

September 4, 2022

### My Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

It is the Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, and today we are hearing a powerful and somewhat complex message in Luke about the *cost of discipleship*. In this Gospel, Jesus is traveling among a large group of people, who seem to be caught up with His words and deeds. He turns to them, and using strong words and two parables, he describes how one becomes a true follower of Christ. First, he indicates one must put love and devotion to Him above all else in life. Second, Jesus states a true disciple “must carry his own cross and come after me.” Next, to illustrate the cost of discipleship, Jesus relates two parables. The first is concerning a tower and how a builder must consider costs before he can construct it. The second parable is about a king who is considering whether he has enough troops to battle another. In both examples, Jesus is pointing out that one must carefully consider all circumstances when contemplating being a true disciple of Christ. Finally, Jesus offers these words to end His teaching: “In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.”

How do we interpret these words for us today? We must first ask ourselves, do I put Jesus first in my life? The answer to this question is difficult for many of us. Yes, we say we believe in Him and try to follow His teachings, yet as the old saying goes, “God is in the details.” With all the distractions in our lives, do we always give Him preeminence? St. John Vianney has said, “You either belong wholly to the world or wholly to God;” thus, we must carefully and dutifully construct a relationship with Him despite all the “noise” we face each day. We also must *consider* the cost of faith as described in these two parables. We may have enthusiasm for our faith, but do we have what it takes to carry it forth throughout our lives?

“The more we let God take us over, the more truly ourselves we become – because He made us. He invented us. He invented all the different people that you and I were intended to be... It is when I turn to Christ, when I give up myself to His personality, that I first begin to have a real personality of my own.” — C.S. Lewis

Yours in Christ, Father Rudy

You can **read the Sunday bulletin** at: [www.saint-leo.org/Publications/StLeoSundayBulletin](http://www.saint-leo.org/Publications/StLeoSundayBulletin)

You can **read Fr. Rudy's letter** at:

[www.saint-leo.org/Publications/FromthePastor'sDesk](http://www.saint-leo.org/Publications/FromthePastor'sDesk)

**Mass and Healing Service-** You're invited on Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at St. Ignatius Church located at 5222 North Bend Road. To Receive Jesus in the Eucharist, adore him in Eucharistic Exposition, and experience the Lord's love through individual personal prayer for healing of any concerns you may have.

**If you are having items shipped to Saint Leo's please have them shipped to Saint Boniface. We are having a lot of issues at Saint Leo's with deliveries. Please send any deliveries to: St. Boniface - Attn: Saint Leo -1750 Chase Avenue-Cincinnati, OH 45223**

**Upcoming Dates to mark on your Calendar:**

**September 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>** – Sacrament sign-ups for all sacraments.

**September 18<sup>th</sup>** – After mass join St. Johns West Chester Knights of Columbus with their tool box project.

**ITEMS NEEDED: We have a family in need of a twin mattress. The food pantry is also in need of security cameras and flood lights. Don't forget the Food Pantry is in dire need of items we hope you can help!** You can see our latest request on our [Amazon Wish List](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref=wl_share) Link:[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref=wl_share). **Please call the office at 513-921-1044 if you have questions or would like to donate these items.**

**PARISH FAMILY NEWS:** Mark your calendars now for Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, for a get-acquainted party with other members of our parish family. Little Flower will be hosting us beginning at 1:00 p.m. We are asking people to bring a dish to share. Bring your own beverage. If the weather is nice, we will be outside on their beautiful grounds. There will be soccer and volleyball for the kids and adults. Or we can enjoy the opportunity to mingle and get to know each other. If the weather isn't nice, we will be in the parish undercroft.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR – Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> to Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> - 7:00-9:00 p.m.

**Do you want to experience God's love, power and presence?** The **Life in the Spirit Seminar** is a life-transforming experience where you will discover Christ's personal and unconditional love for YOU. Listen to dynamic teachings and experience the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This seminar will take place on 5 consecutive Wednesday evenings at St. Ignatius Parish in Loyola Hall, 5222 North Bend Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45247. **For more info or to register call Mary Ann at 513-378-4431, Lighthouse Renewal Center at 513-471-5483, or visit our website at [www.LRC1.org](http://www.LRC1.org).**

**This weekend is the Cincinnati Hispanic Fest is happening on Sunday September 4<sup>th</sup> from noon – 10:00 p.m. at St. Boniface Church, located at 1750 Chase Avenue in Northside.** Enjoy tasty food, music, dancing and FUN for the whole family!!! There is Free Admissions. For more information check out [www.cincinnatihispanicfest.org](http://www.cincinnatihispanicfest.org).

**The 18<sup>th</sup> annual Blue Mass Celebration is Sunday September 25, 2022!** All Greater Cincinnati Police, fire, and public safety personnel are welcome to join at The Cathedral Basilica of Saint Peter in Chains. The blessing and procession begin at 10:45 a.m. with mass at 11:00 a.m. followed by a reception. For more information please call 513.421.5354.

September 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> join hundreds of single Catholics from across the country at the 21<sup>st</sup> National Conference for Single Catholics at the Westfields Marriott in Chantilly, VA. The weekend includes talks by dynamic speakers, music, social events, mass, adoration, opportunities for confession, fellowship, food and more. Visit [www.NationalCatholicSingles.com](http://www.NationalCatholicSingles.com) for more information and to register or call 512.766.5798.

