

MORNING MEDITATION

Friday, Thirtieth week of the year

**Having a sense of purpose is having a sense of self-worth
and self-respect.**

Romans 9:1-5

Paul makes bold claims that he spoke the truth; that there was constant grief and pain in his heart for the Christian community and that he was willing to die for them. He says that he would even be parted from Christ if it would help them. He loved his community.

Paul was passionate about his community, the Body of Christ. Let us learn to share his passion.

Psalms 147

**Glorify the Lord, O Jerusalem,
Praise your God, O Zion.
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates;
He has blessed your children within you.**

Luke 14:1-6

Jesus had differences with the Pharisees. This excerpt tells us about Jesus accepting the hospitality of a leading Pharisee.

Learn to accept the differences, be tolerant and appreciate and respect diversity!

When Jesus came to this Pharisees house, there was a man who suffered from dropsy. Jesus asked them whether it was alright to cure on the Sabbath. Then he added, "If it is alright to help an animal on the Sabbath, how could it not be alright to help a person in need?" An animal that fell into an open well could be saved on a Sabbath. If an animal can be redeemed from a well, how could it not be alright to redeem a person who fell ill? Jesus healed the man, who suffered from dropsy, on the Sabbath.

Be good and do good. Any time is a good time to be and to do good. And now is the good time and right time and the best time.

Saint of the Day, October 31 – St. Wolfgang of Regensburg and 8 Other saints are remembered this day.

Wolfgang was born in Swabia, Germany, and was educated at a school located at the abbey of Reichenau. There he encountered Henry, a young noble who went on to become Archbishop of Trier. Meanwhile, Wolfgang remained in close contact with the archbishop, teaching in his cathedral school and supporting his efforts to reform the clergy.

At the death of the archbishop, Wolfgang chose to become a Benedictine monk and moved to an abbey in Einsiedeln, now part of Switzerland. Ordained a priest, he was appointed director of the monastery school there. Later he was sent to Hungary as a missionary, though his zeal and good will yielded limited results.

Emperor Otto II appointed him Bishop of Regensburg, near Munich. Wolfgang immediately initiated reform of the clergy and of religious life, preaching with vigor and effectiveness and always demonstrating special concern for the poor. He wore the habit of a monk and lived an austere life.

The desire for a life of solitude and monastic life never left him. At one point he left his diocese so that he could devote himself to prayer, but his responsibilities as bishop called him back. In 994, Wolfgang became ill while on a journey; he died in Puppington near Linz, Austria. He was canonized in 1052. His feast day is celebrated widely in much of central Europe.

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