

#### 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.



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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... Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 29, 2024, Volume 178. Today's Bible Readings

Latin Rite

**1**st **Reading:** Nm 11:25-29 **Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 **2**nd **Reading:** Jas 5:1-6 Syro-Malabar Rite 1st Reading: <u>Gen 41:37-45</u> 2nd Reading: <u>Sir 47:2-3; 8-11</u> 3rd Reading: <u>Heb</u> <u>1:1-4</u>

**Gospel:** Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Gospel: <u>Jn 12:27-36</u>

Syro-Malankara Rite

51

Heb 13:7-16; Mt 24:45-

# Meditation: Eliminating Occasions of Sin

'If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life crippled than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out..." Mark 9:43–47 Sometimes we need to wake up to the horror of sin. Sin and sin alone is capable of sending you to hell. Hell is real, and going there for eternity is a real possibility. Therefore, we must do whatever it takes to avoid that frightful possibility. This teaching from Jesus might not, at first, be thought of as one of His most inspiring teachings, but it should be. It's not inspiring in the sense that it is quite graphic. But it is very inspiring in the sense that it has the potential to motivate us to action. Are you motivated to do all that you can to avoid sin? Would you even go so far as to cut off your hand or foot, and to pluck out your eye so as to avoid sin? First of all, this should not be seen as a literal command in which Jesus is telling us to mutilate ourselves. But He is the one Who chose such graphic language. Therefore, we should not shy away from pondering these images in a prayerful way so as to more clearly see those things that lead us into sin. When we see them, we must take the radical step of completely eliminating them from our lives. Many of the Church Fathers say that the hand, foot and eye in this teaching refer to our friends. Just as a hand, foot and eye are good in and of themselves, so also are friends. We are made for friendship with God and with others. However, not every friendship helps us grow closer to God. Therefore, when an earthly friend becomes a source of sin, we must eliminate that friendship. Friendship is different from charity. We owe charity to all people, even those who are the most sinful. But acting with charity toward others is different from being friends with them. To be a friend implies mutual giving and receiving. And though we must always give of ourselves to others, we ought not always receive from them when what they have to offer is an invitation to sin. This is how we "cut it off" and "pluck it out." When another person tries to relate to us in such a way that they lead us into sin, we must take that temptation very seriously and reject it with much vigor. The hand, foot and eye in this teaching also represent every situation in life that tempts us to sin. For example, consider material possessions. If buying a very expensive car, house, or electronic gadget tempts you to become more materialistic, then you must avoid buying it. People are drawn to nice things. But does possessing nice things help your soul to become holy? One could argue that they can have nice things, while at the same time remain spiritually detached from them. But this is difficult to live. The more luxurious our material possessions, the more tempted we will be to rely upon them for our happiness. Therefore, choosing to live simply is almost always better for your soul than choosing to live in luxury. This teaching also applies to anything else that could become a source of temptation. Reflect, today, upon those things or persons in your life that have become an occasion of sin for you. Do not fool yourself into believing that you can handle the temptation. If you have some source of ongoing temptation in your life, you need to eliminate it. Ponder this very graphic teaching from Jesus and try to apply it to your life. Identify those things that lead you into sin and eliminate them with much determination.

My radical Lord, You call all of Your children to a life of holiness and perfection. Please help me to take Your teachings seriously so as to eliminate all occasions of sin from my life. May I have the eyes to see these temptations and the courage to reject them with all my might. Jesus, I trust in You.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Nm 11:25-29

The LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. Taking some of the spirit that was on Moses, the LORD bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied. Now two men, one named Eldad and the other Medad, were not in the gathering but had been left in the camp. They too had been on the list, but had not gone out to the tent; yet the spirit came to rest on them also, and they prophesied in the camp. So, when a young man quickly told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp, " Joshua, son of Nun, who from his youth had been Moses' aide, said, "Moses, my lord, stop them." But Moses answered

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20 2 Chron 20, Hos 1, 1 Cor 1:1ñ13, Ps 102:17ñ23 29 2 Chron 21ñ23, Hos 2, 1 Cor 1:14ñ31, Ps 102:24ñ28 30 2 Chron 24ñ25, Hos 3ñ4, 1 Cor 2, Ps 103:ttleñ9 31 2 Chron 26ñ27, Hos 5, 1 Cor 3, Ps 103:10ñ16

# Resources

Importance of the Mass Mystical Stigmata What is Charismatic Renewal? The Real Meaning of Christmas Why should I Confess?

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him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets! Would that the LORD might bestow his spirit on them all!"

# Responsorial Psalm: Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14

R. (9a) The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; the decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple. **R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.** 

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just.

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

Though your servant is careful of them, very diligent in keeping them, yet who can detect failings? Cleanse me from my unknown faults! **R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.** 

From wanton sin especially, restrain your servant; let it not rule over me. Then shall I be blameless and innocent of serious sin. **R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.** 

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Jas 5:1-6

Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries. Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have become moth-eaten, your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire. You have stored up treasure for the last days. Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts for the day of slaughter. You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous one; he offers you no resistance.

# Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia. Your word, O Lord, is truth; consecrate us in the truth. R. Alleluia, alleluia.

### Gospel: Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

At that time, John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward. "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut if off. It is better for you to enter into life crippled than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. Better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna, where 'their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched."

#### **Today's Saints**



# Gabriel the Archangel

Also known as Fortitudo Dei; Gabr-el, Gabrielus, Gavri'el, Gavriel, Jibrail, Jibril

Archangel and messenger of God. One of the three angels mentioned by name in the Catholic Bible. Appeared to the prophet Daniel to explain the prophet's visions relating to the Messiah. (Daniel 8:16-26; 9:21-27) Appeared to Zachary in the temple to announce the coming of Zachary's son, John the Baptist, and to strike Zachary mute for his disbelief. (Luke 1:11-20) Appeared to Mary to let her know she'd been selected to bear the Saviour. (Luke 1:26-38) **Born:** wasn't

**Died:** hasn't Name Meaning, God is mighty, God is my strength, man of God, my master is God, strong man of God, the strength of God

**Patronage:** broadcasters, clergy, communications workers, diplomats, messengers, philatelists; stamp collectors, post offices, postal services and employees, radio and radio workers, telegraphs, telephones, television and television workers, Portugal, Seattle, Washington, archdiocese of Auchi, Nigeria.

## Michael the Archangel

Additional Memorial 8 May - Apparition of Saint Michael and Protector of Cornwall

Archangel. Leader of the army of God during the Lucifer uprising. Devotion is common to Muslims, Christians and Jews, and there are writings about him in all three cultures. Considered the guardian angel of Israel, and the guardian and protector of the Church. In the Book of Daniel (12:1), Michael is described as rising up to defend the Church against the Anti-Christ. The feast of the Apparition of Saint Michael commemorates appearance of the archangel to a man named Gargan in 492 on Mount Gargano near Manfredonia in southern Italy. Gargan and others were pasturing cattle on the mountain; a bull wandered off and hid in a cave. An arrow was shot into the cave, but it came flying back out and wounded the archer. The cowherds went to their bishop who ordered three days of fasting and prayer to seek an explanation for the mystery. At the end of the three days Michael appeared to the bishop and requested a church built in the honour of the Holy Angels in the cave. If you find medals or holy cards with 'relics' of Michael, they are probably rock chips from the cave, or pieces of cloth that have touched it.

Born: wasn't Died hasn't Name Meaning Who is like God? (the battle cry of the army of heaven)

**Patronage:** against storms and dangers at sea, against temptations, artists, bakers, bankers and banking, battle, coopers or barrel makers, dying people, EMTs and paramedics, fencers and fencing, grocers, haberdashers, hatmakers or hatters, holy death, knights, milleners, paratroopers, police officers, radiologists and radiotherapists, sailors, mariners, watermen, security guards, sick people, soldiers, swordsmiths, Belarus, England, Germany, Papua, New Guinea, Vatican City (given in 2013), Greek Air Force, Congregation of Saint Michael the Archangel, Siegburg Abbey, at least 14 dioceses and 42 cities around the world.



#### Raphael the Archangel

# Also known as Azariah, Angel of Love, Angel of Joy

Archangel. One of the three angels mentioned by name in Scripture, and one of the seven that stand before God's throne. Lead character in the deutero-canonical book of Tobit in which he travelled with (and guarded) Tobiah, and cured a man's blindness; hence his connection with travellers, young people, blindness, healing and healers. Traditionally considered the force behind the healing power of the sheep pool mentioned in John 5:1-4. Born wasn't Died hasn't Name Meaning, God has healed, Healer from God, God's remedy, It is God who heals, God Heals, God, Please Heal

**Patronage:** against all sickness or bodily ills, against eye disease or eye problems, mentally ill people; against insanity or mental illness against nightmares, apothecaries, druggists, pharmacists, blind people, doctors, physicians, guardian angels, for happy meetings, love; lovers, nurses, shepherds; shepherdesses, sick people,travellers, young people, Auchi, Nigeria, diocese of Dubuque, Iowa, archdiocese of MacKenzie - Fort Smith, Northwest Territories, diocese of Madison, Wisconsin, diocese of Seattle, Washington.

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