

MORNING MEDITATION

Monday, Thirty-third Week in Ordinary Time

**Forbearance is guiding others to the right path without judging,
condemning or shaming.**

Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5

John wrote to the seven Churches in the province of Asia what he has come to know as the revelation of God through Jesus Christ. This excerpt tells us of his message to the Church in Ephesus. He told them about how much he has appreciated their faith, patient endurance of hardship, hard work and so on. However, he told them that they had lost their original enthusiasm and called them to return to their true spirit.

Psalm 1

Blessed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked
Nor walk in the way of sinners, nor sits in the company of the insolent,
But delights in the law of the Lord and meditates on his law day and night.

Luke 18:35-43

The blind man near Jericho, cried out “have pity on me, Jesus”. What do you want me to do for you? Jesus asked. The blind man responded: “I want to see”. The blind man was determined to come face to face with Jesus. He refused to be silent. He refused to be restrained. The urgency of his need drove him into the presence of Jesus. He was passionate. His desire was intense. He wanted to see.

How intense, how passionate, how deep is your desire to know, to see.....? Try to make this your prayer this week: “Master, I want to see”. Let the Lord open your eyes...the eyes of your mind and your heart.....let him help you see yourself better, see the world more positively and creatively and the Lord more fully....

When the blind man cried out Jesus was busy discoursing to the crowd, like any other Rabbi. He stopped at the blind man’s cry of urgency. For Jesus, words took second place to deeds. Response to the human person in need was a priority. Many admire a man with great ideas, but they love a man with a big heart.

Have a big heart! Live from the heart! Reach out to someone today. Let him/her see what’s in your heart!

Saint of the Day, November 18 - Dedication of the basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul and 18 other saints are remembered this day.

St. Peter's is probably the most famous basilica in the church which began simple but grew into a massive structure. Vatican Hill was a simple cemetery where the early Christians gathered at St. Peter's tomb to pray. In 319 Constantine built a basilica on the site that stood for more than a thousand years until, despite numerous restorations, it threatened to collapse. In 1506, Pope Julius II ordered it razed and reconstructed, but the new basilica was not completed and dedicated for more than two centuries.

St. Paul's Outside-the-Walls stands near the Abazia delle Tre Fontane, where St. Paul is believed to have been beheaded. This was the largest church in Rome until St. Peter's was rebuilt. From the time the basilicas were first built until the empire crumbled under "barbarian" invasions, the two churches, although miles apart, were linked by a roofed colonnade of marble columns. Pope Pius IX joined in one celebration the dedication of these two basilicas in 1854.

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