

MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday Third Week of Lent

The most powerful weapon in the universe is silence, stillness, peace and serenity.

Hosea 6:1-6

“It is love that I desire, not sacrifice, and knowledge of God rather than holocausts”, with these words Hosea invites us today to turn to the Lord, our God of compassion and Love. Hosea assures his people and us today: “He will come to us like the rain, like spring rain that waters the earth”. So strive to know the Lord, turn to him in love.

Psalms 51

**Have mercy on me God in your goodness;
In the greatness of your compassion, wipe out my offense.
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
and of my sin cleanse me.....**

Luke 18: 9-14

Jesus spoke the parable of a tax collector and a Pharisee at prayer. The tax collector humbled himself before God and prayed for mercy and was blessed with forgiveness, justification and mercy. The Pharisee claimed to be good, better than the tax collector, justified himself before God and went home feeling good about himself.

It is the tax collector who humbled himself before God that went home forgiven and healed while the Pharisee went home feeling good about himself and better than others.

Jesus says: “everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled while he who humbles himself shall be exalted”.

Be humble! Come before the Lord in humility, sincerity and truth!

To be humble is to acknowledge and accept the truth about self. Humility is not a denial of self and self-worth – it is an affirmation and grateful acceptance of all that you are as God’s gift of love.

Be grateful and celebrate your life as God’s gift of love!

Saint of the day, March 14 - St. Matilda of Saxony and 8 other saints are remembered this day.

Matilda was born in 895 C.E. at Engern, Westphalia, Germany. She was the daughter of Count Dietrich of Westphalia and Reinhild of Denmark. She was raised by her grandmother, the Abbess of Eufurt convent. She left the abbey in 913 and got married to King Henry the Fowler of Saxony. She was well known for her generosity, teaching the ignorant, comforting the sick, visiting prisoners, etc.. After Henry's death, she was betrayed by Otto, her son, when he falsely accused her of financial mismanagement and extravagant charities. She devoted herself to building three convents and a monastery. She was left in charge of the kingdom when Otto went to Rome to be crowned Emperor (often regarded as the beginning of the Holy Roman Empire), and spent most of the declining years of her life at the convent at Nordhausen she had built. She died at the monastery at Quedlinburg on March 14, 968.

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