

PRAY, FAST & 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 94, Douay Rheims*)

Come let us praise the Lord with joy: let us joyfully sing to God our Savior. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving; and make a joyful noise to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. For in his hand are all the ends of the earth: and the heights of the mountains are his. For the sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. Come let us adore and fall down: and weep before the Lord that made us. For he is the Lord our God: and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Today if you shall hear his voice, harden not your hearts: As in the provocation, according to the day of temptation in the wilderness: where your fathers tempted me, they proved me, and saw my works. Forty years long was I offended with that generation, and I said: These always err in heart. And these men have not known my ways: so, I swore in my wrath that they shall not enter into my rest.

A Gospel for the Morning (*John 5:2-18, RSV-CE*)

Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Beth-za'tha, which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed. One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked.

Now that day was the sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet." But he answered them, "The man who healed me said to me, 'Take up your pallet, and walk.'" They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your pallet, and walk'?" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you." The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. And this was why the Jews persecuted Jesus, because he did this on the sabbath. But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working still, and I am working." This was why the Jews sought all the more to kill him, because he not only broke the sabbath but also called God his Father, making himself equal with God.

A Psalm for the Evening (*Psalm 7:11-18; Douay Rheims*)

Just is my help from the Lord: who saveth the upright of heart. God is a just judge, strong and patient: is he angry every day? Except you will be converted, he will brandish his sword: he hath bent his bow and made it ready. And in it he hath prepared the instruments of death, he hath made ready his arrows for them that burn. Behold he hath been in labour with injustice; he hath conceived sorrow, and brought forth iniquity. He hath opened a pit and dug it; and he is fallen into the hole he made. His sorrow shall be turned on his own head: and his iniquity shall come down upon his crown. I will give glory to the Lord according to his justice: and will sing to the name of the Lord the most high.

A Scripture Reading for the Evening (*Proverbs 4:20-27, Douay Rheims*)

My son, hearken to my words, and incline thy ear to my sayings. Let them not depart from thy eyes, keep them in the midst of thy heart: For they are life to those that find them, and health to all flesh. With all watchfulness keep thy heart, because life issueth out from it. Remove from thee a froward mouth, and let detracting lips be far from thee. Let thy eyes look straight on, and let thy eyelids go before thy steps. Make straight the path for thy feet, and all thy ways shall be established. Decline not to the right hand, nor to the left:

turn away thy foot from evil. For the Lord knoweth the ways that are on the right hand: but those are perverse which are on the left hand. But he will make thy courses straight, he will bring forward thy ways in peace.

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

That our minds and bodies may be pure, devoted hearts and lips now implore thee. Through thy sweet-sounding prayers, grant us pardon forever, O kind Lady who didst alone remain inviolate.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church

688 The Church, a communion living in the faith of the apostles which she transmits, is the place where we know the Holy Spirit:

- in the Scriptures he inspired;
- in the Tradition, to which the Church Fathers are always timely witnesses;
- in the Church's Magisterium, which he assists;
- in the sacramental liturgy, through its words and symbols, in which the Holy Spirit puts us into communion with Christ;
- in prayer, wherein he intercedes for us;
- in the charisms and ministries by which the Church is built up;
- in the signs of apostolic and missionary life;
- in the witness of saints through whom he manifests his holiness and continues the work of salvation.

From the Saints

The person who does good and looks for a reward is not serving God but his own will.

-*St. Mark the Ascetic*

Without sacrifice there is no love.

-*St. Maximilian Kolbe*

You must direct your wrath only against the demons...

-*St. Philotheos of Sinai*

The devil is a thief, always circling about to steal from our mind beautiful thoughts and to drag it into worldly thoughts.

-*St. Theodore the Studite*

Fast, abstain and/or sacrifice this Wednesday and Friday

For Father Matthew Codd

Evangelical Counsels

Voluntary Poverty, Chastity and Obedience

Opportunities for Christian Formation this Week at the Parish

Tuesday, June 9 at 6:30PM in Aquinas Hall – Adult Catechism/OCIA; Topic: The Holy Spirit

Saturday, June 13 at 7:00PM in the Church – Fatima Procession

