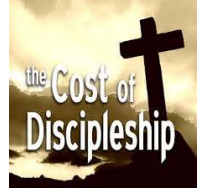


A Reflection from Fr. Joseph



All of us have a cross, a difficulty, a pain that will not let us go. Now, this cross can be in the area of our family, health, job, or finances. But in whatever area our cross is located, we want to put it down. We want our cross to go away. This is what is so discouraging about Jesus in today’s Gospel. Jesus says if we are to follow him, we have to take up our cross and carry it. We can understand why Peter argued with Jesus and tried to change his mind. But Jesus would not budge. Being a disciple means that our cross must be carried. So how do we do it? How do we find the strength to bear the burdens that are ours?

There is a very old movie called “The Man Who Played God.” It is a story about a famous musician. He was very successful and accumulated a great deal of wealth. But he was losing his hearing. No longer able to do the thing he loved, he became angry and embittered. He turned against his family and friends. He cursed God. He withdrew into his penthouse where he spent his time learning to lip-read, preparing for his deafness.

Outside the penthouse was a beautiful park. One day, looking out his window, he saw a young man sitting on the bench in the park. The man was not sleeping or reading. He seemed to be talking, but there was no one there. So, the musician took out some high-powered binoculars and began to read the man’s lips. He was praying. He had lost his job and he was asking God to help him find money to pay his mortgage.

The musician laughed. “God doesn’t care,” he said. “God will not answer your prayer—but I will.” He sent his butler to go out and find a secret way of providing the money to the man in need. The musician scorned God: “I’m a better God than you are. I answer people’s prayers.” It felt good, so he continued to search the park for other people in need. When he could not find enough people in the park, he began to sit in the corner of churches and read the lips of people who came in. Whenever there was a need he could meet, he found a secret way of providing it.

The musician continued this eccentric way of giving for months. In time, it changed him. What began as an insult to God was transformed into a service for others. His anger was turned to compassion. Service led him to acceptance and a kind of peace. The man who played God found God. In serving others, he found the strength to carry his own cross.

All of our crosses are different, but every cross has its own kind of difficulty. That is why it is important for us to remember that we do not gain the strength to carry our cross by turning inward, by feeding our anger and our discouragement. We gain strength by turning outward, by finding some way to give, some way of touching the life of another. Self-pity and sadness deplete us of energy and power. But, even the smallest act of generosity, whatever giving we can muster has the ability to free us and empower us to continue.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

- Mon. Sept. 17th** - 1 Cor. 11:17-26, 33; Luke 7:1-10
- Tue. Sept. 18th** - 1 Cor. 12:12-14, 27-31; Luke 7:11-17
- Wed. Sept. 19th** - 1 Cor. 12:31-13:13; Luke 7:31-35
- Thurs. Sept. 20th** - ST. ANDREW KIM & Companions, memorial
1 Cor. 15:1-11; Luke 7:36-50
- Fri. Sept. 21st** - ST. MATTHEW, feast
Ephes. 4:1-7, 11-13; Mat. 9:9-13
- Sat. Sept. 22nd** - 1 Cor. 15:35-37, 42-59; Luke 8:4-15
- Sun. Sept. 23rd** - 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Wisdom 2:12, 17-20; James 3:16-4:3; Mark 9:30-37



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Sat. Sept. 15th 5 pm Mass for the int. of Ed & Evie Laureola & fmlly.
- Sun. Sept. 16th 9 am Mass for parishioners
11 am Mass for Rosaria Pulice, R.I.P.
5 pm Mass for the int. of Russell Rosales
- Mon. Sept. 17th 8 am Mass for the int. of Lloyd Steadler
- Tue. Sept. 18th 8 am Mass for Bob White, R.I.P.
- Wed. Sept. 19th 9 am Mass for Rodrigo Dorado, R.I.P.
7:30 pm Novena Mass
- Thur. Sept. 20th 8:00 am Mass for Isaias Lachica, R.I.P.
- Fri. Sept. 21st 8:00 am Mass for Antonio Tagulao, R.I.P.
- Sat. Sept. 22nd 9:00 am Mass for All the Souls in Purgatory



ALTAR SERVERS

We are looking to train young men and women, from grades 4 and up for altar serving. All those interested are asked to pick-up a registration form from the sacristy and return it as soon as possible. You will be trained. The dates and times of rehearsals will be communicated to you by phone or email. Those who have previously served are also asked to complete a registration form to let us know that you intend to continue serving this year. **All former altar servers are asked to volunteer their services at the Mass they attend until a new schedule is provided.**

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE NEWS

- Pancake Breakfast: Our CWL will be preparing and serving a delicious breakfast next Sunday, Sept. 23rd, after the 9 & 11 am Masses in the school cafeteria. Bring your appetite and come and socialize with family, friends and fellow parishioners!



PROJECT ADVANCE NEWS

Thank you to all those who are generously supporting our Project Advance. We are making steady progress towards our goal! To date we have received \$76,076 in pledges from 259 parishioners which represents 27.1% of the congregation. Can we make it to \$80,000??? If you haven't contributed, it is not too late. You can make a real difference to our community by dropping off your donation marked Project Advance in the Sunday collection, at the parish office or give online at: www.rca.org/giving. Together, let us continue to "Live Gratefully, Give Generously."

PREP NEWS

Mrs. Isabel Falcone, our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) coordinator, is inviting all parents of children attending public schools, in grades 1 through 7, to register them in our PREP program. The program which began last Tuesday, is held every Tuesday from 6:30 - 7:45 pm in our school. Registrations will be accepted prior to classes on Tuesday.

RCIA & ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Begins at St. Jude's on Thursday, Sept. 20th.

Interested? Know someone who might be? Come or invite them to join our parish program called RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult). The program is suitable for anyone who is interested in learning more about our faith, for Catholics who have not yet received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion and for those who would like to deepen their faith. For more information please call (604) 434-6700.

SCHOOL NEWS

- School Mass: This Wed., Sept. 19th at 9 am. Join us!
- School Photos: will be taken on Thursday, Sept. 20th. Students must come in complete uniform.
- Pro D Day: There will be no school on Friday, Sept. 21st.
- Walkathon: one of our school's most important fundraising will be held on Oct. 5th. Mark your calendars!

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Up-Coming Events

Stewardship Reflections

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." (Mark 8:34)

When we truly believe that all we have is a gift from God, then we must be willing to give up some things so that we can share our blessings as God intended. Living a Stewardship lifestyle means not only being responsible for our own life, but the lives of others as well.

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The Men's Retreat - *A Man After God's Own Heart*

Join us Sept. 28-30, at Rockridge Canyon in Princeton, B.C. We will follow the story of King David and rediscover the fulfilment

that comes from directing our entire lives toward God. With powerful presentations, time for prayer, sacraments, fellowship, adventure, rest, and the rugged beauty of Rockridge Canyon, this retreat offers something for everyone. This is The Men's Retreat you do not want to miss! Registration now open! For more information visit www.liferestoration.ca/mensretreat

2018 VANCOUVER CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

"Do you want to be healed?" (John 5:6)

will be held at the Broadway Church on Friday, Sept. 21st from 7 to 9:30 pm and Saturday, Sept. 22nd from 9 am to 7 pm. The Keynote speakers will be: Robert Canton and Dr. Mary Healy. The closing Mass will be celebrated by our Vicar General, Very Rev. Gary Franklin. Tickets are \$20. For more info or for tickets call Grace Ayodele at 604-315-9329 also being sold after the Masses.

Dominican Family Vocations Day

Is Jesus Christ calling you to follow him in prayer, study, community, and preaching/evangelizing? Come and meet the Dominican family and learn more about the friars, nuns, sisters, and laity, and discern if you are called to a vocation following in the footsteps of St. Dominic. The day begins on Saturday, Sept. 22, with a special Mass at 9:30 a.m. and includes an overview of Dominican Spirituality and a chance to meet members of the four branches of the Dominican Order at St. Mary's Parish, Vancouver. For more information please contact Mark Norbury at leostmark@yahoo.co.u

SEMINAR OF HOPE

Hoe to Pray for your Sons and Daughters & Loved Ones

Free Live Seminar by Vernon Robertson.

Removing the guilt parents suffer because of the spiritual condition of their children. Have your loved ones stopped practicing the faith? Do they no longer believe in God? Then this Seminar is for you. Free participant manual will be given to you at the Seminar. Saturday, Sept. 29th from 9 am to 4:30 pm at Christ the Redeemer Parish (599 Keith Rd. West Van). Lunch will be provided. Free babysitting offered. To register please call Christ the Redeemer parish office at 604-9221371.

Seminary of Christ the King Lecture

How many are seeking fulfillment and peace of heart, but often in the wrong places! What about yoga, so popular in our day? And other practices influenced by New Age? Moira Noonan is a popular speaker among Christians, traveling throughout North America, explaining the true nature of the New Age Movement, its origins, purposes, and dangers. She speaks with experience, as she was a master and teacher of New Age spirituality and occult practices for more than 20 years. After a series of powerful conversion experiences she returned to the Catholic Church. She has committed herself to a ministry of educating and helping people avoid New Age spirituality and the evils she experienced in the many New Age practices and techniques that exist in our society today. On Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Seminary of Christ the King, Mission, Moira Noonan will share her story and equip us to discern better the practices and beliefs influenced by the New Age. Talks from 10 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., with lunch break. Mass offered beforehand in the seminary chapel at 9 a.m.

