

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

ve mercy on us and on whole world. (3 times



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 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



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.

Thursday of the Third Week of Lent, March 07, 2024, Volume 173.

Today's Bible Readings

**Latin Rite** 1st Reading: ler 7:23-28

**Responsorial Psalm:** PS 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

Gospel: Lk 11:14-23

Svro-Malabar Rite 1st Reading: Exodus 29:31-37

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Maccabees 1:24-29
3rd Reading:

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Gospel:

Luke 5:12

# Syro-Malankara Rite 1st Reading:

Matthew 17:22-27

Gospel:

John 3:13-21

Meditation: The Kingdom of God is Upon Us

"But if it is by the finger of God that I drive out demons, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you." Luke 11:20 The Kingdom of God can come upon us in a variety of ways. The line from today's Gospel above comes in the middle of a story of Jesus casting out a demon from a man who was mute. Once the demon was cast out, the mute man began to speak, and all were amazed. And though some were amazed and grew in faith as a result, others turned their amazement into irrationality. The irrationality of some was that they saw what Jesus did, but they didn't want to accept that His power was divine. Therefore, some of them said, "By the power of Beelzebul, the prince of demons, he drives out demons." They couldn't deny that Jesus drove out a demon, since they saw it happen with their own eyes. But they were unwilling to accept Jesus' divinity, so they jumped to the irrational conclusion that Jesus' act was done by the power of "the prince of demons." This irrational stance of some people is one of the most dangerous stances one can take. It's the stance of an obstinate heart. They were given the incredible witness of the power of God at work but refused to respond in faith to what they witnessed. For those who are obstinate, when the Kingdom of God comes upon them, as Jesus stated above, the effect is that they react in a violent, angry and irrational way. This form of reaction is exceptionally prevalent today in the secular world. Many in the secular media, for example, constantly react violently and irrationally to all that is part of the Kingdom of God. As a result, the evil one easily misleads many, causing confusion and chaos. For those who have eyes to see clearly, this violent and irrational rejection of the Kingdom of God is very clear. And for those with faith and an open heart, the pure message of the Gospel is like water to a dry and parched soul. They soak it up and find great refreshment. For them, when the Kingdom of God comes upon them, they are energized, inspired and driven with a holy passion to further God's Kingdom. Irrationality disappears, and God's pure Truth prevails.

Reflect, today, upon your heart. Are you obstinate in any way? Are there teachings from Christ and His Church that you are tempted to reject? Is there some truth that you need to hear in your personal life to which you find it difficult to be open? Pray that the Kingdom of God come upon you today and every day and, as it does, that you will be a powerful instrument of its establishment in this world.

My glorious King of all, You are all-powerful and have full authority over all things. Please come and exercise Your authority upon my life. Come and establish Your Kingdom. I pray that my heart be always open to You and to the direction you give. Jesus, I trust in You.

# 1st Reading: Jer 7:23-28

Thus says the LORD: This is what I commanded my people: Listen to my voice; then I will be your God and you shall be my people. Walk in all the ways that I command you, so that you may prosper. But they obeyed not, nor did they pay heed. They walked in the hardness of their evil hearts and turned their backs, not their faces, to me. From the day that your fathers left the land of Egypt even to this day, I have sent you untiringly all my servants the prophets. Yet they have not obeyed me nor paid heed; they have stiffened their necks and done worse than their fathers. When you speak all these words to them, they will not listen to you either; when you call to them, they will not answer you. Say to them: This is the nation that does not listen to the voice of the LORD, its God, or take correction. Faithfulness has disappeared; the word itself is banished from their speech.

## Responsorial Psalm: PS 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

R. (8) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us. For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he

**R.** If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. Oh, that today you would hear his voice: "Harden not your hearts as at

The Bible in one year: March 01 Lev 6-7, Isa 61-62, Mark 6:24-45, Ps 31:title-4 02 Lev 8, Isa 63, Mark 6:46–7:11, Ps 31:5–11 7:11, PS 31:5-11 03 Lev 9-10, Isa 64, Mark 7:12-37, PS 31:12-18 04 Lev 11-12, Isa 65, Mark 8:1-17, PS 31:19-24 05 Lev 13, Isa 66, Mark 8:18-38, PS 32:title-7 06 Lev 14, Jer 1, Mark 9:1-23, Ob Lev 14, Jer 1, Mark 5.1-25 Ps 32:8-11 O7 Lev 15, Jer 2:1-19, Mark 9:24-50, Ps 33:1-10 08 Lev 16-17, Jer 2:20-37, Mark 10:1-17, Ps 33:11-17 09 Lev 18, Jer 3, Mark 10:18-

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38, Ps 33:18–22 10 Lev 19–20, Jer 4:1–17, Mark 10:39–52, Ps 34:title–8 11 Lev 21–22, Jer 4:18–31, Mark 11, Ps 34:9–15

12 Lev 23, Jer 5, Mark 12:1–19, Ps 34:16–22 13 Lev 24, Jer 6:1–16, Mark 12:20–44, Ps 35:title–6 14 Lev 25, Jer 6:17–30, Mark 13:1–18, Ps 35:7–13

15 Lev 26–27, Jer 7, Mark 13:19–37, Ps 35:14–20 16 Num 1, Jer 8, Mark 14:1–25, Ps 35:21–28

17 Num 2, Jer 9:1–10, Mark 14:26–47, Ps 36:title–6 18 Num 3, Jer 9:11–26, Mark 14:48-72, Ps 36:7-12 19 Num 4, Jer 10, Mark 15:1-18. Ps 37:title-7 20 Num 5, Jer 11, Mark 15:19-

47, Ps 37:8–14 21 Num 6:1–7:26, Jer 12, Mark

16, Ps 37:15-21 22 Num 7:27-89, Jer 13, Luke 1:1-17, Ps 37:22-28 23 Num 8, Jer 14, Luke 1:18-39, Ps 37:29–35 24 Num 9–10, Jer 15, Luke

1:40–60, Ps 37:36–40 25 Num 11–12, Jer 16, Luke 1:61–80, Ps 38:title–8 26 Num 13, Jer 17:1–10, Luke 2:1–24, Ps 38:9–15 27 Num 14, Jer 17:11–27, Luke

2:25–52, Ps 38:16–22 28 Num 15, Jer 18, Luke 3:1– 16, Ps 39:title–6 29 Num 16–17, Jer 19, Luke 3:17–38, Ps 39:7–13 30 Num 18–19, Jer 20, Luke 4:1–21, Ps 40:title–6

31 Num 20–21, Jer 21:1-22:14, Luke 4:22–44, Ps 40:7–13

## Resources

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The Real Meaning of Christmas

Why should I Confess?

# Gallery

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Saints

Songs **Testimonials** 

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Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works." R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

#### Verse Before the Gospel

Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, for I am gracious and merciful.

### Gospel: Lk 11:14-23

Jesus was driving out a demon that was mute, and when the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke and the crowds were amazed. Some of them said, "By the power of Beelzebul, the prince of demons, he drives out demons." Others, to test him, asked him for a sign from heaven. But he knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be laid waste and house will fall against house. And if Satan is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that it is by Beelzebul that I drive out demons. If I, then, drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your own people drive them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I drive out demons, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man fully armed guards his palace, his possessions are safe. But when one stronger than he attacks and overcomes him, he takes away the armor on which he relied and distributes the spoils. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters."



# Saint Siméon-François Berneux

Additional Memorial 20 September as one of the Martyrs of Korea

Born to a poor family, Siméon felt a call to the priesthood at age ten. He entered the seminary in Mans, France in 1831. Due to health problems, he had to leave seminary for two years during which time he worked as a tutor. Ordained a diocesan priest on 20 May 1837, Father Berneux served as a professor and spiritual director at the Mons seminary. Feeling a call to missionary work, he joined the Paris Foreign Missions Society in 1839, and left for the Asian missions on 13 January 1840. He arrived first in Manila, Philippines before being assigned to the Tonkin region of modern Vietnam on 17 January 1841. He began his work near a small convent outside the town of Moi-yen, learning the Annam language. Arrested on Holy Saturday 1841 during one of the periodic anti-Christian persecutions, Siméon and a brother priest were dragged from place to place, ordered to renounce Christianity, ordered to convince lay people to renounce the faith, and when their persecutors finally realized that the priests would not cooperate, they were sentenced to death on 8 October 1842. However, before the sentence could be officially approved, a French official learned of their imprisonment, and had them released on 7 March 1843. Father Berneux was sent to the Chinese province of Manchuria where he continued his missionary work there for ten years, sometimes in Singapore or Macao. On 5 August 1854 he was chosen the fourth Vicar Apostolic of Korea by Pope Pius IX, and arrived there with some fellow missionaries in early 1856; for administrative reasons he was also appointed titular bishop of Capsa. He learned Korean, spent time on the road visiting rural Christians, started a seminary in Pae-ron, founded several schools, and started a printing house that published Catholic works in Korean. Thousands were baptized during his time as bishop, but a palace coup in 1864 and threats of Russian invasion led to a resurgence in anti-Western, anti-Christian nationalism and official persecution of the Church. Bishop Berneux was arrested on 23 February 1866. He was taken to the capital, and from 3 to 7 March he was repeatedly beaten and interrogated under torture until the bones in his legs were shattered. As he was dragged to his death, Father Siméon preached to the people who had come out to witness the execution, and to remind his fellow sufferers that they died for the kingdom of God. Martyr.

Born: 14 May 1814 in Château-du-Loir, Sarthe, France

Died: tortured, blinded by having quicklime thrown in his eyes, and then beheaded on 7 March 1866 on a beach beside the Han River in Sae-nam-teo, Seoul, South Korea, relics transferred to Berlin, Germany in 2001

Canonized: 6 May 1984 by Pope John Paul II.



## Saint Perpetua

Also known as Vibia Perpetua, Vivia Perpetua

Lay-woman born to a noble pagan family. Convert to Christianity. Wife and mother. Martyred with her maid, friend, and fellow convert Saint Felicitas. In centuries past, their story was so popular that Saint Augustine of Hippo warned against giving it the weight of Scripture.

Died: mauled by wild beasts and beheaded 7 March 203 at Carthage, North Africa

Patronage: cattle, married women, martyrs, Carthage, Tunisia, Santa Perpètua de Mogoda, Catalonia, Spain.



# Saint Teresa Margaret Redi

Also known as Ann Maria Redi, Anna Maria Redi, Anne Mary Redi, Teresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart, Teresa Margherita Redi of the Sacred Heart

Born to the Tuscan nobility, the daughter of Count Ignatius Redi and Camilla Billeti. Pious child who saw God in all things, and who was confused to learn that not everyone knew that God loved them. Educated at the Saint Apollonia convent at Florence, Italy from age nine. A gentle and mature child, she was often left in to watch over her peers. Noted for an intense desire for her First Communion, and for a devotion to Our Lady. Had an extensive correspondence with her father, discussing her spiritual life in great detail; she asked that he destroy each letter after reading it, and sadly, he did so. In September 1763 she received a message from Saint Teresa of Jesus advising her to become a Carmelite. Anna went home to Arezzo, Italy at age 17, but returned to Florence almost immediately. Became a Discalced Carmelite, joining the convent of Saint Teresa on 1 September 1764, and taking the name Teresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart. She received the veil on 11 March 1765, and made her final vows on 12 March 1766. Sister Teresa worked in the convent's infirmary, and appeared to have a gift of healing. She predicted her own death less than five years after making her final vows. Her short life and vocation were spent in contemplative union with God as she ever meditated on her favourite phrase, "God is love."

**Born:** 15 July 1747 at Arezzo, Tuscany, Italy as Anna Maria Redi **Died:** 7 March 1770 at Florence, Italy of a severe and painful abdominal disorder, post-mortem, all the swelling and discoloration in her body disappeared, her body was incorrupt several weeks later, had a healthy glow, and exuded an

Canonized: 19 March 1934 by Pope Pius XI.





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