

# **MORNING MEDITATION**

**Monday, Twenty Seventh Week in Ordinary Time**

**Forbearance is taking adversity and turning it into advantage.**

## **Galatians 1:6-12**

Some people told the Galatians that Paul was not an apostle and they need not listen to him. The main reason was that he was not one of the original twelve and that he was a persecutor of Christians. In this excerpt, we find Paul defending himself, claiming that his mission was given to him by God and not by any human authority. Paul was convinced that God has spoken to him and sent him on his mission.

## **Psalm 111**

**I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart,  
in the company and assembly of the just  
Great are the works of the Lord,  
exquisite in all their delights.**

## **Luke 10:25-37**

A lawyer asked Jesus what he had to do to inherit everlasting life. Jesus answered him by saying that he must follow the law that he knew which he spelled out as love God and neighbor with all that is available. The lawyer then wanted to know who the “neighbor” was. Jesus told him the story of the Good Samaritan and asked him to make his choice about who he was going to treat as his neighbor.

**This excerpt and the story that Jesus told teach us many things and give us good insights. First it reminds us that the most important thing is to love God and neighbor with all we have...give love all you got!**

**Secondly, it teaches us that the real question is not who my neighbor is but to whom I become a neighbor. Be a neighbor to someone today.**

**Thirdly, it teaches us not to take unnecessary risks like the man going down a dangerous road from Jerusalem to Jericho.....be cautious and discerning in making choices.**

**It also teaches us to be sensitive and care for people who are in need even when they have made unreasonable or wrong choices.....be compassionate and show compassion for someone today.**

## **Saint of the Day, October 7 - Saint Our Lady of the Rosary and 14 saints are remembered this day**

The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, formerly known as the feast of Our Lady of Victory and Feast of the Holy Rosary, celebrates the 16<sup>th</sup> century naval victory which secured Europe against Turkish invasion. Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was invoked on the day of the battle through a campaign to pray the Rosary throughout Europe. Pope Pius V established this feast soon after.

Troops of the Turkish Ottoman Empire had invaded and occupied the Byzantine empire by 1453, bringing a large portion of the increasingly divided Christian world under a version of Islamic law. For the next hundred years, the Turks expanded their empire westward on land, and asserted their naval power in the Mediterranean. In 1565 they attacked Malta, envisioning an eventual invasion of Rome. Though repelled at Malta, the Turks captured Cyprus in the fall of 1570.

The next year, three Catholic powers on the continent – Genoa, Spain, and the Papal States - formed an alliance called the Holy League, to defend their Christian civilization against Turkish invasion. Its fleets sailed to confront the Turks near the west coast of Greece on October 7, 1571.

Crew members on more than 200 ships prayed the Rosary in preparation for the battle - as did Christians throughout Europe, encouraged by the Pope to gather in their churches to invoke the Virgin Mary against the daunting Turkish forces. Some accounts say that Pope Pius V was granted a miraculous vision of the Holy League's stunning victory. Without a doubt, the Pope understood the significance of the day's events, when he was eventually informed that all but 13 of the nearly 300 Turkish ships had been captured or sunk. He was moved to institute the feast now celebrated universally as Our Lady of the Rosary.

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