



## Friends of Jesus and Mary

### XXIV Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Isaiah 50, 5-9<sup>a</sup>; Psalm 114; James 2, 14-18; Mark 8, 27-35*

### Carry your cross and follow me

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him. He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

### Reflection

**Jesus asks, "Who do people say that I am?" What do they answer?** (Peter says, "You are the Christ.") **What does Christ mean?** (Savior) **The Old Testament announced that God would send a Savior to His people. How did they imagine the Savior would be?** (Many thought the Savior would be a military leader who would liberate the Jewish people from the Romans.) **But Jesus tells them the Jewish High Priests would reject Him; He would suffer, die, and then resurrect on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day. How did they respond to this?** (Peter tries to convince Him to not do this because he didn't want to see Him suffer or die.) **What does Jesus say?** (Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.) **Jesus says the world thinks differently than God. The world thinks about wealth and power. God thinks about eternal life that never ends. So then, from what does Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection save us?** (Jesus pays for the consequences of our sins which would be to lose eternal life. He opens the gates of Heaven. This requires a great sacrifice.) **What does Jesus ask of us at the end of the Gospel?** ("Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.") **What does this mean?** (Just as Jesus' sacrifice opens the gates of Heaven for us, our sacrifices for Jesus help us get to Heaven and help others get to Heaven. When we decide to follow Jesus and His commandments and not a disobedient friend, when we stop doing something we love to help another or to help Jesus, we are carrying our cross and gaining Heaven.) **Life on earth ends, but our soul continues to Heaven if we follow Jesus.**



### Activities

On the next page, Unscramble the words. Put the letters with a number underneath in the corresponding space at the bottom to reveal the word. On the last page, write in the cross a sacrifice you will do this week for Jesus.

### Prayer

Lord, I want to follow you. Help me to carry my cross with love by obeying, helping those in need, forgiving, and offering sacrifices for the salvation of souls. Amen.

**Song:** He is Lord, fortner102 (Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/OTbhnTeF4yE>

**PPT:** [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/10AP47oe\\_1XHdsa-iS-zCiZrn6ucVaFZi/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/10AP47oe_1XHdsa-iS-zCiZrn6ucVaFZi/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true)

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**Instructions:** Unscramble the words. Put the letters with a number underneath in the corresponding space at the bottom to reveal the word.



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"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."  
Mark 8:34b

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**CARRY YOUR CROSS AND FOLLOW ME (Mark 8, 34)**

Instructions: Write or draw something on the cross which is difficult to do or not to do, but that you will do this week to show you love and follow Jesus. Color and decorate the cross.

Jesus, my  
Savior, I  
want to  
follow you.

Jesus, my  
Savior, I  
want to  
follow you.



**IDEAS:**

- Pick up your toys without being told
- Not play videos one day
- Obey all my parents say
- Pray every night an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.
- Set the Table
- Not eat sweets
- Not fight with my brother/sister

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