

Lenten

Reflections



The Divine Intervention

March 2, 2017

Scripture

Luke 9:22-25

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised."

Then he said to all,

"If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,

but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself?"

Our Scripture Reflection

"Take up his cross DAILY....." Yes, living the faith is a daily walk with Jesus. Please note: the cross, the true cross is not jewelry or art. Jesus lets us know up front that to be a true disciple we can expect suffering and sacrifice. However, no cross, no crown.

Food for your Journey

[A number of] years ago, H. Richard Niebuhr summarized the creed of an easygoing American Christianity that has in our time triumphantly come to pass: "A God without wrath brought men without sin into a kingdom without judgment through the ministrations of a Christ without a cross."

--Cited by Kenneth L. Woodward in the *New York Times*, February 25, 2004, "Do You Recognize This Jesus?"

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Increase my faith and deepen my capacity to love so that I may carry the cross this day without stumbling or falling. Amen.