

PRAY, FAST AND STRUGGLE FOR A MORE PERFECT UNION WITH CHRIST AS A FAMILY

Suggested Prayers, Readings and Thoughts for the week

A Psalm for the Morning (*Psalm 9:12-21, Douay Rheims*)

Sing ye to the Lord, who dwelleth in Sion: declare his ways among the Gentiles: For requiring their blood he hath remembered them: he hath not forgotten the cry of the poor. Have mercy on me, O Lord: see my humiliation which I suffer from my enemies. Thou that liftest me up from the gates of death, that I may declare all thy praises in the gates of the daughter of Sion. I will rejoice in thy salvation: the Gentiles have stuck fast in the destruction which they have prepared. Their foot hath been taken in the very snare which they hid. The Lord shall be known when he executeth judgments: the sinner hath been caught in the works of his own hands. The wicked shall be turned into hell, all the nations that forget God. For the poor man shall not be forgotten to the end: the patience of the poor shall not perish forever. Arise, O Lord, let not man be strengthened: let the Gentiles be judged in thy sight. Appoint, O Lord, a lawgiver over them: that the Gentiles may know themselves to be but men.

A Gospel for the Morning (*John 4:7-14, RSV-CE*)

There came a woman of Samar'ia to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samar'ia?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

A Psalm for the Evening (*Psalm 9:22-32; Douay Rheims*)

Why, O Lord, hast thou retired afar off? why dost thou slight us in our wants, in the time of trouble? Whilst the wicked man is proud, the poor is set on fire: they are caught in the counsels which they devise. For the sinner is praised in the desires of his soul: and the unjust man is blessed. The sinner hath provoked the Lord according to the multitude of his wrath he will not seek him: God is not before his eyes: his ways are filthy at all times. Thy judgments are removed from his sight: he shall rule over all his enemies. For he hath said in his heart: I shall not be moved from generation to generation, and shall be without evil. His mouth is full of cursing, and of bitterness, and of deceit: under his tongue are labour and sorrow. He sitteth in ambush with the rich in private places, that he may kill the innocent. His eyes are upon the poor man: He lieth in wait in secret like a lion in his den. He lieth in ambush that he may catch the poor man: to catch the poor, whilst he draweth him to him. In his net he will bring him down, he will crouch and fall, when he shall have power over the poor. For he hath said in his heart: God hath forgotten, he hath turned away his face not to see to the end.

A Scripture Reading for the Evening (*Acts 2:1-11 from RSV-CE*)

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Par'thians and Medes and E'lamites and residents of Mesopota'mia, Judea and Cappado'cia, Pontus and Asia, Phryg'ia and Pamphyl'ia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to

Cyre'ne, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

A Prayer to St. Thomas Aquinas

O God, who did enlighten Your Church by the marvelous learning of Blessed Thomas, Your Confessor and Doctor, and did render it fruitful by his holy actions: grant us, we beseech you, clearly to understand the things which he taught, and faithfully to imitate what he performed.

A Marian Prayer

O Mary, Mother of all grace, Mother of mercy to our race, protect us now from Satan's power and own us at life's closing hour.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church

685 To believe in the Holy Spirit is to profess that the Holy Spirit is one of the persons of the Holy Trinity, consubstantial with the Father and the Son: "with the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified." For this reason, the divine mystery of the Holy Spirit was already treated in the context of Trinitarian "theology." Here, however, we have to do with the Holy Spirit only in the divine "economy."

686 The Holy Spirit is at work with the Father and the Son from the beginning to the completion of the plan for our salvation. But in these "end times," ushered in by the Son's redeeming Incarnation, the Spirit is revealed and given, recognized and welcomed as a person. Now can this divine plan, accomplished in Christ, the firstborn and head of the new creation, be embodied in mankind by the outpouring of the Spirit: as the Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

From the Saints

You know how many snares the devil has and how cunningly woven are his nets – and that no one will escape from them except through confession of thoughts and desires, with faith towards one's guide, accompanied by humility and obedience.

-*St. Theodore the Studite*

Doing our own will is usually what harms us.

-*St. Teresa of Avila*

Fast, abstain and/or sacrifice this Wednesday and Friday

For all those serving in the military.

Meditate on the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin

1. The Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:34-35)
2. The Flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-21)
3. The Loss of Jesus for Three Days (Luke 2:41-50)
4. The Carrying of the Cross (John 19:17)
5. The Crucifixion of Jesus (John 19:18-30)
6. Jesus Taken Down from the Cross (John 19:39-40)
7. Jesus Laid in the Tomb (John 19:39-42)

Opportunities for Christian Formation this Week at the Parish

Tuesday, May 26 at 6:30PM in Aquinas Hall – Adult Catechism/OCIA; Topic: Jesus Christ – True God and True Man