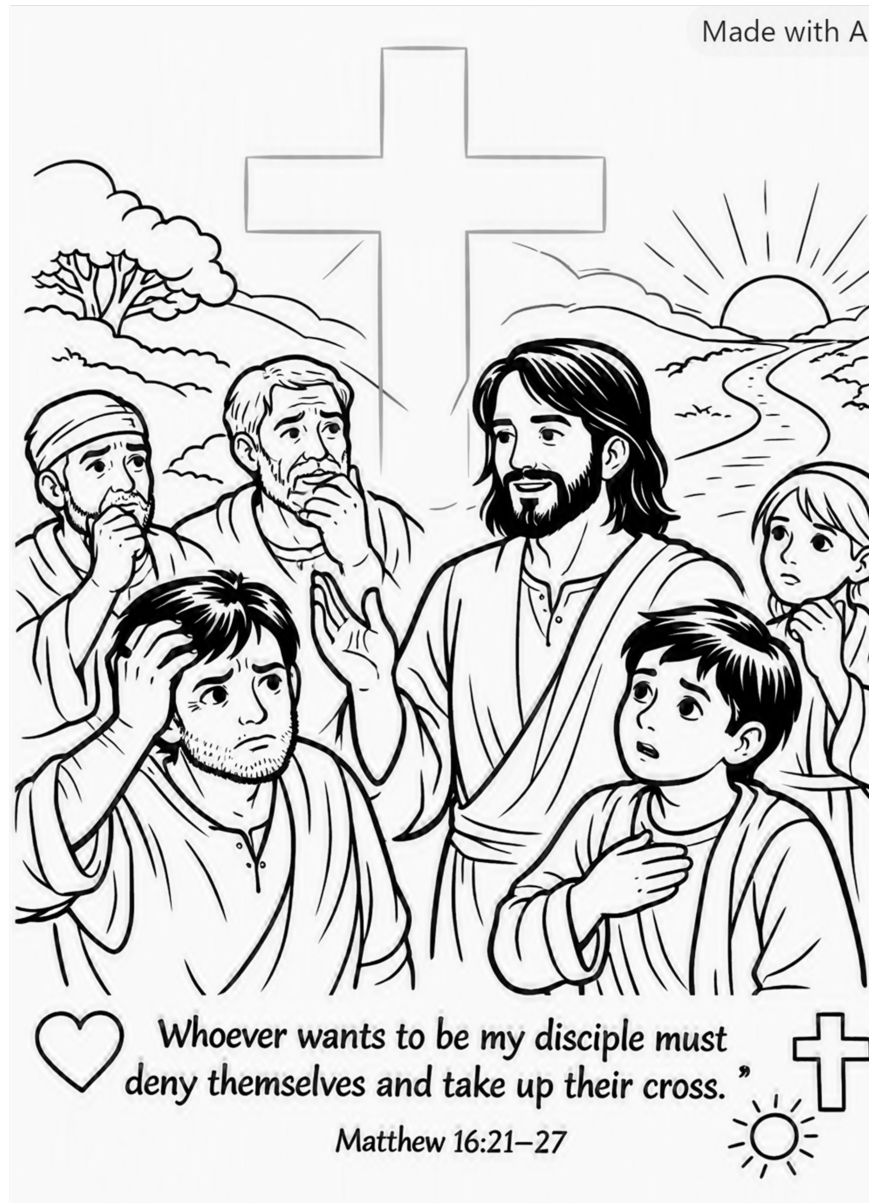




Sunday the 30th of August 2026, Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish **Children's Bulletin**

Carrying your cross with Jesus

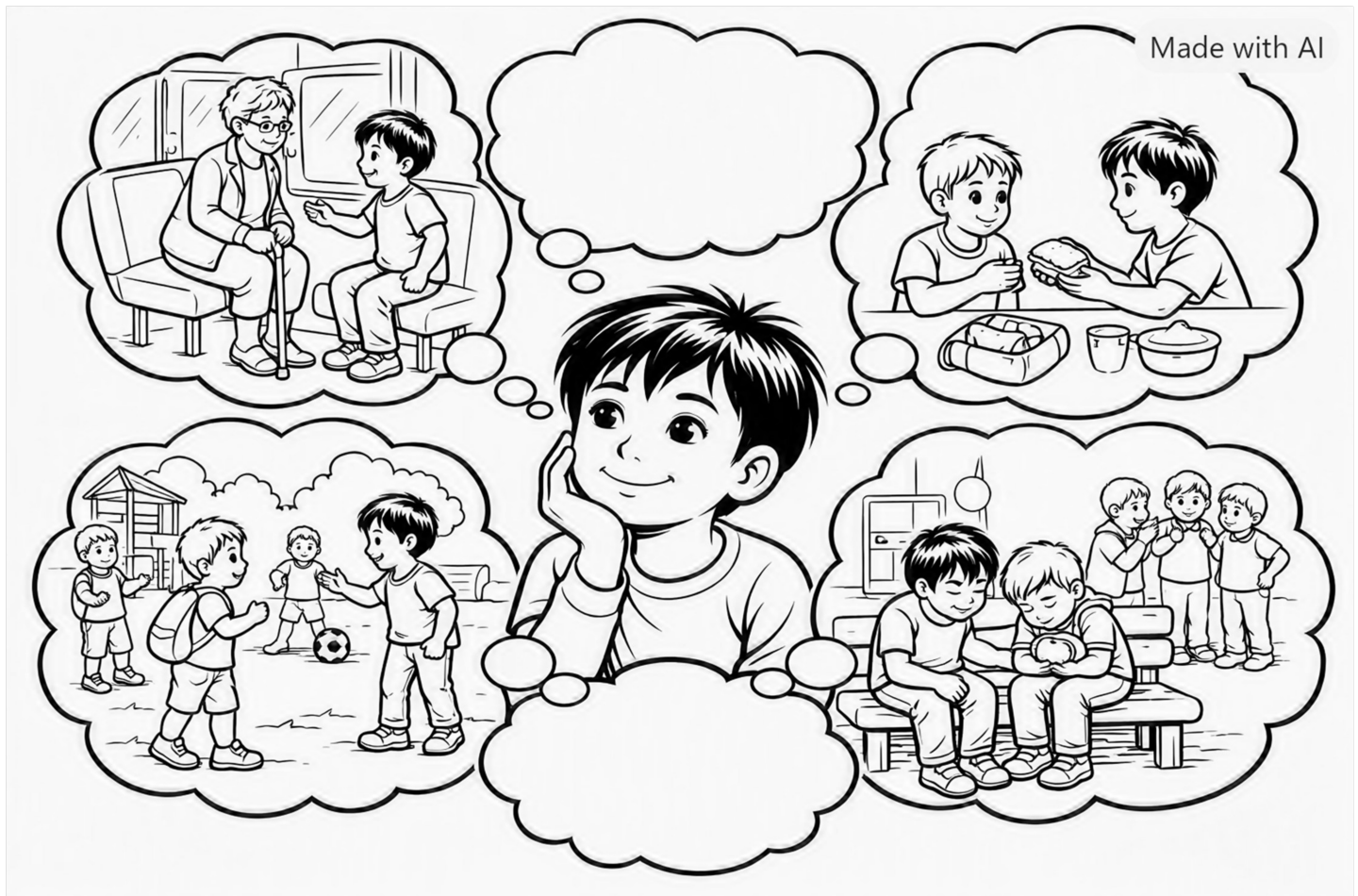


In the Gospel today (Matthew 16:21-27), Jesus tells His disciples something hard to hear. Jesus must go to Jerusalem, suffer, and be killed and then rise again on the third day. Peter can't bear the thought of Jesus being hurt. He pulls Jesus aside and says, "No Lord, don't let this happen to you!" Peter means well, but Jesus answers firmly. Peter is thinking the way people think, not the way God think. Peter wants to protect Jesus from pain and suffering. He wants things to stay the same. He wants Jesus to take the easy path and avoid going to Jerusalem. But if Jesus does this then His whole reason for becoming man and coming to save us is for nothing. If He does not suffer and die then He cannot defeat death and rise again. Then He cannot save us.

Then Jesus says something meant for all of us, not just Peter. If we want to follow Jesus, we have to be willing to carry our own cross. Carrying our cross means choosing to do hard things out of love. Maybe your cross this week is being kind to someone who wasn't kind to you. Maybe it's telling the truth when a lie would be easier, or helping out at home or school without being asked. Maybe it's giving up your time when you'd rather be doing something else.

Jesus also says something that sounds like a riddle. If we hold onto our life just for ourselves, we'll lose what matters most. But if we give ourselves to others in love, we'll find real joy.

Draw in or write about two more things that you could do to share God's love that can be hard to do.



A prayer for this week

Dear Jesus, thank you for loving me enough to carry the cross for me. Help me be brave like you; kind when it is hard to be kind, honest when it's hard to be honest, and generous when I'd rather keep things to myself. I want to follow you every day. Amen.

Come and join the new Youth Group for Primary School Students (Years 4 to 6)

'Cana Kids' is starting this week. Cana Kids will meet from 11-12am every second Sunday in the St Monica's meeting room. Meeting dates remaining for this term are the 6th of September and 20th of September.

For more information see the flyer in the foyer, the poster up in the foyer (or with the other notices outside the Church at St Michael's) or contact Rebecca and Katie (our Youth Coordinators) at youth.belconnennorth@cg.org.au.