

FAMILY PRAYER

WEEK BY WEEK

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - 30 August 2020



"All who wish to follow me must deny themselves."

Something to Think About

Being a disciple of Jesus is not always easy. Jesus often reminded his friends that the way of discipleship is the way of the cross. However, experiencing difficult times helps us to grow and learn. Can you think of a time when you had to do something difficult, or make a difficult decision? How did this help you to grow as a person? Although it's not always easy to follow Jesus, we need to keep trying!

The Story

In this week's gospel story, Jesus tells his disciples that he is going to suffer, die and rise again. Peter (as usual) does not fully comprehend what Jesus is saying. How often does Peter miss the point! More than this, Peter protests strongly and dares to try to tell Jesus that this should not happen!

The Scriptures

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:21-25

Jesus said, "I must go to Jerusalem. There the nation's leaders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law of Moses will make me suffer terribly. I will be killed, but three days later I will rise to life."

Then Jesus said to his disciples:

"If any of you want to be my followers, you must forget about yourself.

You must take up your cross and follow me.

If you want to save your life, you will destroy it.

But if you give up your life for me, you will find it."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

Click to watch the video.

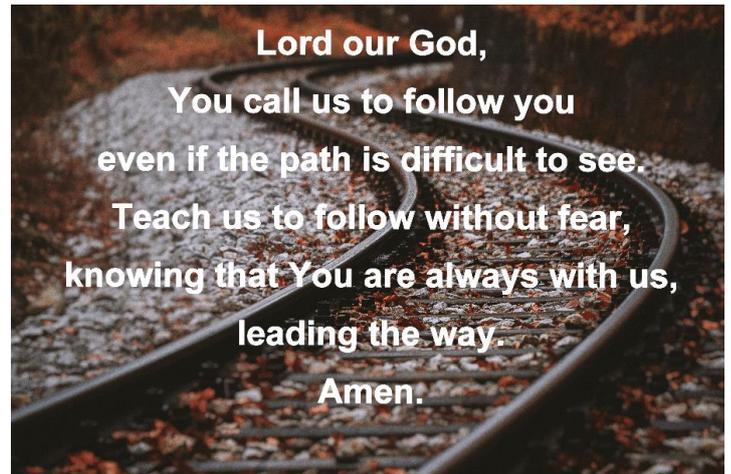
[Choose Jesus](#)



THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Prayer

Say this prayer together during the week.



Family Discussion

Talk about times when it is easy to follow Jesus, maybe times when you are with your family and friends doing what you like to do.

Now talk about those times when it is hard to be a follower of Jesus, times when doing the right thing can be difficult e.g., it is lunchtime at school and you are playing a game with your friends. You see someone sitting on their own, watching the game. What do you do? Do you keep playing with your friends and ignore the person on their own? Or do you go over to the person and invite them to join in the game? What if you know your friends will then walk away?

Talk together about how this is what Jesus meant when he said to the disciples, and to us, "You must take up your cross and follow me."

Family Activity

You will need materials to make a family cross (lengths of timber & nails or glue, or cardboard), and paint or marker pens.

As the cross is being assembled, talk about what symbols or words each person will add to the family cross. When it is ready, place the cross in a special place in your home, and use it for family prayer.



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**PLAY A GAME
USING TWO BLOCKS
OR PIECES OF LEGO.**

**THE BIG ONE IS JESUS.
THE SMALL ONE IS
YOU.**

**WHEREVER JESUS
GOES YOU FOLLOW:
AROUND THE TABLE,
ALONG THE COUCH,
OVER THE CUSHIONS,
ONTO THE FLOOR,
ACROSS THE MAT...**



JESUS SAID: FOLLOW ME!