

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

## Gospel

Mark 8:27-35

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.”

## Readings for the week:

### 24th Sunday

**in Ord. Time**  
Isa 50:4c-9a  
Ps 116:1-2,  
3-4, 5-6, 8-9  
Jas 2:14-18  
Mark 8:27-35

### Monday

1 Tim 2:1-8  
Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9  
Luke 7:1-10

### Tuesday

**Exaltation of  
the Holy Cross**  
Num 21:4b-9  
Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35,  
36-37, 38  
Phil 2:6-11  
John 3:13-17

### Wednesday

1 Tim 3:14-16  
Ps 111:1-2, 3-4,  
5-6  
John 19:25-27 or  
Luke 2:33-35

### Thursday

1 Tim 4:12-16  
Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10  
Luke 7:36-50

### Friday

1 Tim 6:2c-12  
Ps 49:6-7, 8-10,  
17-18, 19-20  
Luke 8:1-3

### Saturday

1 Tim 6:13-16  
Ps 100:1b-2, 3,  
4, 5  
Luke 8:4-15

### 25th Sunday

**in Ord. Time**  
Wis 2:12, 17-20  
Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8  
Jas 3:16-4:3  
Mark 9:30-37



### Opening Prayer

Look upon us, O God,  
Creator and ruler of all things,  
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,  
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Reflecting on Living the Gospel

Jesus bluntly rebukes Peter, telling him, “You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.” Mark does not tell us what Peter had actually said to Jesus, but given that Jesus has just disclosed that he would be rejected and killed, it is not a stretch to believe that Peter rejected the need for this. Jesus’s divinely ordained and freely chosen destiny is, in this context, God’s “thinking.”

When Peter identified Jesus as the Messiah, he must have had particular ideas not just of what this meant for the Messiah, God’s Anointed One, but for those who were the Messiah’s closest friends, his apostles and disciples. Whatever kingdom Peter’s mind conjured, it probably did not involve denying himself and taking up his cross to follow Jesus or losing his life for the gospel. What kind of kingdom is that? Feel for Peter for a moment. What kind of ridiculous kingdom is built on the broken body of a defeated Messiah?

This is the kingdom of “God’s thinking,” the kingdom of paradox. In his book *Night of the Confessor*, the Czech priest and theologian Tomáš Halík says, “If we have never had the feeling that what Jesus wants of us is absurd, crazy, and impossible, then we’ve probably either been too hasty in taming or diluting the radical nature of his teaching by means of soothing intellectualizing interpretations, or (mostly naïvely, illusorily, or even hypocritically) we have too easily forgotten just to what extent—in our thinking, customs, and actions—we are rooted ‘in this world’ where totally different rules apply.”

Jesus offers us “God’s thinking,” the thinking by which we save our lives by losing them and build a kingdom whose divine power is seen as human weakness.

### Closing Prayer

Omnipotent Savior, we place all our hope in you. Help us, each day, to die to self as you died for each of us. You taught us that *whoever loses his life for the sake of the gospel will save it*. You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. **Amen.**

#### For Reflection:

• Once again, we encounter Jesus’s question to the disciples: “But who do you say that I am?” At this moment in your journey of faith, how would you answer this question?

#### Suggestions for group and individual use:

1. Pray aloud the “Opening Prayer” (in *The Roman Missal* called the “collect”).
2. One person read aloud the gospel.
3. Each read prayerfully “Reflecting on Living the Gospel” and spend some time in personal prayer.
4. Share together responses to “For Reflection.”
5. Pray the “Closing Prayer.”

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**Announcements**  
**09/11/21 to 09/12/21**

**Financials: Last Week 09/01/21-09/7/21**

<b>Weekly Collection Goal \$2400</b>	<b>Total \$3757.00 Over \$1357.00</b>	
<b>In Church</b>	<b>\$ 2857.00</b>	
<b>OnLine Giving</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>	
<b>Mail In</b>	<b>\$ 700.00</b>	

**Faith Formation Registration is due Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. There are envelopes at the back of church for returning students. There will also be blank forms for new families to fill out. Please return completed forms to the basket at the back of church. Please contact Auntie Dawn or Auntie Kiana with any questions.**

**Parish Council Meeting, Sunday, Sept. 12th in Parish Hall, 10 a.m.**

**Next weekend, Second Collection for Catholic University. Catholic University's motto – GOD Is My Light- is a constant reminder of origin and mission. For 134 years, it has served as a guide as the University educates students who go on to serve the nation and transform the world. During the onset of the pandemic last year, and now as we work to rebuild a new future, the University is serving those in need such as with a crisis response fund to support students facing hardship because of the pandemic. Mahalo for your generosity.**

**Bread Baking will resume on Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. The order sheet is at the back of church. Thank you for your support.**

***Have a Blessed Week!***