IF YOU WISH TO COME AFTER ME YOU MUST DENY YOURSELF, TAKE UP YOUR CROSS,

and follow me.

MARK 8:34
September 16, 2018 • Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Just as Isaiah prophesies the suffering of Jesus in rather specific terms—“I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting”—Jesus, in speaking to his disciples, clearly reveals to them that he will suffer and die, which bewilders and shocks them. “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.” They don’t know what to do with this information, and they can’t envision their beloved Lord suffering and dying in this way.

“YOU ARE THE CHRIST”

Jesus asks the disciples who the people say he is. Some say, “John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets.” This odd answer shows that the disciples were beginning to form a rudimentary understanding that it was possible to rise from the dead. So it is puzzling that when Jesus says that he will “rise after three days,” they would seemingly not quite comprehend this.

But when Jesus asks, “Who do you say that I am?” Peter speaks for the disciples: “You are the Christ.” Moments later, the rather confused Peter objects to the Jesus’ assertion that he will suffer and die, Jesus stunningly rebukes him for his objection, “Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”

Although Peter is beginning to form true faith in his declaration of belief in Christ, he still is thinking like a human, and has not yet begun to see the world through God’s eyes. Peter’s faith has not yet grown to its full stature, as it will after the Resurrection.

Our gift of faith sees and believes the suffering and death of Christ, but we still might not see the consequences of that faith. Our works arise out of our belief in and love for the Lord. Through our faith, we must not only believe, but help others as Christ would do. This is seeing the world through God’s eyes.

Today’s Readings: Is 53:5-9a; Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35


St. Francis Xavier Parish
7th and JEFFERSON STREETS, MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA. 26041
Rev. That Son Ngoc Nguyen

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):
Sat. 3:30 p.m., or any other time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
By appointment. Contact the Parish House at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
By appointment. The Diocese requires instructions beforehand for the parents. Contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (C.C.D.):
Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. for Grades 1-12.

REGISTRATION AND CHURCH SUPPORT:
Parishioners should be properly registered at the Parish Office
WEEKLY SCHEDULES

**Lectors/ Eucharistic Ministers:**
- 9/22 4:00 p.m. Julie Fecat/ L. Yoho
- 9/23 8:00 a.m. Mark Hitt/ L. Remke
- 9/23 10:00 a.m. C. McDonald/ P. Whitwam

**Altar Servers:**
- 9/22 4:00 p.m. Frizzell family
- 9/23 8:00 a.m. Laberdee family
- 9/23 10:00 a.m. Blatt/ Miller

**Gift Bearers:**
- 9/22 4:00 p.m. John & Loretta Niemiec
- 9/23 8:00 a.m. John & Ruth Harrigan
- 9/23 10:00 a.m. Carolyn Gordon

**Sacristy Cleaners: Week of September 17, 2018**
- Joe Pavilkey

**Greeters:**
- 9/22 4:00 p.m. Pete & Judy Mysliwiec
- 9/23 8:00 a.m. Kitty Pazyk/ Sherrie Kent
- 9/23 10:00 a.m. Cindy Gunto/ Sue Church

**Bingo September 21, 2018**
- Raffle - Rick Targosky
- Kitchen – Sue Church

**COLLECTION: September 2, 2018**
- Envelopes - $2,936.00
- Loose Offering - $1,121.00
- Building Repairs - $40.00
- Xavier Hall - $427.00
- Memorial Offerings - $165.00
- Attendance - 323

**TODAY’S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Be strong, fear not! Here is your God
(Isaiah 35:4-7a).

**Psalm** — Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146).

**Second Reading** — Show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ
(James 2:1-5).

**Gospel** — Jesus makes the deaf hear and the mute speak (Mark 7:31-37).


**OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA EVERY TUESDAY BEFORE MASS**

Rosary weekdays after 8 am mass

**DON’T FORGET TO ARRIVE AT MASS 30 MINUTES EARLY FOR THE NEXT INSTALLMENT OF THE MASS**
To report an incident of suspected child sexual abuse, contact local law enforcement, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services: 800.352.6513.

To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

- **Sept 16** - CCD classes begin
- **Sept 19** - Parish Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- **Sept 20** - Bus trip to Sugarcreek
- **Sept 23** - RCIA begins
- **Sept 30** - Heroin(e) Movie Screening 2-4 pm
- **Oct 6** - Blessing of the animals
- **Jan 26** - World Youth Day

**Wheeling Central High School Rosary Rally**
Come on Sunday, September 16 at 6:00 in the Cathedral Courtyard to pray for an increase to the vocation of priesthood and consecrated life. Prayers will be led by CCHS students, Sisters of St. Joseph, Knights of Columbus and Serra Club.

**Men’s Retreat**
The Laymen’s retreat League would like to invite all Catholic Men of the area to a Day of Reflection with Rev. John Beckley, S.M. on Saturday, September 29th, 2018, beginning at 8 am with a continental breakfast (registration at 8:30 am) and ending with Mass (around 5pm). This Day of Reflection will be held at Saint Vincent de Paul’s Marist Center in Wheeling. Cost is $30, which includes breakfast and lunch. For more info, call Don Klamut at 304-280-4626 or visit the website at: www.laymensretreatleague.org/

**A DAY OF HOPE**
This weekend, churches and organizations across West Virginia are focusing prayers and energy on the fourth annual Day of Hope: A Celebration of Prevention and Recovery. Addiction is sometimes invisible to our eyes but it does affect our church and community. As a community of faith we are called to promote perhaps the most important ingredient for combatting substance abuse: hope.

While the virtues of love and compassion are essential aspects of hope, knowledge lays its foundation. To this end, on September 30, our parish will host a screening of the award winning documentary Heroin(e) filmed last year in Huntington, WV. The film begins at 2:00 in the church basement. It is open to the public and there is no charge.

**Office of Safe Environment**
To report an incident of suspected child sexual abuse, contact local law enforcement, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services: 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880.