

MORNING MEDITATION

Monday, Twenty Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

Simplify your life by getting rid of everything that does not matter.

Proverbs 3:27-34

The wise man says, a person should not plot against a neighbor nor be envious, but rather strive for friendship with neighbors. If you can do good, if it is in your power to do it, do it now. "Say not to your neighbor, 'go and come again, tomorrow I will give you' when you can do it now".

Be gracious and kind now, when you have the opportunity.

Psalm 15

**Lord, who may enter your holy tent?
Who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks blamelessly and does justice;
who thinks the truth in his heart
and slanders not with his tongue.**

Luke 8:16-18

Jesus invited his listeners to let their light shine. Hard it may be, never be ashamed of giving witness to who you are and whose you are and whom you serve! Let your goodness be visible in the way you live out your life. Be humble but never be ashamed to show who you are!

We can't all be shining examples. But we can, at least, twinkle a little!

Jesus spoke of the impossibility of secrecy! We try to hide certain things from ourselves, certain things from others and certain things, even from God! Happy is the person with nothing to hide!

Jesus spoke to them about the laws of increase and decrease. The man who has will get more and the man who has not, will lose even the little he thinks he has! Another way of expressing it would be: there is no standing still in life! Life is dynamic and it moves, changes, grows or weakens - there is no standing still!

Saint of the day, September 19 - St. Januarius and 12 other saints are remembered this day

Little is known about the life of St. Januarius. He was born in Italy and was bishop of Benevento during the Diocletian persecution, around the year 305. Bishop Januarius went to visit two deacons and two laymen in prison. He was then also imprisoned along with his deacon and

lector. Legend has it that Januarius and his companions were thrown to the bears in the amphitheater of Pozzuoli, but the animals failed to attack them. They were then beheaded. What is believed to be Januarius' blood is kept in Naples, as a relic. It liquifies and bubbles when exposed in the cathedral. Scientists have not been able to explain this miracle to date.

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs