MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday, Thirty Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles.
It takes away today's peace and serenity.

Revelation 22:1-7

John describes the heavenly Jerusalem as the abode of the divine life, the very dwelling place of God. The throne of God is the center of this place which replaces the temple. The river of life flows there, and fruit bearing trees grow on the bank of this river. All who have been welcomed into this presence will have no need for the light from the lamp or the sun. God will give them light and they will reign forever.

The saints of God will enjoy the eternal presence of life, light, joy, and love in the very presence of God.

Psalm 95

Come let us sing joyfully to the Lord;
Let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.
Let us greet him with thanksgiving;
Let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

Luke 21:34-36

Jesus continued to call his disciples to be alert and awake and to stand strong. He told them about the difficulties ahead. Throughout his ministry, Jesus emphasized that the suffering of persecution for the sake of the Kingdom and for the cause of justice was an integral part of being a disciple. The "Day of the Lord" will come. No one knew the time or the day or the hour.

God will break in at the least expected moment, through least expected events, people, and situations. So, it is urgent to stay awake, alert and prepared. Jesus said to them, "Pray constantly for strength…"

Be alert and awake and be prepared and continue to fulfill the mission of Jesus in proclaiming the kingdom of justice and peace for all.

Saint of the Day, November 28 - Saint James of the March and 14 other saints are remembered this day.

St. James of the March was born Dominic Gangala in early 1390 to a poor family in the March of Ancona in central Italy. As a child, he began his studies at Offida under the guidance of his uncle, a priest, who soon afterwards sent him to school in the nearby city of Ascoli Piceno. He later studied at the University of Perugia where he took the degree of Doctor in Canon and Civil Law.

He entered the Order of Friars Minor in Assisi in 1416 and took the name Jacobus (James in English). During his novitiate, he practiced all virtues so well that he became a model of religious perfection. Soon after his ordination, he was sent out as a missionary. He traveled through Italy, Dalmatia, Croatia, Albania, Bosnia, Austria, Bohemia, Saxony, Prussia, Poland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Russia for over 50 years. During the years 1427 and 1428 he preached in Vienna, Augsburg, Ratisbon, Ulm, Limburg, Brandenburg, and Leipzig. He spent the last three years of his life in Naples, and died there on November 28., 1476.

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs