

Dear Padre,

I feel guilty about putting my mother in a nursing home. Have I abandoned her?

Caring for aging, fragile parents is a responsibility that is increasing as people live longer due to advances in medical technology. Accompanying longer lives, however, is often poorer health. Frequently family members conclude that they don't have the wherewithal to care responsibly for their parents. So, they seek a nursing facility where parents may be properly cared for in terms of their physical, psychological, and even spiritual health. Nursing homes with staff that understand the needs of the elderly are a great assistance. They have experience with many elderly residents, while our experience may be limited to our own loved one.

The situation becomes more complicated when parents ask their children to "never put me into a nursing home." As difficult as it is to refuse this request, neither you nor your parent knows how much care will be needed, so a guarantee isn't fair to the family. The best response would be: "We'll look after you as long as we possibly can, and we would only consider a nursing home if your needs become more than we could handle, or if it were the only place where you could be safely cared for."

Sometimes guilt arises when we haven't had the best relationship with a parent, and regret things from our past. The best response then is to learn from the past and move forward. Commit to being more attentive, even though our parents no longer live with us. The worst abandonment would be depriving them of our love and affection.

—From *Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices*, © 2011 Liguori Publications
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CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE/GREGORY A. SHERMITZ



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Homes for the elderly...should be the "sanctuaries" of humanity where one who is old and weak is cared for and protected...It is so good to go visit an elderly person! Look at our children: sometimes we see them listless and sad; they go visit an elderly person and become joyful!

—MEETING WITH THE ELDERLY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2014

Calendar

Monday
AUGUST 31
Weekday
1 Cor 2:1-5
Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday
SEPTEMBER 1
Weekday
1 Cor 2:10b-16
Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday
SEPTEMBER 2
Weekday
1 Cor 3:1-9
Lk 4:38-44

Thursday
SEPTEMBER 3
St. Gregory the Great,
Pope and Doctor
of the Church
1 Cor 3:18-23
Lk 5:1-11

Friday
SEPTEMBER 4
Weekday
1 Cor 4:1-5
Lk 5:33-39

Saturday
SEPTEMBER 5
Weekday
1 Cor 4:6b-15
Lk 6:1-5

Sunday
SEPTEMBER 6
Twenty-third Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Ez 33:7-9
Rom 13:8-10
Mt 18:15-20

Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 30, 2020

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Jer 20:7-9

Rom 12:1-2

Mt 16:21-27

The Cost of Discipleship

In 1937, *The Cost of Discipleship* by a German Lutheran pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, was published. The book reflected on the Sermon on the Mount, and the demands it outlined led to Bonhoeffer's arrest and eventual death at the hands of the Nazis. It can be very dangerous to be faithful to Jesus' way of life. This shouldn't surprise us. Jesus' teaching cost Jesus his life.

Though the Gospel reading does not provide us with a program of action, it repeats Jesus' charge to take up our cross and follow him. This cross is different for each of us; it makes very personal demands. We are called to lose our life for his sake. This was true at the time of Jesus; it is true today.

This was true at the time of the prophet Jeremiah as well. He was called to proclaim God's word to his own people. They would not listen. Instead, "I am an object

of laughter; / everyone mocks me" (Jeremiah 20:7). The prophet wants relief from his prophetic responsibility. Who wouldn't? What follows is quite moving. He makes up his mind that he will stop talking about God—but he can't. "It [the word of God] is as if fire is burning in my heart... / I grow weary holding back" (Jeremiah 20:9). That is the cost Jeremiah had to pay.

The cross was the cost Jesus paid. And what of us?

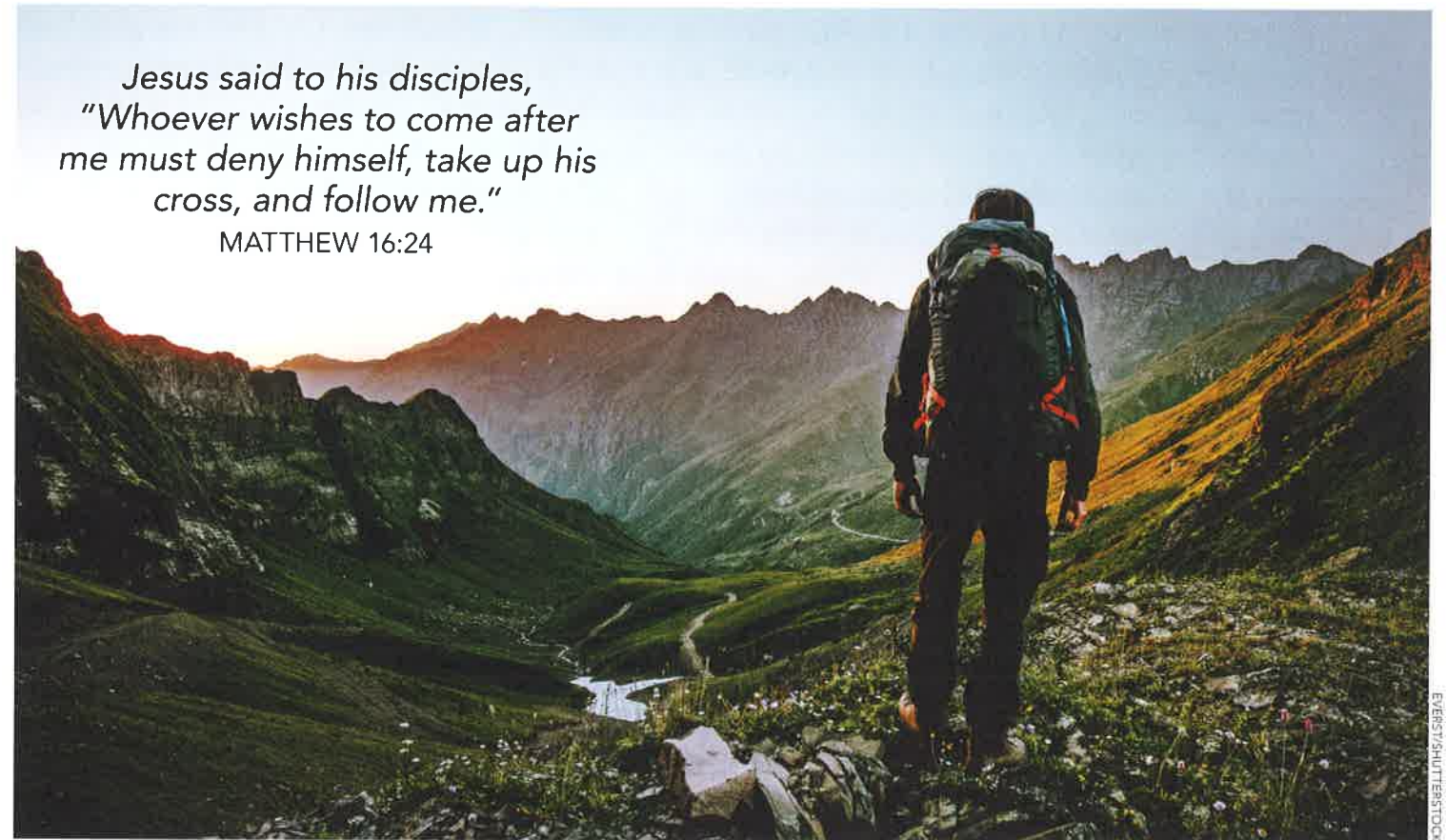
—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ What is the cost of discipleship for you?
- ★ What in your life might be the cross you are being asked to bear?

Jesus said to his disciples,
"Whoever wishes to come after
me must deny himself, take up his
cross, and follow me."

MATTHEW 16:24



EVERETT/SHUTTERSTOCK



St. Mary's Church
Dalton, NE 69131



All Souls' Church
Bridgeport, NE 69336



Sacred Heart Church
Bayard, NE 69334

Pastor: Rev. Dr. C.P. Varghese
Address: 701 P Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336

Parish Office & Fax: (308)262-0709. Rectory: (308)262-1332 Email: allsoulsbridgeport@gmail.com Website: www.smassh Catholics.org

Dear Sisters, Brothers and Children in Jesus Christ,

Today's readings explain how we should practice true, dynamic Christian discipleship. Jeremiah, in the first reading, is certainly a prototype of the suffering Christ. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 65), the Psalmist manifests his profound trust in God, just as Jeremiah himself does. In the second reading, Paul advises the Romans and us (Rom 12:1-2): to "offer our bodies as a living sacrifice" to God by explicitly rejecting the ungodly behavior of the world around us and by discerning and doing the will of God. In today's Gospel, Jesus takes his disciples by surprise when, after Peter's great confession of Faith, Jesus announces that he "must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised." After correcting Peter's protest, Jesus announces the three conditions of Christian discipleship: "Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me."

True disciples of Christ are: a) *truly compassionate*: they are willing to visit and help the infected and the sick in hospitals, the incontinent elderly, the handicapped and those who suffer dementia in nursing homes, and AIDS patients in hospices; b) *truly humble*: they are able to see that every good gift comes from God alone, and that His gifts to us of time, personal talents, and resources should inspire gratitude, not pride; c) *truly patient*: they are committed to working with challenging children, adolescents with problems, young adults who are struggling with their Faith, with the intellectually challenged and with those suffering dementia; d) *truly forgiving*: they are willing to forgive not just once, or twice, but again and again, because they know that God has forgiven them again and again; e) *truly loving*: they willingly visit people in prisons, in retirement homes, and in homeless shelters; and f) *truly faithful*: they are living out a committed, trusting relationship with God, with spouse, with family and friends.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Fr. C. P. Varghese
Pastor

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Date	Day	Time	Place	Intention
08/31	Monday	No Mass Today		
09/01	Tuesday	6.00 PM	Bridgeport	Ted Panas
09/02	Wednesday	No Mass Today		
09/03	Thursday			
09/04	Friday	6.00 PM	Bayard	John Weitzel
09/05	Saturday	5.30 PM	Dalton	Intention of Waite Family
09/06	Sunday	8.00 AM	Bayard	Floyd Turek
09/06	Sunday	10.30 AM	Bridgeport	Chris Wise & Andrew Lummel

ALL SOULS
617 P STREET
BRIDGEPORT NE 69336

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER:
MASS TIME
Tuesday — 6:00 PM
Sunday — 10.30 AM

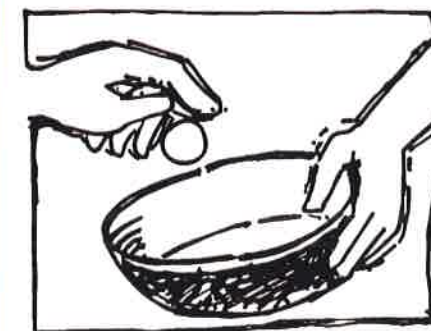
Parish Council Meeting:
September 13, Sunday
after mass

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$570.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	
SUBTOTAL	\$ 570.00
MASS STIPEND	
TOTAL	\$ 570.00
BUILDING FUND	
HEAT/AC	\$50.00
APPEAL	\$5.00

- Prayer line requests may be made to Carolyn-262-0453 or Teresa-262-0439.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.

We are going to plan on starting another year of TMIY on September 10th at 6 am. For now, we are going to meet in person at the parish hall on every Thursday at 6 am. All safety precautions will be employed. All men are welcome.



SACRED HEART
1003 AVE B
BAYARD NE 69334

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER:
MASS TIME
Friday — 6:00 PM
Sunday — 8.00 AM

Parish Council Meeting:
September 13, Sunday
at 6 PM

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$865.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$205.00
SUBTOTAL	\$1070.00
MASS STIPEND	\$50.00
SH ASSOCIATION	\$718.78
TOTAL	\$1,838.78
BUILDING FUND	

- Prayer line requests may be made to Paula-586-2992.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.

SAINT MARY'S
718 FRANCIS ST
DALTON NE 69131

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER:
MASS TIME
Thursday — 6:00 PM
Saturday — 5.30 PM

Parish Council Meeting:
September 12, Saturday
after mass

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$335.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	
SUBTOTAL	\$ 335.00
MASS STIPEND	\$10.00
ASSUMPTION	\$20.00
TOTAL	\$ 365.00
BUILDING FUND	

- Prayer line requests may be made to DeAnn-249-1735.
- Congratulations to Kristin Linton for being the secretary for the DCCW.

