

Sunday, August 31, 2008  
22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Jeremiah 20: 7 – 9  
Romans 12: 1 – 2  
Matthew 16: 21 - 27

Today's Gospel reading from Matthew 16: 21 -27 delivers "The Doctrine of the Cross" in verse 24... "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." Christ has shown everyone that he is ready and willing to suffer for us. How ready are we to suffer for Christ? Can you be counted as a trusted Disciple of Christ?

Discipleship is further revealed by Jesus in the great commission to go and make disciples of all nations. 2000 years later we are still spreading the good news about Discipleship. All people in salvation history are given the opportunity to Witness for Christ. According to any human criteria, God & Jesus seems to make the most improbable choices for those to be disciples. As we continue Celebrating the Year of St Paul – it bears our reflection on this extraordinary disciple of Christ and his transformation from being a persecutor of the Jews to The Apostle to the Gentiles. Our prayer should be to evangelize in new and creative ways, so all may know the Catholic Church as the epic center of Christ's love for all humanity. Can you take up this Cross as if your life depended upon it?

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