

## Reflection Saturday Week 14 2022

The recent Gospels show Jesus making it very clear that the mission he is giving his disciples to be heralds of Good News will be far from easy, implying that they will very probably lose their lives. At the same time, Jesus offers reassurance that they will never be alone. Jesus will be present to help, support, inspire, offer courage and perseverance for their mission. Jesus is open and honest about what he is asking of his disciples and apostles.

In reflecting on the former prophets of renown in the history of the chosen people, many, if not all, did not chose to become prophets but they did respond to the call when it came. Many were not great speakers and did not even have the gifts to become the voice of conscience for the people. They often challenged the injustices and infidelity of the leaders for their abuse of power. Understandably, they suffered greatly as a result. They also made it clear that they were doing God's work and they were proud to do so.

To be a disciple and missionary of Jesus demands placing oneself completely in his hands and seeing yourself as God's instrument through whom even the impossible becomes possible.

### **Pope Francis:**

Martyrdom is the sign that we are on Jesus' path; it's a blessing from the Lord that within the people of God there is someone who gives this witness of martyrdom. *As his followers, we know that the Lord will never abandon us. By imitating the example of His own self-sacrifice and love, we demonstrate our faith and hope in Him and we become His witnesses before the world. In this sense, every Christian is a "martyr", a witness to the sure hope that faith inspires.*