

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Readings: 1) Jeremiah 20:7-9 2) Romans 12:1-2 3) Matthew 16:21-27

Sunday Liturgy

The focus for today's Mass is: Trust in and follow the way of Jesus.

Peter can be excused for thinking as a human does, for he is human! But what gets him in trouble is his mistaken idea that he knows better than Jesus – that he knows better how Jesus ought to carry out his mission. This is reminiscent of the Fall: Pride in one's own knowledge over that of God's. We're all susceptible to that, and Jesus reminds Peter – and us – that *his way is the way*. All we need to do is trust, and follow.

Jeremiah accuses the Lord of duping him, for his prophecies are met with laughter and mocking, *derision and reproach*. Paul encourages the Romans *to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice*. In the Gospel, Jesus reveals that he must suffer greatly, and Peter attempts to dissuade him. Jesus accuses Peter of *thinking not as God does, but as human beings do*. He then tells his disciples that in order to follow him, they must take up their cross.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

PRIEST:

Let us approach the Father with our prayers, confident of his infinite love for us.

For Pope Francis, may the Holy Spirit continue to help him persevere in faith.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord hear our prayer.

For world leaders,

may God inspire them in working to protect the sanctity of life at all stages.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord hear our prayer.

For all who are sick in mind, body and spirit,

may the Lord bring them hope.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord hear our prayer.

For the faithful departed, may they rest in peace.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord hear our prayer.

For this faith community,

may God increase in us the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord hear our prayer.

For our own personal intentions... (long pause).

We Pray to the Lord. Lord hear our prayer.

PRIEST:

Heavenly Father, we entrust our prayers to you, through your Son, Christ our Lord.