

# LIVING FAITH

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S



### THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

#### Matthew 16:21-27

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.

### REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

The words of Jesus are challenging words today: "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

What does "denying yourself" mean? At the very heart, it means putting other people first. It means seeking to understand the other person, rather than seeking to be understood. It means forgiving others for wrongs they have done, and asking for forgiveness when you have been the one who hurt another person. There is an old saying that when you reach out to help others, you receive more than you give. That's often the truth of it. Put the other person first. You'll always win.



## WE LOOK FORWARD TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

### PRAYER FOR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS

God of wisdom and light,  
we praise you  
for the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.  
Be with our children as they begin  
a new school year.

Bless them  
and their teachers and staff.  
Give the strength and grace  
as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds  
as they search for understanding; and peace  
and zeal to their hearts.

Give parents and grandparents,  
wisdom and faith.

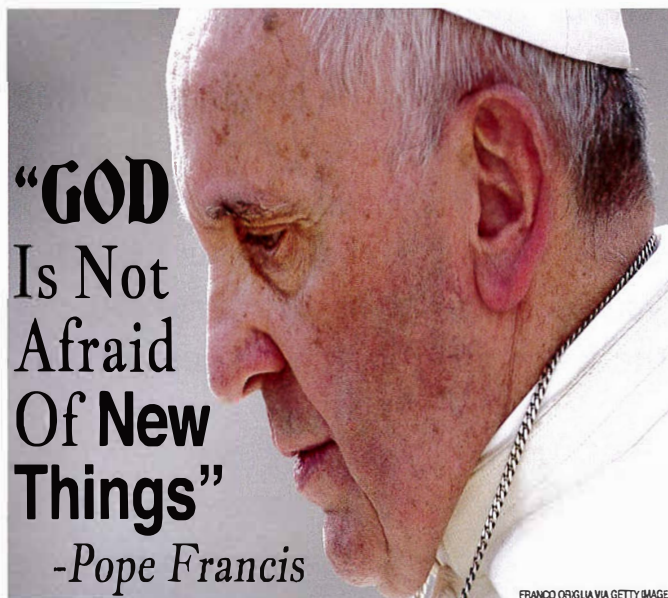
Help them to walk  
with our young people  
and to guide them on your ways.

We ask this  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



### PRAYER FOR STUDENTS

Lord our God,  
in your wisdom and love  
you surround us  
with the mysteries of the universe.  
Send your spirit upon our students  
and fill them  
with your wisdom and blessings.  
Grant that they may devote  
themselves to their studies  
and draw ever closer to you,  
the source of all knowledge.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.





# *I Believe...*

## THE MYSTERY OF FAITH: THE MYSTERY OF JESUS CHRIST—WHO IS HE? A FINAL NOTE

Reflections by Fr. Gregory Carruthers, SJ

Jesus is designated by St. John the Baptist as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (Jn 1:29). By doing so, John reveals that Jesus is at the same time:

- the suffering Servant who silently allows himself to be led to the slaughter and who bears the sin of the multitudes, and
- the Paschal (Passover) Lamb, the symbol of Israel's redemption at the first Passover.

As the Lamb of God, Jesus is:

- the victim given up for the forgiveness of the sins of all of us and our reconciliation with the Father, and
- the new and eternal passover covenant in his blood for the redemption of the world unto eternal life.







## THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis (OEC) of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops provides support, service and resources to assist those working in evangelization and catechesis across Canada.

The OEC networks with bishops, clergy, diocesan directors of catechesis and adult faith formation and Catholic educators in order to gain insight into the needs of each region and to facilitate interaction among those working in the field.

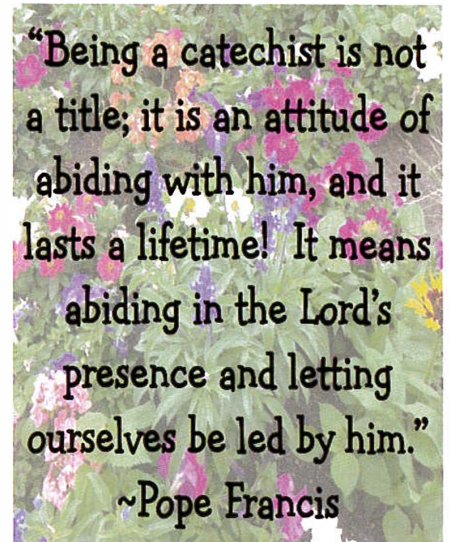
Through its webpage the OEC provides resources to assist catechists in their work. Catechists can find information on Canadian saints, resources to support catechetical Sunday, and our e-newsletters *Encounter* and *On Good Soil* on the webpage.

*Encounter* is designed to support those working in catechesis with children, youth and families. Contributors share best practices, new initiatives, and stories of successful events within their diocese or parish in the hopes that they may be of use to others who are seeking new and innovative approaches to catechesis.

*On Good Soil* takes a similar approach with a focus on adult faith formation. Many have read something of interest in these newsletters and have then followed up with the authors to talk about ways in which they could implement the strategies within their own contexts. This is what we strive to achieve; connecting, networking, and inspiring one another by sharing our successes.

At the OEC, we seek to support the formation of those involved in catechetical leadership. By researching and conducting needs assessments, we can be better informed on how best to respond to their needs.

Subscribe to our weekly Resource. E-mail: [familycatechesis@rcsj.org](mailto:familycatechesis@rcsj.org)



### WHO MINISTERS IN THIS OFFICE?

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