

Catechism Lesson for Adults and Teens
Sunday of the Holy Cross

Jesus Predicts His Death

Read the Gospel Passage AND the verses before it of this Sunday:
Mark 8:31-38; 9:1

Contextual Background:

-This Sunday is the Sunday of the Holy Cross. The Cross is placed in the middle of Lent to give us hope, like a flag on a hill rallying us soldiers in saying, "we are almost there!"

-Our Lenten journey will likely have struggles in it, and fasting is a Cross we can bear during this period as Jesus invites us to take up our Cross

-In the Gospel lesson, just before Jesus preaches for all to take up their cross and follow Him, Jesus foretells of His Crucifixion to the Disciples. Peter is upset at the thought that Jesus will suffer and die, and he reassures Jesus that it won't happen. Jesus harshly rebukes Peter for not understanding, even calling him "Satan". Jesus wants Peter to see the Divine Plan of His Crucifixion and Resurrection, and when he hears Peter suggest otherwise He sees the devil tempting Him and tempting Peter.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some things/circumstances that might embarrass me in public?
 - a. Dancing or singing spontaneously
 - b. Listening to my music so everyone can hear it
 - c. Talking about my past or childhood
 - d. Talking about the movies, shows, or videos I watch
 - e. Being with my family
 - f. Being with my friends
 - g. Doing my Cross or praying aloud
 - h. Other things that embarrass you in public?

2. Jesus tells us to carry our Cross and to follow Him. We all have personal crosses or struggles (hardships, hurts, temptations, challenges) in our lives.
 - a. What are three crosses you feel you are carrying right now?
 - b. Who/what helps you carry those crosses?

