

**The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time****Year B****Sunday, September 16, 2018**

Readings: 1) Isaiah 50:5-9a 2) James 2:14-18 3) Mark 8:27-35

**Sunday Liturgy**

The focus for today is that as the Christ, Jesus is the one that Israel has long waited for.

Scripture contains many important questions. Chief among them is the one Jesus asks today, *Who do you say that I am?* How we answer that question goes to the heart of our faith. Can we, like Peter, say *You are the Christ?* And how deep is our commitment to this confession of faith?

Describing the Servant of the Lord, Isaiah emphasizes his total trust in God, even in times of trial and persecution. Saint James emphasizes that our faith must always have a practical dimension to it. We can demonstrate what we truly believe only through our actions and deeds. Jesus chastises Peter for failing to understand the true purpose of his mission.

**GENERAL INTERCESSIONS****PRIEST:**

**Let us bring our needs to our heavenly Father and ask him to hear our prayers.**

**For Church leaders, may they continue to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit as they guide and lead their flock.**

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

**For those who serve our country, especially those in the armed forces, at home and abroad, and for our domestic first responders.**

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

**For those who are sick in mind, body and spirit; may God's Holy Spirit restore them to the fullness of life and health.**

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

**For our beloved dead, may they rest in the eternal peace and comfort of our God.**

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

**For this assembly, may it be a place of welcome and this community be a people of peace.**

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

**For our own personal intentions.**

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

**PRIEST:**

**Lord our God, hear these petitions and, in your love and mercy, grant what we need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**