

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

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

mercy on us an whole world. (3 t



Prayer of St. Gertrude the

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



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 absolute evil. **Pope Francis.** It's an

We dedicate this website to the Generous Heart of Mother Mary



Daily Highlights, Mass Readings, Daily Saints, Prayers.

Wednesday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time, Volume 166, August 30, 2023

Today's Bible Readings

Latin Rite 1st Reading: 1 Thes 2:9-13

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ah

Syro-Malabar Rite 1st Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel:

Mark 5:1-13

Svro-Malankara Rite 1st Reading:

2 Corinthians 11:7-11

Gospel:

John 19:38-42

Gospel: Mk 6:17-29 **Meditation: The Firmness and Strength of Love**

Jesus said, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You are like whitewashed tombs, which appear beautiful on the outside, but inside are full of dead men's bones and every kind of filth. Even so, on the outside you appear righteous, but inside you are filled with hypocrisy and evildoing." Matthew 23:27-28

This would not have been an easy thing for the scribes and Pharisees to hear. It is a hard truth, spoken by our Lord, partly in an attempt to shake them free of their sin. And even though they may not have enjoyed hearing this clear condemnation spoken, since it came from the Savior of the World, we can be sure that these are words of the deepest love and were spoken so that these men would repent and change their ways.

Perhaps each of us, at times, feels like criticizing another. Most often, when we feel this way, it stems from our own personal sin of anger. Perhaps we were hurt by another and that hurt results in a desire for a form of vengeance that comes from anger. But this was not the case with Jesus.

First, these words were spoken by Jesus to his disciples and to the crowds of people, not only to the scribes and Pharisees. So in many ways Jesus spoke this for the good of those who were suffering under the misguided leadership of these religious leaders. But Jesus knew that these leaders would also hear His words, so He spoke those words to them. But unlike us, He did it out of perfect virtue so as to care for their souls.

At times, each one of us needs to hear Jesus rebuke us in love. If any of the scribes and Pharisees were open at that time, then Jesus' words would have first stung them to the heart but then had the powerful effect of challenging them to change. They needed this and so do we. When we become stuck in our sins, especially if obstinacy sets in, then we need to allow Jesus to challenge us firmly. Such a challenge can be rattling, but that rattling is sometimes necessary. Emotion and passion can lead to sin, but it can also lead to repentance and conversion. The passion with which Jesus spoke became an instrument by which their own passions made them sit up and take notice. The result was that they either became more steeped in their sin or they repented. And though most became even more steeped in sin, which ultimately resulted in their persecution and death of Jesus, we can hope that there were some who did repent, such as Nicodemus.

Reflect, today, upon the strength of Jesus' words to these religious leaders. Though they were supposed to be both "religious" and "leaders," they were neither. They needed Jesus' strength, courage and firmness. They needed to be confronted directly and receive the hard and clear truth about their sin. Reflect upon what it is in your own life that Jesus wants to say to you. Is there an area of your life in which our Lord needs to address you with passion, strength, clarity and firmness? Most likely there is. Perhaps not in an area of serious sin like it was with these scribes and Pharisees, but if we are open, Jesus wants to powerfully go after every sin within us. Open yourself to Him and allow Him to help rid you of the sins with which you struggle the most. And be grateful for this grace when He does.

My passionate Lord, You hate sin but love the sinner. You perfectly desire to rid me of all sin and all attachment to sin. Please open my mind and heart to hear Your rebukes of Love so that I may respond to Your invitation to repent with all my heart. I love You dear Lord. Free me from sin so that I may love You more. Jesus, I trust in You.

1st Reading: 1 Thes 2:9-13

You recall, brothers and sisters, our toil and drudgery. Working night and day in order not to burden any of you, we proclaimed to you the Gospel of God. You are witnesses, and so is God, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers. As you know, we treated each one of you as a father treats his children, exhorting and encouraging you and insisting that you walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into his Kingdom and glory. And for this reason we too give thanks to God unceasingly, that, in receiving the word of God from hearing us, you received it not as the word of men, but as it truly is, the word of God,

add them into our website. The Bible in one year:

profitable, service oriented website, This site belongs to each and every Christian who view this website. This is our 23rd Year of Service on the

with the help of many of the Christian Brothers are World

August 01 1 Chron 1, Ezek 48:13-35,

Acts 24. Ps 89:28-34 02 1 Chron 2, Dan 1, Acts 25:1–13, Ps 89:35–41 03 1 Chron 3–4, Dan 2:1–16, Acts 25:14-27, Ps 89:42-48 04 1 Chron 5, Dan 2:17–37, Acts 26, Ps 89:49–52 05 1 Chron 6, Dan 2:38–49, Acts 27:1–20, Ps 90:title–9 06 1 Chron 7, Dan 3:1–23, Acts 27:21-44, Ps 90:10-17 07 1 Chron 8, Song of Three 1–25, Acts 28:1–19, Ps 91:1–6 08 1 Chron 9, Song of Three 26–45, Acts 28:20–31, Ps 91:7–16 09 1 Chron 10–11, Song of Three 46-68, Rom 1, Ps 92:title-3 10 1 Chron 12, Dan 3:24–30, Rom 2, Ps 92:4–10 11 1 Chron 13-15, Dan 4, Rom 3:1-14, Ps 92:11–15 12 1 Chron 16, Dan 5:1–14, Rom 3:15–31, Ps 93:1-94:5 13 1 Chron 17-18, Dan 5:15-31, Rom 4, Ps 94:6-12 14 1 Chron 19-21, Dan 6, Rom 5, Ps 94:13-19 15 1 Chron 22–23, Dan 7:1–15, Rom 6, Ps 94:20–23 16 1 Chron 24, Dan 7:16-28, Rom 7, Ps 95 17 1 Chron 25–26, Dan 8, Rom 8:1–20, Ps 96:1– Dan 8, Rom 8:1-20, PS 96:1-6 18 1 Chron 27, Dan 9, Rom 8:21-39, Ps 96:7-13 19 1 Chron 28-29, Dan 10, Rom 9, Ps 97:1-7 20 2 Chron 1-3, Dan 11:1-13, Rom 10, Ps 97:8–12 21 2 Chron 4–5, Dan 11:14–33, Rom 11:1–14, Ps 98 22 2 Chron 6–7, Dan 11:34–12:13, Rom 11:15–36, Ps 99 23 2 Chron 8-9, Dan 13:1–15, Rom 12, Ps 100 24 2 Chron 10–11, Dan 13:16–36, Rom 13, Ps 101:title-4 25 2 Chron 12-14, Dan 13:37-64, Rom 14, Ps 101:5-8 26 2 Chron 15-17, Dan 14:1-12, Rom 15, Ps 102:title-9 27 2 Chron 18-19, Dan 14:13-42, Rom 16, Ps 102:10-16 28 2 Chron 20, Hos 1, 1 Cor 1:1– 13, Ps 102:17–23 29 2 Chron 21–23, Hos 2, 1 Cor 1:14–31, Ps 102:24-28 30 2 Chron 24 25, Hos 3-4, 1 Cor 2, Ps 103:title-9 31 2 Chron 26-27,

Resources

Importance of the Mass

Hos 5, 1 Cor 3, Ps 103:10-16

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Renewal? The Real Meaning of **Christmas**

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which is now at work in you who believe.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab

R. (1) You have searched me and you know me, Lord.

Where can I go from your spirit? From your presence where can I flee? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I sink to the nether world, you are present there.

R. You have searched me and you know me, Lord.

If I take the wings of the dawn, if I settle at the farthest limits of the sea, Even there your hand shall guide me, and your right hand hold me fast.

R. You have searched me and you know me, Lord.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall hide me, and night shall be my light" - For you darkness itself is not dark, and night shines as the day.

R. You have searched me and you know me, Lord.

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia. Whoever keeps the word of Christ, the love of God is truly perfected in him. R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Mt 23:27-32
Jesus said, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You are like whitewashed tombs, which appear beautiful on the outside, but inside are full of dead men's bones and every kind of filth. Even so, on the outside you appear righteous, but inside you are filled with hypocrisy and evildoing. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the memorials of the righteous, and you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have joined them in shedding the prophets' blood.' Thus you bear witness against yourselves that you are the children of those who murdered the prophets; now fill up what your ancestors measured out!"



Saint Fiacre

Also known as Fefvre, Fevre, Fiachrach, Fiacrius, Fiaker, Fiachra

Brother of Saint Syra of Troyes. Raised in an Irish monastery, which in the 7th century were great repositories of learning, including the use of healing herbs, a skill studied by Fiacre. His knowledge and holiness caused followers to flock to him, which destroyed the holy isolation he sought. Fleeing to France, he established a hermitage in a cave near a spring, and was given land for his hermitage by Saint Faro of Meaux, who was bishop at the time. Fiacre asked for land for a garden for food and healing herbs. The bishop said Fiacre could have as much land as he could entrench in one day. The next morning Fiacre walked around the perimeter of the land he wanted, dragged his spade behind him. Wherever the spade touched, trees were toppled, bushes uprooted, and the soil was entrenched. A local woman heard of this, and claimed sorcery was involved, but the bishop decided it was a miracle. This garden, miraculously obtained, became a place of pilgrimage for centuries for those seeking healing. Fiacre had the gift of healing by laying on his hands; blindness, polypus, and fevers are mentioned by the old records as being cured by his touch; he was especially effective against a type of tumour or fistula later known as "le fic de S. Fiacre". Fiacre's connection to cab drivers is because the Hotel de Saint Fiacre in Paris, France rented carriages. People who had no idea who Fiacre was referred to the cabs as Fiacre cabs, and eventually just as fiacres. Those who drove them assumed Fiacre as their patron.

Died: 18 August 670 of natural causes, his relics have been distributed to several churches and cathedrals across Europe

Patronage: against barrenness or sterility, against fistula, against haemorrhoids or piles, against venereal disease box makers, cab or taxi drivers, costermongers, florists, gardeners, hosiers, pewterers, tile makers.



Saint Margaret Ward

Additional Memorial 25 October as one of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales

Nothing is known of her early life. She first appears in the records working as a lady's companion to the Whittle family in London. She and her servant, Blessed John Roche were arrested for helping Father Richard Watson escape from Bridewell Prison by smuggling him a rope and then helping him once he was outside. Imprisoned, flogged, and tortured, she was offered freedom if she would surrender Father Watson and convert to the Church of England; she declined. One of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales

Born: at Congleton, Cheshire, England

Died: hanged, drawn, and quartered on 30 August 1588 at Tyburn, London, England

Canonized: 25 October 1970 by Pope Paul VI

Patronage: martyrs, torture victims.



Saint Pammachius

Pious and learned Roman senator and proconsul; member of the noble Fuii family. Studied rhetoric with Saint Jerome. Married to Paulina, one of the daughters of Saint Paula, in 385. Widower in 397, Paulina dying in childbirth. Following Paulina's death, Pammachius devoted his wealth and the rest of his life to study and charity. Cared for sick pilgrims to Rome, Italy working with Saint Fabiola to build a hospital for them, the first in the West, at Porto Romano. Built a church on the property next to his home, and on the site of his home now sits the church of Saint John and Paul in Rome. Friend of Saint Paulinus of Nola. Corresponded with Saint Jerome on matters of faith, and tried unsuccessfully to get Jerome to tone down the language he used when referring to opponents.

Born: 340

Died: 410 at Rome, Italy of natural causes.





