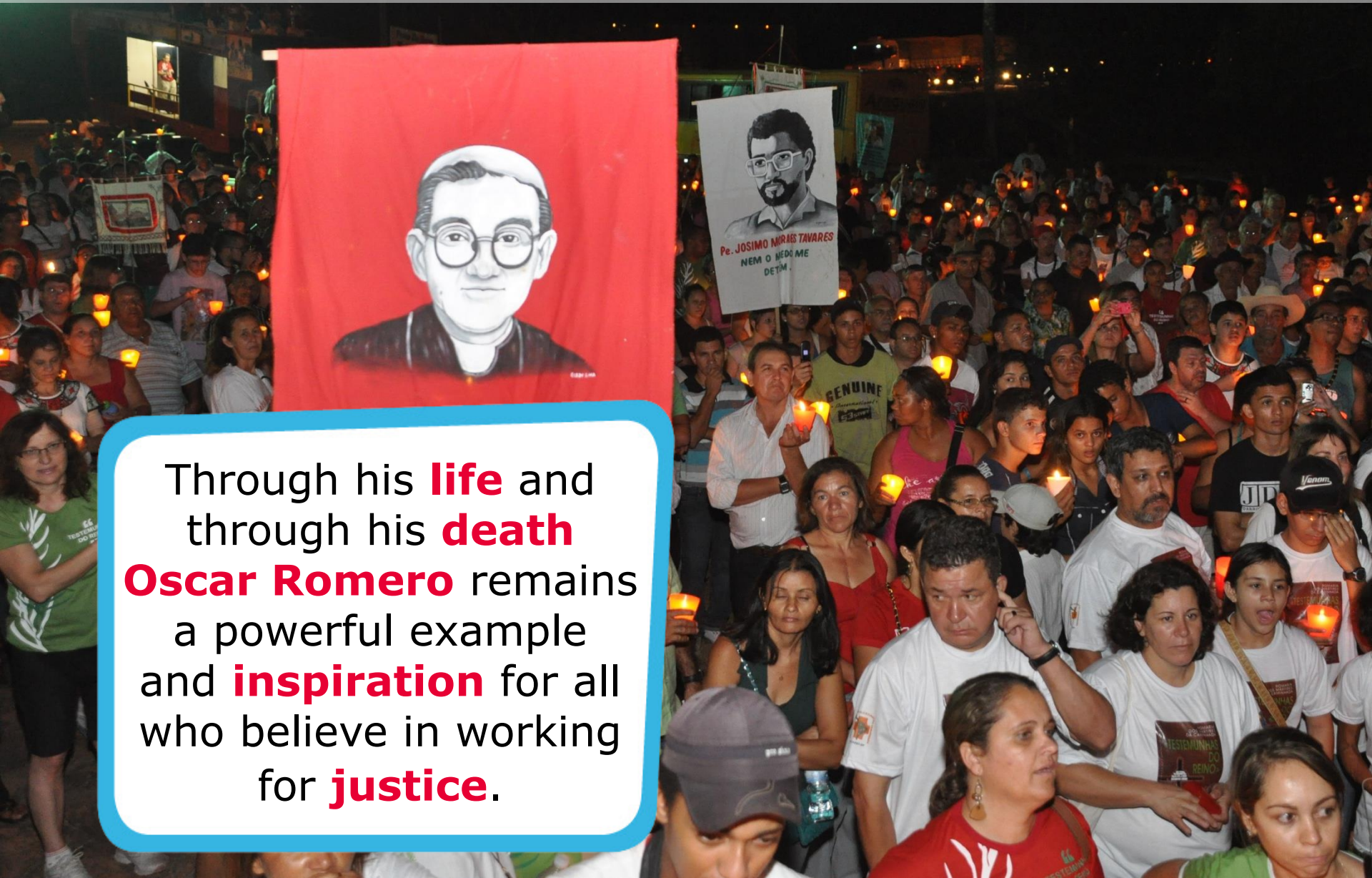
CAFOD in El Salvador

Archbishop Oscar Romero was one of **CAFOD's** partners.



CAFOD partners continue
working for **justice** in
El Salvador alongside the **poor**.

A guiding light



Through his **life** and
through his **death**
Oscar Romero remains
a powerful example
and **inspiration** for all
who believe in working
for **justice**.



Oscar Romero
1917-1980

Photographs: Equipo Maiz , Claudia Torres , CAFOD.

Key questions

- What made Oscar Romero extraordinary
- Why do we call Oscar Romero a martyr?
- Why does Cafod look to Oscar Romero as an example?
- How does Romero's story help to show us what God is like?

Your task

- Your task: To design a memorial for Oscar Romero. You may wish to include a quote from Oscar Romero, or a poem to sum up his life. You may use the ideas from the mural shown on the powerpoint.
- Going deeper – what does the Bible teach us about how God wants us to treat the poor.



"Many would like the poor to keep on saying it is God's will for them to live that way. But it is not God's will for some to have everything and others to have nothing. That cannot be of God."

