

MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday, Twenty Second Week in Ordinary Time

Serenity is the balance of mind, body, and spirit.

I Corinthians 4:6-15

Paul taught the Corinthians that humility is the root of all virtues and pride the root of all sin. He says, in this excerpt, “we are fools for Christ’s account.... but in Christ we are wise”. The source of humility is that we are all children of God; we have one and the same Father and only one father. We may be more in the eyes of some and less in the eyes of others. But we come from the same father, and we go to the same Father.

Psalm 145

**The Lord is just in all his ways
and holy in all his works.**

**The Lord is near to all who call upon him,
to all who call upon him in truth.**

Luke 6:1-5

The story of how the disciples plucked ears of corn on the Sabbath Day. The scribes and the Pharisees became more suspicious of a teacher who allowed his disciples to violate the Sabbath law. This kind of thing could not be allowed to spread unchecked.

Jesus used this occasion to teach: Man is not at the service of the law. The law is at the service of man.

Jesus taught them that the claim of human need must take precedence over all other claims. The claims of worship, the claims of ritual, and the claims of liturgy are important, but prior to any of them is the claim of human need. Jesus insisted that the greatest ritual service is the service that meets urgent human need.

Jesus called his disciples to go beyond ritual services, church services and synagogue services to the service of human need. In fact, the Gospels tell of only one synagogue service that Jesus conducted. But we have an abundance of incidence of Jesus at the service of human need. Christian service is involvement in the demands and problems and tragedies of the human situation.

Saint of the day, September 5 - St. Teresa of Calcutta and 15 other saints are remembered this day

Saint Teresa of Calcutta was born on August 26, 1910, in Skopje, North Macedonia. She was called by God to serve the poor and marginalized of the world. In 1928, Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu of Macedonia joined the Sisters of Loreto, a missionary and teaching order as a postulant. From 1929 to 1937, Agnes lived in the convent in Darjeeling, India until she professed her final vows. Agnes was given the name Teresa in honor of St. Teresa of Lisieux. For the next 15 years she taught geography and history in a Catholic girl's school in Calcutta.

In 1946, while she was on the train traveling to a retreat in Darjeeling, she heard a call from the Lord to leave the Sisters of Loreto and establish a new order in which she would bring Him to the "poorest of the poor." Mother Teresa followed His call, and in 1950, the new congregation of the Missionaries of Charity was officially erected as a religious institute for the Diocese of Calcutta. She cared for the untouchables, those who were sick and dying on the streets. She showed them God's love through her compassionate and loving care. Throughout the rest of her life, she followed Jesus to countries all over the world. She established orphanages, AIDS hospices, and charity centers. By 1997, her members numbered nearly 4,000 in 600 foundations and 123 countries. She died in Calcutta on September 5, 1997. Pope Francis canonized Mother Teresa on September 4, 2016.

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