

TAKING UP OUR CROSS AND FOLLOWING OUR LORD

A Scripture – MATTHEW 16:24

Then said JESUS unto His Disciples,
If any man will come after Me,
Let him deny himself,
And take up his Cross, and follow Me. ¹

A Hymn – Take Up Thy Cross!

“Take up thy Cross,” The Savior said,
“If thou wouldst My Disciple be;
Deny thyself, the world forsake,
And humbly follow after Me.”

Take up thy Cross, let not its weight
Fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear thy spirit up,
And brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

To Thee, Great Lord, The One in Three,
All praise forevermore ascend:
O grant us in our Home to see
The Heavenly Life that knows no end. ²

A Prayer – St. Teresa Benedicta of The Cross

“O my GOD, fill my soul
with holy joy, courage and strength to serve You.
Enkindle Your Love in me and then walk with me
along the next stretch of road before me.
I do not see very far ahead, but when I have arrived
where the horizon now closes down,
a new prospect will open before me,
and I shall meet it with peace.” ³

¹ King James Version, MATTHEW 16:24.

² Hymn, “Take Up Thy Cross!” Charles William Everest. <http://classic-hymns.com/take-up-thy-cross/>

³ “Losing Our Life for JESUS’ Sake.” Saint Teresa Benedicta of The Cross, nee Edith Stein and a Jewish convert to The Catholic Church, died in The Nazi Holocaust in 1942.
The Magnificat, Friday 9th of August, 2013, p 122-123.