

## FR.TK.REFLECTIONS 24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY YEAR-B-2024

### THE PERSON OF JESUS:WHO DO THEY SAY I AM!

It is so easy to tell what others say about something or about somebody but when the question is turned to you then there is challenge.**what about you what do you say!** *This* is what the apostles experienced.we also experience the same challenge as follows of Christ when the question is focused on us.Who do people say I am? They had the courage of telling Jesus,some say you are **John the Baptist,others Elijah others one of the prophets**.Obviously people had seen **all the qualities** of these great men in the person of Christ and Christ had all the aspects of them but **who do you say that I am**,this was the most challenging thing for them until **peter came for the rescue**.whom do you say Christ is yourself? Has he meaning in your daily activities?

First reading (Isaiah 50:5-9) describes the one whom God has chosen before birth not only serve God and his people in Israel but also to be **the light of humanity**.It describes the person of Christ and how he will **encounter resistance,persecution and martyrdom and how God will stand by him**.He will be open to **hear and do the will of God**,he won't **resist,turn away**.He will **offer his face,back and cheeks** to those who plot against him.He will never turn his face from **insult and frustration and above all he will trust in God**.Are these not describing the person of Christ as we see it in the New Testament activities? **This is the servant of God this is Jesus Christ.**

Peter after seeing the work of Jesus,he went ahead of telling who **Jesus was,\*you are the Christ,the messiah\*** he didn't know and could not imagine the messiah suffering neither the other apostles.They expected a triumph political giant who will deliver Israel from bondage but not a suffering one as Jesus said.Peter forgot he was Christ and took him aside and started instructing Jesus, the respond was not so encouraging indeed,**get behind me Satan**.Peter had forgotten **Jesus was in charge and he had called him to follow him but not to tell him what to do!** Jesus took the chance of teaching the followers **what it is to follow him.if you want to be my follower you must take up your cross and**

**follow me.** He is telling them you and me too **that there is no short cut except the cross.** He is telling us **no resurrection without crucifix.** Every one has cross, **christians, non-Christian's, professionals, celebrities, poor, wealthy, politicians, people of every age** the challenge is how are we carrying our cross. Are you **willing to give everything to christ? You will have nothing to lose and everything to gain,** are you going for the cross now? Let's us not pretend the cross is not there or finding ways to avoid it, we must take it up through our actions and activities (James. 2:14-15) which is expression of our faith on daily basis, through our **relationship in marriage commitment, vocation faithfulness, how we treat the homeless, senior citizen, youth and protection of the children taking care of the sick how we treat one another etc.** These are crosses which are **paths that leads to holiness here and eternal glory with Christ, this is faith in action not a dormant empty rhetorics.** We have them on daily basis which can make us **bitter or saints!, change of heart** the choice is ours.

***Lamp that doesn't give light is worthless, a tree that doesn't give fruit is barren, faith that doesn't result in good works is dead. Fruits of prayer is faith, fruits of faith is love, fruits of love is service and fruits of service is PEACE.***

***WHO IS JESUS TO YOU*** the question is still to be answered by you.