
August 30th 2026 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time – Year A Matthew 16:21-27

¹⁶⁻²¹From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

²³Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

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| <p>➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel.</p> <p>➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.</p> | <p>➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition.</p> <p>➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).</p> |
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This weeks gospel speaks of an incident which happens at a very significant moment in the life of Jesus. Up until now he met with great success in Galilee. Large crowds followed him and his fame spread throughout Syria. Then opposition to him grew, mainly from Scribes and Pharisees. He decided that the time had come to confront these opposing forces at the seat of their power, Jerusalem their home. This decision had tragic consequences which he accepted.

When have you found that following Jesus brought you new life even though at the time it may have been difficult?

Prayer:

Thank You Lord for the times that you allowed us to experience the peace that Jesus promised us through our relationship with him.

Forgive us Lord for the times as individuals and communities we did not respond like Jesus in enabling people to find their true selves and peace in their heart.

Help us Lord at all times to enable the Spirit of peace to live in our church, our families and our world.