

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES
August 30, 2020
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 20:7–9 † Romans 12:1–2 † Matthew 16: 21–27



Reflection by: Barbara A. Moore, O.P.

“This Can’t Be”

Uncertainty is the word for the times in which we are now living. A recent newspaper article recounted error and distortions made by both sides of political parties. Within education, health care, the economy, we all struggle to understand and persevere in these viral days.

Jeremiah is have an interior crisis. Called to be a prophet, one who speaks the present Word of God to the Community, he feels “duped”, mislead, confused, and uncertain. Don’t we all find ourselves struggling at times with similar feelings? I certainly do!

From prison, Paul’s lesson in discernment and courage urges us not to let the present day “conform,” or distress but to be “transformed” through it. We are reminded to stay the course—“renewing” our thoughts. Hold on to the core of goodness within each of us, in spite of uncertainty.

There is an intimacy in the Gospel today as Jesus shares his deepest thoughts of his days ahead with those he loves. Like Jeremiah, Peter is having his own mini-interior crisis: this can’t be.

Matthew shines a spotlight on what that core is: a belief in Jesus and the lessons taught in his life death and Resurrection. Be not “uncertain”!