



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.



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 indebted-
ness 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.**

We dedicate this website to the Generous Heart of Mother Mary

Mission of Jesus



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

Tuesday of the Second Week of Ordinary Time, January 16, 2024, Volume 171.

Today's Bible Readings

Latin Rite
1st Reading:
1 Sm 16:1-13
Responsorial Psalm:
89:20, 21-22, 27-28

Syro-Malabar Rite
1st Reading:
[John 3:1-10](#)
Gospel:
[Mark 1:21-28](#)

Syro-Malankara Rite
1st Reading:
[Hebrews 13:7-16](#)
Gospel:
[Matthew 24:45-51](#)

Gospel: Mk 2:23-28

Meditation: The Son of Man Is Lord of the Sabbath

What does the commandment "keep holy the Sabbath" require of us? Or better yet, what is the primary intention behind this command? The religious leaders confronted Jesus on this issue. The "Sabbath rest" was meant to be a time to remember and celebrate God's goodness and the goodness of his work, both in creation and redemption. It was a day set apart for the praise of God, his work of creation, and his saving actions on our behalf. It was intended to bring everyday work to a halt and to provide needed rest and refreshment. The Lord of the Sabbath feeds and nourishes us Jesus' disciples are scolded by the scribes and Pharisees, not for plucking and eating corn from the fields, but for doing so on the Sabbath. In defending his disciples, Jesus argues from the scriptures that human need has precedence over ritual custom. When David and his men were fleeing for their lives, they sought food from Ahimelech the priest (1 Samuel 21:1-6). The only bread he had was the holy bread offered in the Temple. None but the priests were allowed to eat it. In their hunger, David and his men ate of this bread. Jesus reminds the Pharisees that the Sabbath was given for our benefit, to refresh and renew us in living for God. It was intended for good and not for evil. Withholding mercy and kindness in response to human need was not part of God's intention that we rest from unnecessary labor. Do you honor the Lord in the way you treat your neighbor and celebrate the Lord's Day? Seek the Lord's rest and refreshment Why didn't the Pharisees recognize the claims of mercy over rules and regulations? Their zeal for ritual observance blinded them from the demands of charity. Jesus reminds the Pharisees that the Sabbath was given for our benefit, to refresh and renew us in living for God. It was intended for good and not for evil. Withholding mercy and kindness in response to human need was not part of God's intention that we rest from unnecessary labor. Jesus' reference to the bread of the Presence (Mark 2:24) alludes to the true bread from heaven which he offers to all who believe in him. Jesus, the Son of David, and the Son of Man, a title for the Messiah, declares that he is "Lord of the Sabbath." Jesus healed on the Sabbath and he showed mercy to those in need. All who are burdened and weary can find true rest and refreshment in him. Do you honor the Lord in the way you treat your neighbor and celebrate the Lord's Day?

Lord Jesus, may I give you fitting honor in the way I live my life and in the way I treat my neighbor. May I honor the Lord's Day as a day holy to you. And may I always treat others with the same mercy and kindness which you have shown to me. Free me from a critical and intolerant spirit that I may always seek the good of my neighbor.

1st Reading: 1 Sm 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel: "How long will you grieve for Saul, whom I have rejected as king of Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and be on your way. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen my king from among his sons." But Samuel replied: "How can I go? Saul will hear of it and kill me." To this the LORD answered: "Take a heifer along and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I myself will tell you what to do; you are to anoint for me the one I point out to you." Samuel did as the LORD had commanded him. When he entered Bethlehem, the elders of the city came trembling to meet him and inquired, "Is your visit peaceful, O seer?" He replied: "Yes! I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. So cleanse yourselves and join me today for the banquet." He also had Jesse and his sons cleanse themselves and invited them to the sacrifice. As they came, he looked at Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is here before him." But the LORD said to Samuel: "Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because he sees the appearance but the LORD looks into the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and presented him before Samuel, who said, "The LORD has not chosen him." Next Jesse presented Shammah, but Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either." In the same way Jesse presented seven sons before Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any one of these." Then Samuel asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" Jesse replied, "There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep." Samuel said to Jesse, "Send for him; we will not begin the sacrificial banquet until he arrives here." Jesse sent and had the young man brought to them. He was

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Christian Brothers around the
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to send us related information
about your Testimonials and
News letters so that we could
add them into our website.

The Bible in one year:
January

01 Gen 1-2, Isa 1:1-20,
Matt 1, Ps 1 02 Gen 3-4, Isa
1:21-31, Matt 2, Ps 2:1-8
03 Gen 5, Isa 2, Matt 3, Ps
2:9-12 04 Gen 6-7, Isa 3,
Matt 4, Ps 3 05 Gen 8-9, Isa
4:1-5:16, Matt 5:1-19, Ps 4
06 Gen 10-11, Isa 5:17-30,
Matt 5:20-48, Ps 5:title-5
07 Gen 12-13, Isa 6:1-
7:13, Matt 6:1-15, Ps 5:6-
12 08 Gen 14-15, Isa 7:14-
25, Matt 6:16-34, Ps
6:title-6 09 Gen 16-17, Isa
8, Matt 7, Ps 6:7-7:3 10
Gen 18-19, Isa 9, Matt 8:1-
17, Ps 7:4-10 11 Gen 20-
21, Isa 10, Matt 8:18-34, Ps
7:11-17 12 Gen 22, Isa 11,
Matt 9:1-27, Ps 8 13 Gen
23:1-24:38, Isa 12, Matt
9:28-38, Ps 9:title-3 14
Gen 24:39-25:34, Isa 13,
Matt 10, Ps 9:4-10 15 Gen
26, Isa 14, Matt 11:1-12, Ps
9:11-20 16 Gen 27, Isa 15,
Matt 11:13-30, Ps 10:1-4
17 Gen 28-29, Isa 16-17,
Matt 12:1-26, Ps 10:5-11
18 Gen 30, Isa 18:1-19:13,
Matt 12:27-50, Ps 10:12-18
19 Gen 31, Isa 19:14-20:6,
Matt 13:1-19, Ps 11 20 Gen
32, Isa 21, Matt 13:20-41,
Ps 12 21 Gen 33-34, Isa 22,
Matt 13:42-58, Ps 13 22
Gen 35-36, Isa 23, Matt 14,
Ps 14:title-3 23 Gen 37, Isa
24, Matt 15:1-12, Ps 14:4-
7 24 Gen 38-39, Isa 25,
Matt 15:13-26, Ps 15:title-
16:3 25 Gen 40, Isa 26-27,
Matt 16:1-17, Ps 16:4-11
26 Gen 41, Isa 28:1-14,
Matt 16:18-17:11, Ps
17:title-6 27 Gen 42-43,
Isa 28:15-29, Matt 17:12-
27, Ps 17:7-15 28 Gen 44,
Isa 29, Matt 18, Ps 18:title-
4 29 Gen 45-46, Isa 30:1-
21, Matt 19:1-14, Ps 18:5-
11 30 Gen 47, Isa 30:22-
31:9, Matt 19:15-30, Ps
18:12-18 31 Gen 48-49,
Isa 32, Matt 20, Ps 18:19-
25

Resources

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ruddy, a youth handsome to behold and making a splendid appearance. The LORD said, "There-anoint him, for this is he!" Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and from that day on, the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David. When Samuel took his leave, he went to Ramah.

Responsorial Psalm: 89:20, 21-22, 27-28

R. (21a) I have found David, my servant.

Once you spoke in a vision, and to your faithful ones you said: "On a champion I have placed a crown; over the people I have set a youth."

R. I have found David, my servant.

"I have found David, my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed him, That my hand may be always with him, and that my arm may make him strong."

R. I have found David, my servant.

"He shall say of me, 'You are my father, my God, the Rock, my savior.' And I will make him the first-born, highest of the kings of the earth."

R. I have found David, my servant.

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call. R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Mk 2:23-28

As Jesus was passing through a field of grain on the sabbath, his disciples began to make a path while picking the heads of grain. At this the Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the sabbath?" He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and he and his companions were hungry? How he went into the house of God when Abiathar was high priest and ate the bread of offering that only the priests could lawfully eat, and shared it with his companions?" Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath. That is why the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

Today's Saints



Saint Joseph Vaz

Also known as Apostle of Ceylon, Apostle of Sri Lanka

Born to Christopher Vaz and Maria de Miranda, Christian parents of the Konkani Brahmin caste; the third of six children. Attended primary and secondary school in Sancoale, where he learned Portugese, and Benaulim, where he learned Latin. He studied humanities at the Jesuit Goa University, philosophy and theology at Saint Thomas Aquinas Academy. Ordained in 1676. Preacher and confessor. Opened a Latin school in Sancoale for perspective seminarians. Always devoted to Our Lady, in 1677 he consecrated himself as a "slave of Mary," sealing it with a document known as his "Letter of Enslavement". About this time Joseph learned of the condition of Catholics in Ceylon; persecuted by the Dutch, they had had no priests for 50 years. He sought permission to work in Ceylon, but was asked to go to the mission in Kanara. He accepted, but his thoughts and heart were in Ceylon. Vicar of Vara in Kanara, preaching, hearing confessions, visiting the sick, helping the poor, ransoming Christian slaves, working to settle jurisdictional disputes that interfered with the sacraments. Meanwhile, a small congregation of priests had formed in Goa with the Church of the Holy Cross of Miracles as their residence. Joseph joined and was elected superior. He gave a definitive canonical status to this Oratory, introduced religious exercises and charitable activities, and trained its members for the mission. In 1686 he gave up his position, and set out for Ceylon. Disguised as an itinerant worker, he reached the port of Tuticorin on Easter 1687, and then the Dutch stronghold of Jaffna in the north of the Ceylon. He suffered from acute dysentery, contracted from the terrible travelling conditions, and upon recovery he began his mission by contacting Catholics and hiding from the Dutch. He was taken in by a courageous Catholic, and ministered to his secret flock by night. One step ahead of the authorities, in 1689 he went to the Catholic village of Sillalai and began ministering to folks in surrounding villages. In 1690 Joseph moved on to Puttalam in the Kingdom of Kandy, where 1,000 Catholics had not seen a priest for half a century. He decided to make Kandy the centre of his apostolate, and in 1692 he left for there, hoping to obtain royal permission to travel freely. Instead, he was preceded by Calvinist accusations of being a Portugese spy, and was imprisoned with two other Catholics. There he learned Sinhala, the local language, and since the prison guards left the prisoners alone as long as they didn't try to escape, he built a hut-church and later a proper church dedicated to Our Lady, and began converting other prisoners. In 1696 the Kingdom of Kandy was suffering a serious drought, and the king asked the Buddhist monks to pray to their gods for rain; there was no rain. He then turned to Joseph who erected an altar and cross in the middle of the square and prayed; abundant rain began to fall, while Joseph and his altar stayed dry. The king granted Joseph license to preach throughout the kingdom. Making the most of his new-found freedom, he made a mission visit to the Dutch zone and visited Catholics in Colombo. Three missionaries from the Oratory of Goa arrived in 1697 to help him with the news that Don Pedro Pacheco, Bishop of Cochin, had appointed him Vicar General in Ceylon. He was organizing the basic mission structure when smallpox broke out in Kandy. His work with the sick convinced the king to allow Father Joseph every possible freedom in his labours. Joseph carried his mission to the main centres of the island. He returned to Kandy in 1699 with Father Joseph de Carvalho who had been expelled at the instigation of Buddhist monks. He completed the construction of his new church, and went into service for the king, translating Portuguese books into Sinhala. From this vantage point, he intensified his ministry, and converted some Sinhalese notables, which gave rise to slanders against him and persecution of converts. New missionaries arrived in 1705, which enabled him to organize the mission into eight districts, each led by a priest. He worked on the creation of a Catholic literature comparable to that of the Buddhists, and to affirm the rights of Catholics with the Dutch Protestant Government. King Vimaladharna Surya II, Father Joseph's mentor, died in 1707, but Narendrasimha, his successor, was an even greater supporter. New missionaries arrived in 1708, and in 1710, despite health problems, Joseph took another apostolic trip. On his return, he fell ill from his carriage, and reached Kandy in serious condition. Though he recovered from a series of infections and fevers over the next year, age, work, and disease had finally worn him out. He undertook nine days of spiritual exercises prescribed by the Rule, but before the seventh day, he was called home to God.

Born: 21 April 1651 at Benaulim, Salcette, Goa, India

Died: late night 17 January 1711 at Kandy, Sri Lanka of natural causes, due to the size of the crowds of mourners, his body had to be exposed for three days, buried in the church in Kandy

Canonized: 17 September 2014 by Pope Francis (papal confirmation of plenary session sentence; his Cause had been investigated since 1737), 20 October 2014 by Pope Francis (consistory for canonization), 14 January 2015 by Pope Francis (recognition celebration in Galle Face Green park, Colombo, Sri Lanka)

Patronage: archdiocese of Goa and Damão, India.





Saint Fursey of Péronne

Also known as Fursey of Lagny, Fursa, Furseo, Furse, Fursae, Fursu, Fulsey, Furseus

Son of an Irish prince. Related to Saint Foillan and Saint Ultan of Péronne. Educated by Saint Brendan the Voyager. Priest. Abbot of a house at Rathmat, Ireland. Preached, evangelized, and established monasteries in Ireland for twelve years. Evangelized in England, building monasteries. Evangelized in France, working with Saint Blitharius; they had great success. Clovis, king of the Franks, received him, and asked that he build a house at Lagny, France. Raised the young son of a court nobleman from the dead. Given to ecstasies and trances during which he received visions of a immense struggle between good and evil, with glimpses of heaven and hell. The visions were described in the aptly named Visions of Fursey, and had a great effect on such works as Dante's Divine Comedy. Bede wrote extensively and glowingly of Fursey. His image is on the banner of the city of Peronne, France.

Born: c.567 at Munster, Ireland

Died: 648 at Mezerolles, France, buried at Peronne, Picardy, France, when his relics were translated in 654, his body was found incorrupt, relics re-translated in 1056, relics re-translated in 1256, miracles reported at his tomb, most relics destroyed in the French Revolution

Patronage: Peronne, France.



Pope Saint Marcellus I

Also known as Marcel, Marcelo

Nothing of his life before the papacy has survived the centuries. Pope at the end of the persecutions of Diocletian; the persecutions had so disrupted the Church that there had been a gap of over a year with no Pope. Faced reconstituting the clergy which had been decimated and whose remnant had practiced their vocation covertly and with the expectation of martyrdom. Worked to recover and welcome back those who had denied the faith to keep from being murdered. When a group of the apostacized, known as the Lapsi, refused to do penance, Marcellus refused to allow their return to the Church. This group had some political pull, and some caused such civil disruption that Emperor Maxentius exiled the Pope in order to settle the matter. Legend says that Marcellus was forced to work as a stable slave as punishment, but this appears to be fiction. Considered a martyr as he died of the terrible conditions he suffered in exile.

Papal Ascension: May-June 308

Died: 309, initially buried in the cemetery of Saint Priscilla in Rome, Italy, relics later translated to beneath the altar of San Marcello al Corso church in Rome where they remain today

Patronage: stablemen.

