

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 32:1-11, DOUAY RHEIMS)

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye just: praise becometh the upright. Give praise to the Lord on the harp; sing to him with the psaltery, the instrument of ten strings. Sing to him a new canticle, sing well unto him with a loud noise. For the word of the Lord is right, and all his works are done with faithfulness. He loveth mercy and judgment; the earth is full of the mercy of the Lord. By the word of the Lord the heavens were established; and all the power of them by the spirit of his mouth: Gathering together the waters of the sea, as in a vessel; laying up the depths in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord, and let all the inhabitants of the world be in awe of him. For he spoke and they were made: he commanded and they were created. The Lord bringeth to naught the counsels of nations; and he rejecteth the devices of people, and casteth away the counsels of princes. But the counsel of the Lord standeth forever: the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

A GOSPEL FOR THE MORNING (JOHN 11:45-54, RSV-CE)

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him; but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council, and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on thus, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and destroy both our holy place and our nation." But one of them, Ca'iaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all; you do not understand that it is expedient for you that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation should not perish." He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus should die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they took counsel how to put him to death. Jesus therefore no longer went about openly among the Jews, but went from there to the country near the wilderness, to a town called E'phraim; and there he stayed with the disciples.

A PSALM FOR THE EVENING (PSALM 32:12-22; DOUAY RHEIMS)

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord: the people whom he hath chosen for his inheritance. The Lord hath looked from heaven: he hath beheld all the sons of men. From his habitation which he hath prepared, he hath looked upon all that dwell on the earth. He who hath made the hearts of every one of them: who understandeth all their works. The king is not saved by a great army: nor shall the giant be saved by his own great strength. Vain is the horse for safety: neither shall he be saved by the abundance of his strength. Behold the eyes of the Lord are on them that fear him: and on them that hope in his mercy. To deliver their souls from death; and feed them in famine. Our soul waiteth for the Lord: for he is our helper and protector. For in him our heart shall rejoice: and in his holy name we have trusted. Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in thee.

A SCRIPTURE READING FOR THE EVENING (PROVERBS 11:9-13, RSV-CE)

With his mouth the godless man would destroy his neighbor,
but by knowledge the righteous are delivered.
When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices;
and when the wicked perish there are shouts of gladness.

By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted,
but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.
He who belittles his neighbor lacks sense,
but a man of understanding remains silent.
He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets,
but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing hidden.

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. Amen.

A MARIAN PRAYER

Allow me to praise you, O sacred Virgin. Give me strength against your enemies. Amen.

FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

893 The bishop is "the steward of the grace of the supreme priesthood," especially in the Eucharist which he offers personally or whose offering he assures through the priests, his co-workers. the Eucharist is the center of the life of the particular Church. the bishop and priests sanctify the Church by their prayer and work, by their ministry of the word and of the sacraments. They sanctify her by their example, "not as domineering over those in your charge but being examples to the flock." Thus, "together with the flock entrusted to them, they may attain to eternal life."

FROM THE SAINTS

And the medicine for passing through the trials is that you should not grow weary, but pray to God from your whole heart, giving thanks and showing patience in all things, then the trial will pass from you.

-*St. Ammonas*

The goal of a hierarchy, then, is to enable beings to be as like as possible to God and to be at one with Him.

-*St. Dionysius the Aeropagite*

But insult does not affect a man trained in humility.

-*St. Gregory of Nyssa*

As for the saints, however, because they do not love passing things, not only do they not have the burden of transitory desires, but also, if any adversity should cross their path, they are not troubled by the stress and weariness that accompany it.

-*Pope St. Gregory the Great*

Abstinence both gives life and it kills; it gives life to the soul and kills the body.

-*St. Isidore of Seville*

FAST, ABSTAIN AND/OR SACRIFICE THIS WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY

For all fathers in the parish

PRAY AND MEDITATE ON THE FIVE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES OF THE HOLY ROSARY

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion and Death of Our Lord

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Tue., September 1 at 6:30PM in Aquinas Hall – Adult Catechism/OCIA; **Topic:** The Virtue of Hope and the Last Things