

# **MORNING MEDITATION**

## **Friday, Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time**

**Forbearance is not being bitter about wrongs done against you.**

### **Revelation 10:8-11**

In his vision, John was directed to take the scroll from the hand of the angel and eat it. John took it and ate it and it tasted sweet in the mouth, but sour in the stomach. This symbolized John's complete acceptance and assimilation of the content of the scroll. It is a wonderful (sweet) thing to accept God's revelation (word), but it may just be sour as it gets assimilated (in the stomach), as it gets hold of you because it could be very demanding on the one who accepts....

**God's word calls forth change....it costs to accept God's word.**

### **Psalms 119**

**In the way of your decrees I rejoice,  
as much as in all the riches.  
Yes, your decrees are my delight,  
they are my counselors**

### **Luke 19:45-48**

Jesus cleanses the temple which had been turned into a marketplace. Place of worship had become place of abuse and exploitation, especially of the poor and the marginalized in the community. The house of God was being used to exploit the worshippers.

Jesus was moved with a passion for justice, honor, respect - for real worship, which means giving God God's worth and giving God's people their worth.

**Reflect on being called to deeply respect and revere the temple of God – all that we know as the temple, the house of God; all that we know as God's dwelling place.**

**You are the temple of.....so is your brother and your sister.....respect, revere and honor yourself and your brother and your sister and that's a sure way of honoring God!**

**Saint of the Day, November 22 - Saint Cecilia and 11 other saints are remembered this day.**

St. Cecilia was a young Roman Christian who made a vow of virginity (around second century). Her parents, however, insisted that she marry Valerian, a pagan. On her wedding night, she courageously told her new husband about her vow and that an angel was with her to protect her. Valerian was skeptical and told her he wanted proof of the angel. Cecilia sent him to the future Pope Urban. Valerian found Pope Urban and explained why Cecilia sent him. Pope Urban baptized Valerian, and when he returned to Cecilia, he saw an angel sitting beside her. So strong was Valerian's conversion that his brother Tibertius also wanted baptism. The brothers then began to serve Christ by burying Christians who were martyred.

Cecilia spent her time preaching the Word of God, and she converted up to 400 persons. Eventually, the brothers were arrested and put to death for refusing to worship pagan gods. Cecilia buried them, and she, too, was soon arrested and was to die for her faith. The official ordered her death by suffocating heat in her own bathhouse. That attempt failed. Then the official ordered the executioner to decapitate her. The executioner struck Cecilia's neck three times, but he could not completely sever her head. He left her on the floor, bleeding profusely. She lived like that for three days before she died. Cecilia was declared a saint by the early Christians because of her martyrdom. Cecilia is the patron saint of musicians.

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