

#### 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!



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.

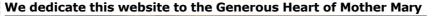
"Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen."

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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.** 





Daily Highlights, Mass Readings, Daily Saints, Prayers... Friday of the Twenty-second Week in Ordinary Time, Volume 167, September 08, 2023. Today's Bible Readings

Latin Rite

1st Reading: Mi 5:1-4a Responsorial Psalm: Ps 13:6ab, 6c Syro-Malabar Rite 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Revelation 12:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-16

Gospel: Mt 1:1-16, 18-

## Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Meditation: The Unity of the New and the Old

Which comes first, fasting or feasting? The disciples of John the Baptist were upset with Jesus' disciples because they did not fast. Fasting was one of the three most important religious duties, along with prayer and almsgiving. Jesus gave a simple explanation. There's a time for fasting and a time for feasting (or celebrating).

A time to weep and fast - a time to rejoice and celebrate

To walk as a disciple with Jesus is to experience a whole new joy of relationship akin to the joy of the wedding party in celebrating with the groom and bride their wedding bliss. But there also comes a time when the Lord's disciples must bear the cross of affliction and purification. For the disciple there is both a time for rejoicing in the Lord's presence and celebrating his goodness and a time for seeking the Lord with humility and fasting and for mourning over sin. Do you take joy in the Lord's presence with you and do you express sorrow and contrition for your sins?

#### A mind closed to God's wisdom

Jesus goes on to warn his disciples about the problem of the "closed mind" that refuses to learn new things. Jesus used an image familiar to his audience - new and old wine skins. In Jesus' times, wine was stored in wine skins, not bottles. New wine poured into skins was still fermenting. The gases exerted gave pressure. New wine skins were elastic enough to take the pressure, but old wine skins easily burst because they became hard as they aged. What did Jesus mean by this comparison?

The Old Testament points to the New - the New Testament fulfills the Old Are we to reject the old in place of the new? Just as there is a right place and a right time for fasting and for feasting, so there is a right place for the old as well as the new. Jesus says the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old (Matthew 13:52).

A very common expression, dating back to the early beginnings of the Christian church, states that the New Testament lies hidden in the Old and the Old Testament is unveiled in the New - the two shed light on each other. The New Testament does not replace the Old - rather it unveils and brings into full light the hidden meaning and signs which foreshadow and point to God's plan of redemption which he would accomplish through his Son, Jesus Christ. How impoverished we would be if we only had the Old Testament or the New Testament, rather than both.

#### New "wine" of the Holy Spirit

The Lord Jesus gives us wisdom so we can make the best use of both the old and the new. He doesn't want us to hold rigidly to the past and to be resistant to the new action of his Holy Spirit in our lives. He wants our minds and hearts to be like the new wine skins - open and ready to receive the new wine of the Holy Spirit. Are you eager to grow in the knowledge and understanding of God's word and plan for your life?

Lord Jesus, fill me with your Holy Spirit, that I may grow in the knowledge of your great love and truth. Help me to seek you earnestly in prayer and fasting that I may turn away from sin and wilfulness and conform my life more fully to your will. May I always find joy in knowing, loving, and serving you.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Mi 5:1-4a** The LORD says: You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, too small to be among the clans of Judah, From you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; Whose origin is from of old, from ancient times. (Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time when she who is to give birth has borne, And the rest of his brethren shall return to the children of Israel.) He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic name of the LORD, his God; And they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.

#### Responsorial Psalm: Ps 13:6ab, 6c R. (Isaiah 61:10) With delight I rejoice in the Lord.

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The Bible in one year: September

Svro-Malankara Rite

1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

Mark 3:31-35

John 19:25-27

Gospel:

01 2 Chron 28–29, Hos 6, 1 Cor 4–5, Ps 103:17–22 02 2 Chron 30–31, Hos 7–8, 1 Cor 6, Ps 104:1–8 03 2 Chron 32–33, Hos 9, 1 Cor 7:1–20, Ps 104:9-15 04 2 Chron 34, Hos 10, 1 Cor 7:21–40, Ps 104:16–22 05 2 Chron 35– 36, Hos 11–12, 1 Cor 8, Ps 104:23–29 06 Ezra 1:1– 2:41, Hos 13-14, 1 Cor 9, Ps 104:30-35 07 Ezra 2:42-3:13, Joel 1, 1 Cor 10, Ps 105:1-8 08 Ezra 4-6, Joel 2:1-15, 1 Cor 11:1-16, Ps 105:9–15 09 Ezra 7, Joel 2:16–32, 1 Cor 11:17–34, Ps 105:16-22 10 Ezra 8-9, Joel 3, 1 Cor 12, Ps 105:23-29 11 Ezra 10, Amos 1, 1 Cor 13, Ps 105:30-36 12 Neh 1-3, Amos 2–3, 1 Cor 14:1–25, Ps 105:37-45 13 Neh 4-5, Amos 4, 1 Cor 14:26–40, Ps 106:1–5 14 Neh 6:1–7:36, Amos 5, 1 Cor 15:1–29, Ps 106:6–12 15 Neh 7:37–8:18, Amos 6, 1 Cor 15:30–58, Ps 106:13–20 16 Neh 9, Amos 7, 1 Cor 16, Ps 106:21–27 17 Neh 10, Amos 8–9, 2 Cor 1:1–12, Ps 106:28–34 18 Neh 11-12, Obad, 2 Cor 1:13-2:17, Ps 106:35-41 19 Neh 13, Jonah 1, 2 Cor 3, Ps 106:42–48 20 Tobit 1–3, Jonah 2–3, 2 Cor 4, Ps 107:1–7 21 Tobit 4–5, Jonah 4, 2 Cor 5, Ps 107:8–14 22 Tobit 6–8, Micah 1–2, 2 Cor 6, Ps 107:15-21 23 Tobit 9-11, Micah 3-4, 2 Cor 7:1-8:11, Ps 107:22-28 24 Tobit 12-14, Micah 5, 2 Cor 8:12-9:15, Ps 107:29-35 25 Jdth 1–2, Micah 6, 2 Cor 10, Ps 107:36–43 26 Jdth 3–5, Micah 7, 2 Cor 11:1–19, Ps 108:title–5 27 Jdth 6–7, Nah 1–2, 2 Cor 11:20–33, Ps 108:6-13 28 Jdth 8, Nah 3, 2 Cor 12–13, Ps 109:title-5 29 Jdth 9–11, Hab 1, Gal 1, Ps 109:6–12 30 Jdth 12–13, Hab 2, Gal 2, Ps 109:13–19

## Resources

Importance of the Mass Mystical Stigmata What is Charismatic Renewal? The Real Meaning of Christmas

Why should I Confess?

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#### Though I trusted in your mercy, let my heart rejoice in your salvation. **R. With delight I rejoice in the Lord.** Let me sing of the LORD, "He has been good to me." **R. With delight I rejoice in the Lord.**

#### Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed are you, holy Virgin Mary, deserving of all praise; from you rose the sun of justice, Christ our God. R. Alleluia, alleluia.

#### Gospel: Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

The Book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham became the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar. Perez became the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab. Amminadab became the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse, Jesse the father of David the king. David became the father of Solomon, whose mother had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon became the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asaph. Asaph became the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah. Uzziah became the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amos, Amos the father of Josiah. Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the Babylonian exile. After the Babylonian exile, Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, Zerubbabel the father of Abiud. Abiud became the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, Azor the father of Zadok. Zadok became the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud, Eliud the father of Eleazar. Eleazar became the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ. Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

Today's Saints

## Saint Thomas of Villanova

Also known as Father of the Poor, Model of Bishops, Thomas of Villanueva, Thomas the Almsgiver, Tomas of Villanova



Son of Aloazo Tomas Garcia, a miller, and Lucia Martinez. He grew up in Villanova, Spain, and was educated at the University of Alcala. Professor of arts, logic and philosophy at the university from 1514. Joined the Augustinian friars at Salamanca, Spain in 1516. Ordained in 1518, celebrating his first Mass on Christmas Day that year. Suffered from absentmindedness and poor memory. Preacher. Prior. Provincial of the friars. Sent the first Augustinians to the New World. Nominated by the emperor to the archbishopric of Granada, Spain; he refused the first time, but agreed the second time it was offered, after being ordered to do so by the Pope; he took over on 1 January 1545. His cathedral gave Thomas money to furnish his house; he donated it to a hospital, saying, "What does a poor friar like myself want with furniture?" Every day he wore the same habit he had received as a novitiate, mending it himself. The canons and domestics were ashamed of him, but could not change him. Several hundred poor came to Thomas' door each morning, and were given meals, wine and money. Criticized for being exploited, he replied, "If there are people who refuse to work, that is for the authorities to deal with. My duty is to assist and relieve those who come to my door." He took in orphans, and paid his servants for every deserted child they brought to him. He encouraged the wealthy to imitate his example. Criticized for being gentle with sinners, he said, "Let them ask if Augustine or John Chrysostom used anathemas and excommunication to stop drunkenness and blasphemy." As he lay dying, Thomas commanded that all his money be distributed to the poor. Mass was said in his presence, and after Communion he breathed his last, reciting: "Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit." Left a number of theological writings. Born: 1488 at Fuentellana, Castile, Spain

Died: 8 September 1555 at Valencia, Spain of angina pectoris Canonized: 1 November 1658 by Pope Alexander VII Patronage: Genzano di Roma, Italy.

#### Saint Isaac the Great



Also known as Sahak Profile Son of Saint Nerses the Great, Catholicos of Armenia. Studied at Constantinople. Married layman for several years. Widower. Monk. Catholicos of Armenia in 390, succeeding his father to the office. He secured recognition from Constantinople of the status, rights and independence of the Armenian Church. From his position he worked to reform the Armenian Church, evangelize the Armenian people, and establish an Armenian identity. He enforced Byzantine canon law, insisted on celibacy for bishops, built churches, schools and monasteries, and fought Persian paganism. Isaac worked with Saint Mesrop the Teacher to evangelize Armenia, and to develop and alphabet of the Armenian language. He supported the translation the Bible and the Greek and Syrian Doctors of the Church into Armenian Isaac served as both civil and religious ruler of his people, established a national liturgy, and was responsible for the beginnings of Armenian literature. He was driven into retirement in 428 when the Persians conquered part of his territory, but later returned as Catholicos at Ashtishat from where he worked until he death. Considered the founder of the Armenian Church. **Born**: 350

# Died: 440 at Ashtishat of natural causes.



Saint Disibod of Disenberg Also known as Disibode, Disen

Additional Memorial 8 July (translation of relics)

Priest. May have been a bishop in Ireland. A would-be reformer who, when he received little help from his brother clerics, migrated c.653 with several friends from Ireland to the Nahe Valley near Bingen, Germany. Founded the monastery of Mount Disibod; the nearby city of Disenberg (Disibodenberg) is named for this house. Bishop of Disenberg, Germany, governing in the Irish way, as abbot-bishop, living as an anchorite in a bee-hive cell. He won many converts in the region. Reported miracle worker. Saint Hildegard of Bingen wrote of biography of him based on visions she received.

### Born: c.619 in Ireland

**Died:** 8 July or 8 September (records vary) 700 of natural causes, relics translated in 8 July or 8 September 754 **Patronage:** Disenberg, Germany, Disibodenberg, Germany.



