



3 O' Clock Prayer
The Hour of Great Mercy
Prayers from the diary of
Saint Faustina

You died, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world.

O Fountain of Life,
unfathomable Divine
Mercy, envelop the whole
world and empty Yourself
out upon us.

O Blood and Water, which
gushed forth from the
Heart of Jesus as a
fountain of mercy for us, I
trust in You.

Holy God, Holy Mighty One,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy on us and on
the whole world. (3 times)

JESUS, King of mercy, I
trust in You!

Amen.



Daily Highlights, Mass Readings, Daily Saints, Prayers...

Thursday of the Ninth Week in Ordinary Time, Volume 164, June 08, 2023.

Today's Bible Readings

Latin Rite

1st Reading:

Tb 6:10-11; 7:1bcde,
9-17; 8:4-9a

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

Gospel: Mk 12:28-34

Syro-Malabar Rite

1st Reading:

[1 Corinthians 11:23-30](#)

Gospel:

[John 6:51-59](#)

Syro-Malankara Rite

1st Reading:

[Galatians 2:19-21](#)

Gospel:

[Matthew 25:31-40](#)

Meditation: The Gift of Understanding

And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." And no one dared to ask him any more questions. Mark 12:34

Finally, we have the witness of one of the religious leaders, a scribe, who got it right. The passage above is the conclusion of the interaction with this scribe who asks Jesus which of all the commandments is the first and greatest. Jesus gives the twofold answer that we are to love God above all, with all your heart, mind, soul and strength, and our neighbor as ourselves. The scribe then responds to Jesus' answer by saying, "Well said, teacher. You are right..." And then Jesus compliments this scribe with the quoted passage above.

Recall that almost all of the Pharisees were continually rebuked by Jesus because of their self-righteous arrogance. The Sadducees were also chastised but often to a lesser degree. And now we have a scribe who outshines them all. The scribes were primarily functionaries who copied or created various liturgical and legal documents. Some of the Pharisees were also scribes. And most of the time, when Jesus condemned the Pharisees, He also condemned the scribes. But this scribe is different. This scribe appears to not only be interested in Jesus' answer but also manifests "understanding" of what Jesus said to him. Don't underestimate the importance of this gift of understanding.

In order to truly understand that which our Lord speaks to us, we must be open. And openness requires humility. Humility is a virtue that is contrary to a "know-it-all" attitude. It's a disposition of mind and heart that listens to God speak, hears what He says, comprehends all truth by the gift of grace, and prayerfully submits to that truth. Humility enables us to look beyond ourselves for the answers to the most difficult questions in life. It enables us to turn to the one and only source of truth, Jesus Christ Himself. And the fruit of this humble openness is the gift of understanding. It's an understanding of the mysteries of life which is beyond our natural intellectual capacity. The grace of God is able to teach and form the humble soul and fill it with clarity of vision and an acceptance of the deepest truths.

Reflect, today, upon Jesus' words to this scribe. "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." Does Jesus also speak these words to you? Have you humbly sought out the answers to the many questions of life by turning to our Lord? More specifically, are you able to look at your life and rejoice in the fact that God has also given you His gift of understanding? If not, then look within and consider which questions you most need to bring to Jesus. Place them before Him and then listen, be open and be ready to respond when He speaks. Hearing and responding to our Lord will result in our Lord saying these same words to you.

My Lord of all Truth, You look upon the humble souls with graciousness and mercy, and You reveal to them the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven. Please give me the gift of humility, dear Lord, so that I may always turn to You with every question in life. Fill me with the gift of understanding so that I may know how to love and serve You more faithfully each and every day. Jesus, I trust in You.

1st Reading: Tb 6:10-11; 7:1bcde, 9-17; 8:4-9a

When the angel Raphael and Tobiah had entered Media and were getting close to Ecbatana, Raphael said to the boy, "Tobiah, my brother!" He replied: "Here I am!" He said: "Tonight we must stay with Raguel, who is a relative of yours. He has a daughter named Sarah." So he brought him to the house of Raguel, whom they found seated by his courtyard gate. They greeted him first. He said to them, "Greetings to you too, brothers! Good health to you, and welcome!" And he brought them into his home. Raguel slaughtered a ram from the flock and gave them a cordial reception. When they had bathed and reclined to eat, Tobiah said to Raphael, "Brother Azariah, ask Raguel to let me marry my kinswoman Sarah." Raguel overheard the words; so he said to the boy: "Eat and drink and be merry tonight, for no man is more entitled to marry my daughter Sarah than you, brother. Besides, not even I have the right to give her to anyone but you,

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The Bible in one year: June

01 1 Sam 5-7, Ezek 2, John 9:1-18, Ps 69:7-13 02 1 Sam 8-9, Ezek 3, John 9:19-41, Ps 69:14-20 03 1 Sam 10-11, Ezek 4, John 10:1-20, Ps 69:21-27 04 1 Sam 12-13, Ezek 5, John 10:21-42, Ps 69:28-36 05 1 Sam 14, Ezek 6, John 11:1-22, Ps 70 06 1 Sam 15-16, Ezek 7, John 11:23-44, Ps 71:1-6 07 1 Sam 17, Ezek 8, John 11:45-57, Ps 71:7-14 08 1 Sam 18, Ezek 9-10, John 12:1-30, Ps 71:15-24 09 1 Sam 19-20, Ezek 11:1-11, John 12:31-50, Ps 72:title-3 10 1 Sam 21-22, Ezek 11:12-25, John 13:1-24, Ps 72:4-10 11 1 Sam 23-24, Ezek 12, John 13:25-38, Ps 72:11-20 12 1 Sam 25, Ezek 13, John 14, Ps 73:title-3 13 1 Sam 26-27, Ezek 14, John 15, Ps 73:4-10 14 1 Sam 28-30, Ezek 15, John 16:1-15, Ps 73:11-17 15 1 Sam 31, Ezek 16:1-25, John 16:16-33, Ps 73:18-24 16 2 Sam 1-2, Ezek 16:26-45, John 17, Ps 73:25-28 17 2 Sam 3-4, Ezek 16:46-63, John 18:1-21, Ps 74:title-9 18 2 Sam 5-6, Ezek 17, John 18:22-40, Ps 74:10-16 19 2 Sam 7-9, Ezek 18:1-19, John 19:1-25, Ps 74:17-23 20 2 Sam 10-11, Ezek 18:20-32, John 19:26-42, Ps 75:title-6 21 2 Sam 12, Ezek 19:1-20:13, John 20, Ps 75:7-10 22 2 Sam 13-14, Ezek 20:14-33, John 21, Ps 76 23 2 Sam 15, Ezek 20:34-49, Acts 1:1-14, Ps 77:title-3 24 2 Sam 16-17, Ezek 21, Acts 1:15-26, Ps 77:4-11 25 2 Sam 18, Ezek 22:1-13, Acts 2:1-32, Ps 77:12-20 26 2 Sam 19-20, Ezek 22:14-31, Acts 2:33-47, Ps 78:title-4 27 2 Sam 21, Ezek 23:1-22, Acts 3, Ps 78:5-11 28 2 Sam 22-23, Ezek 23:23-49, Acts 4:1-24, Ps 78:12-18 29 2 Sam 24, Ezek 24:1-13, Acts 4:25-37, Ps 78:19-25 30 1 Kings 1, Ezek 24:14-27, Acts 5:1-31, Ps 78:26-32

Resources

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Prayer for all souls

Prayer of St. Gertrude the great dictated by Our Lady to release 1,000 Souls from Purgatory each time it is said. The prayer was extend to include living sinners which would alleviate the indebtedness accrued to them during their lives.

"Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen."

St. Gertrude the Great was born in Germany in 1263. She was a Benedictine Nun, and meditated on the Passion of Christ, which many times brought floods of tears to her eyes. She did many penances, and Our Lady appeared to her many times. Her holy Soul passed away in 1334. November 16th is her Feast Day.



Abortion isn't a lesser evil, it's a crime. Taking one life to save another, that's what the Mafia does. It's a crime. It's an absolute evil. **Pope Francis.**

because you are my closest relative. But I will explain the situation to you very frankly. I have given her in marriage to seven men, all of whom were kinsmen of ours, and all died on the very night they approached her. But now, son, eat and drink. I am sure the Lord will look after you both." Tobiah answered, "I will eat or drink nothing until you set aside what belongs to me." Raguel said to him: "I will do it. She is yours according to the decree of the Book of Moses. Your marriage to her has been decided in heaven! Take your kinswoman; from now on you are her love, and she is your beloved. She is yours today and ever after. And tonight, son, may the Lord of heaven prosper you both. May he grant you mercy and peace." Then Raguel called his daughter Sarah, and she came to him. He took her by the hand and gave her to Tobiah with the words: "Take her according to the law. According to the decree written in the Book of Moses she is your wife. Take her and bring her back safely to your father. And may the God of heaven grant both of you peace and prosperity." Raguel then called Sarah's mother and told her to bring a scroll, so that he might draw up a marriage contract stating that he gave Sarah to Tobiah as his wife according to the decree of the Mosaic law. Her mother brought the scroll, and Raguel drew up the contract, to which they affixed their seals. Afterward they began to eat and drink. Later Raguel called his wife Edna and said, "My love, prepare the other bedroom and bring the girl there." She went and made the bed in the room, as she was told, and brought the girl there. After she had cried over her, she wiped away the tears and said: "Be brave, my daughter. May the Lord grant you joy in place of your grief. Courage, my daughter." Then she left. When the girl's parents left the bedroom and closed the door behind them, Tobiah arose from bed and said to his wife, "My love, get up. Let us pray and beg our Lord to have mercy on us and to grant us deliverance." She got up, and they started to pray and beg that deliverance might be theirs. And they began to say: "Blessed are you, O God of our fathers, praised be your name forever and ever. Let the heavens and all your creation praise you forever. You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve to be his help and support; and from these two the human race descended. You said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone; let us make him a partner like himself.' Now, Lord, you know that I take this wife of mine not because of lust, but for a noble purpose. Call down your mercy on me and on her, and allow us to live together to a happy old age." They said together, "Amen, amen," and went to bed for the night.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

R. (see 1a) Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Blessed are you who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; Blessed shall you be, and favored.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; Your children like olive plants around your table.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia. Our Savior Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life to light through the Gospel. R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Mk 12:28-34

One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied, "The first is this: Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." The scribe said to him, "Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, He is One and there is no other than he. And to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices." And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Today's Saints



Saint Mariam Theresia Chiramel Mankidiyan

Also known as Maria Theresa Chiramel

Made a vow of private chastity at age 10. Her mother died when Mariam was 12, and she dedicated herself to prayer, to the service of the poor and sick, and to the comfort of lonely people in her parish. With three friends, she formed a prayer group, and engaged in apostolic work on the streets, with the neediest families of the village including the Untouchables caste. In 1903 she requested permission to build a house of prayer and retreat, but Apostolic Vicar, Mar John Menachery of Trichur, refused the request, and recommended that she test her vocation. Mariam entered several Congregations, and in 1913 her bishop granted her permission to build the home. On 14 May 1914, the Congregation of the Holy Family was founded. By Mariam's death, they had established three convents, two day schools, two boarding schools, a study home, and an orphanage. Today the Congregation operates in Kerala, in northern India, Germany, Italy, and Ghana with over 170 houses.

Born: 26 April 1876 at Trichur, Kerala, India

Died: 8 June 1926 in Kuzhikattussery, Thissur, Kerala, India of natural causes

Canonized: 13 October 2019 by Pope Francis at Saint Peter's Basilica, Rome, Italy.



Saint Jacques Berthieu

Also known as Giacomo Berthieu, Jacob Berthieu, Martyr of Madagascar, Martyr of the Red Island

One of seven children in a pious farm family. Ordained on 21 May 1864. Parish priest in Roannes-Saint Mary, France. Feeling a call to religious life, he joined the Jesuits on 31 October 1873. Missionary to Madagascar in 1875. Superior of the mission in Ambositra in 1885, he expanded the stations and brought many converts to the faith. Forced to move several times due to political reasons as his connection to France brought him into conflict with assorted local officials. Martyr.

Born: 28 November 1838 in Monlogis, Polminhac, Cantal, France

Died: shot on 8 June 1896 in Ambiatibe, Antananarivo, Madagascar by Menalamba rebels for his work in replacing ancestor worship with Christianity, body dumped in the Mananara River

Canonized: 21 October 2012 by Pope Benedict XVI.



Saint Victorinus of Camerino

Brother of Saint Severinus of Septempeda. The two brothers distributed their wealth to the poor in their area, then retired to live as hermits on Montenero. Ordered by Pope Vigilius to become Bishop of Camerino, Italy.

Died: 543 of natural causes.

