

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 6, Douay Rheims*)

O Lord, rebuke me not in thy indignation, nor chastise me in thy wrath. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak: heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled. And my soul is troubled exceedingly: but thou, O Lord, how long? Turn to me, O Lord, and deliver my soul: O save me for thy mercy's sake. For there is no one in death, that is mindful of thee: and who shall confess to thee in hell? I have laboured in my groanings, every night I will wash my bed: I will water my couch with my tears. My eye is troubled through indignation: I have grown old amongst all my enemies. Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity: for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping. The Lord hath heard my supplication: the Lord hath received my prayer. Let all my enemies be ashamed, and be very much troubled: let them be turned back, and be ashamed very speedily.

A Gospel for the Morning (*Matthew 7:21-23, RSV-CE*)

Jesus said: "Not every one who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you evildoers.'"

A Psalm for the Evening (*Psalm 126, Douay Rheims*)

Unless the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it. Unless the Lord keep the city, he watcheth in vain that keepeth it. It is vain for you to rise before light, rise ye after you have sitten, you that eat the bread of sorrow. When he shall give sleep to his beloved, Behold the inheritance of the Lord are children: the reward, the fruit of the womb. As arrows in the hand of the mighty, so the children of them that have been shaken. Blessed is the man that hath filled the desire with them; he shall not be confounded when he shall speak to his enemies in the gate.

A Gospel for the Evening (*John 15:16-19 from RSV-CE*)

Jesus said: "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. This I command you, to love one another. If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."

A Prayer to St. Thomas Aquinas

O Thomas, honor and glory of the Order of Preachers and teacher of the ways of God, bring us to eternal delights.

A Marian Prayer

O Mother of God, beholding your pure image, we say with contrition: shelter us with your precious veil and deliver us from every evil, entreating Your Son, Christ our God, to save our souls. Amen.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church

240 Jesus revealed that God is Father in an unheard-of sense: he is Father not only in being Creator; he is eternally Father by his relationship to his only Son who, reciprocally, is Son only in relation to his Father: "No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

241 For this reason the apostles confess Jesus to be the Word: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"; as "the image of the invisible God"; as the "radiance of the glory of God and the very stamp of his nature".

242 Following this apostolic tradition, the Church confessed at the first ecumenical council at Nicaea (325) that the Son is "consubstantial" with the Father, that is, one only God with him. The second ecumenical council, held at Constantinople in 381, kept this expression in its formulation of the Nicene Creed and confessed "the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, consubstantial with the Father".

243 Before his Passover, Jesus announced the sending of "another Paraclete" (Advocate), the Holy Spirit. At work since creation, having previously "spoken through the prophets", the Spirit will now be with and in the disciples, to teach them and guide them "into all the truth". The Holy Spirit is thus revealed as another divine person with Jesus and the Father.

From the Saints

Christianity is greatest when it is hated by the world.

-St. Ignatius of Antioch

Prayer penetrates heaven more easily through fasting. For it is then that a person, having become spiritual, is joined to the angels and is linked more freely to God.

-St. Isidore of Seville

Fast, abstain and/or sacrifice this Wednesday and Friday

For the pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Fr. Matthew Codd.

Memorize the Three Evangelical Counsels

Voluntary Poverty, Chastity and Obedience

Opportunities for Christian Formation this week at the parish

Monday, October 27 at 9:30 am and 7:00 pm in Aquinas Hall – Bible Study

Tuesday, October 28 at 6:30 pm in Aquinas Hall – Adult Catechism/OCIA; Topic: Love of God and Love of Neighbor

Wednesday, October 29 at 6:30 pm in Room B – Reflection and Discussion on the letters of St. Ignatius of Antioch