

## **The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C**

**Sunday, September 08, 2019**

Readings: 1) Wisdom 9:13-18b 2) Philemon 9-10, 12-17 3) Luke 14:25-33

### **Sunday Liturgy**

The Focus for today's Mass is: **To be a disciple we must carry our cross and follow him.**

The cost of discipleship is real. To love Christ above family, self, possessions – this is difficult! And that is the cross we are to carry: the difficulty of prioritizing Christ when it would be easier not to. After all, what else is there? Only the cross. We carry our cross to become like the Master who carried his cross to death, victory and redemption.

In our first reading we learn that knowing God's ways and plans comes only through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. In today's epistle, Paul urges Philemon to be merciful to his runaway slave, who served Paul in prison, and accept him back not as a slave but a brother. In the Gospel Jesus tells the crowds what is required to be his disciple: placing discipleship above relationships, possessions and their own lives.

### **GENERAL INTERCESSIONS**

#### **PRIEST:**

With confidence and trust,  
let us bring our prayers and petitions before our heavenly Father.

For Church leaders,  
may they find favor with God in humility as they lead and guide their people.  
We Pray to the Lord.

For all civil leaders,  
may the Lord direct their hearts in addressing the needs of those whom they serve.  
We Pray to the Lord.

For all those who are sick in mind, body and spirit,  
may the love of Christ and His Church bring them healing and relief.  
We Pray to the Lord.

For our loved ones who have died, may they enter into the rest and joy of heaven.  
We Pray to the Lord.

For students and teachers, starting a new school year,  
may they make Christ and his truth the center of their studies.  
We Pray to the Lord.

For our own personal intentions..... (long pause)  
We Pray to the Lord.

#### **PRIEST:**

Father, we entrust our prayers to you in the holy name of your son, Jesus Christ.