

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John  
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,  
June 26, 2022**

**JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM**

This Sunday's Gospel places before us two profoundly contrasting situations: on the one hand, the rejection of Jesus on his way to Jerusalem, and on the other, the sincere and generous desire shown by various people to follow him.

The journey of Jesus to Jerusalem, which the text speaks to us with all solemnity, is not “just one more” among many that Jesus will have made, but “the last journey”, to live his Pasión, a journey in such a way important that it is preceded by sending messengers ahead. The purpose of this trip is so important – to go to manifest His Easter – that this is precisely the reason why the Samaritans do not receive Him, arousing the indignation of the disciples.

In profound contrast to this rejection is the second part of the text, in which we see several people, “full of good desires”, approaching Jesus, manifesting the desire to follow him. However, these “good desires” that animate those who want to follow Jesus “collide” with the conditions that He places for that same

following: total abandonment to the Father's will, in terms of material things, the willingness to leave everything behind, starting with their own family, to dedicate themselves to the proclamation of the Kingdom of God.

In your service, prayerfully,

Father John Carlos

**常年期第十三主日（6/26/2022）**

今天是常年期第十三主日。在今天的读经一中，先知厄里叟蒙天主的召叫，跟随先知厄里亚，继续厄里亚的先知使命。当厄里叟听到上主的信息时，立即放弃了他的十二头耕牛，宰杀了一对，并把驾牛用的用具点燃用来煮牛肉，分给众人吃。厄里叟的做法表明他放弃了他本来不错的农夫生活，而义无反顾地做上主的使者去了。十二头耕牛在当时是一笔不小的资产，足可以让人过上衣食无忧的生活。读经二中圣保禄宗徒敦促我们要行使主耶稣基督带给我们的自由，不要再被“奴隶的轭”束缚。“奴隶的轭”显然就是保禄提到的“私欲”，和“肉欲”，也就是对世上的欲望和随求舒适的物质生活。而这正是先知厄里叟所毅然放弃的。在今天的福音中，主耶稣遇见了一个要跟随祂的人，但那人是条件的：要等，等殡葬了父亲跟家人告别了以后才行。听上去很“合理”。但既然他选择“相信和跟随”耶稣，在主基督面前却把家事放在第一位，听上去没有一个完全

的承诺。主耶稣对他的回应是：【手扶着犁而往后看的，  
不适合于天子的国。】

我们很多的兄弟姐妹都非常愿意选择跟随主基督，但也非常难割舍一些私欲和属世的生活。怎么办呢？相信听了今天的读经和福音后，心里该有一杆秤了吧？我们的心里有多少空间是留给天主的？