

MORNING MEDITATION

Wednesday, Twenty Second Week in Ordinary Time

Forbearance leads to unity, establishes harmony and builds community.

I Corinthians 3:1-9

Paul reminded the Corinthians that they were co-workers with God, that they were stewards who must do God's work. It is God who accomplishes the work and it is he who gives the increase and yield. Paul cautioned them about their party spirit with its glorification of human leaders. In a garden one may plant the seed and another water it; but neither can make the seed grow...that belongs to God and God alone. Similarly, we may preach, proclaim and teach God's truth. But God alone wakes the hearts of people to new life...he alone created the heart and he alone re-creates the heart.

Psalm 33

**Happy the nations whose God is the Lord,
The people he has chosen to be his own inheritance.
From heaven the Lord looks down;
He sees all mankind.**

Luke 4:38-44

Jesus was always ready to serve. He had just left the synagogue. He needed rest and it was for rest that he went to Peter's house. He reached out, beyond his own need for rest; saw the need of Peter's mother-in-law for healing and he responded.

Jesus did not need a crowd to work a miracle. Jesus was ready to put out his power and strength and love in a village cottage in Capernaum when the crowd was gone. When Peter's mother-in-law was cured, she began to serve others. The gift of healing and health is shared in service.

May you be men and women of service! May your gifts be shared in love, in kindness and in service.

Jesus spends time alone. He met His father before he met men in service. He was able to meet the urgent needs of others because he was at-one-with His Father. When people came in while he chose to be alone, he didn't resent. He didn't complain because his privacy was invaded by the crowd.

May you be men and women of prayer! Meet God before serving people!

Sant of the Day, September 4 - St. Rosalie and 26 others are remembered this day.

St. Rosalia, daughter of Sinibald, Lord of Roses and Quisquina, was a descendant of the great Charlemagne. She was born at Palermo in Sicily in 1130. In her youth, her heart turned from earthly vanities to God. She left her home and took up her abode in a cave, on the walls of which she wrote these words: "I, Rosalia, daughter of Sinibald, Lord of Roses and Quisquina, have taken the resolution to live in this cave for the love of my Lord, Jesus Christ." She remained there entirely hidden from the world. She practiced great mortifications and lived in constant communion with God. Afterward she transferred her abode to Mount Pellegrino, about three miles from Palermo, to triumph entirely over the instincts of flesh and blood, in sight of her paternal home. She is said to have appeared after death and to have revealed that she spent several years in a little excavation near the grotto. She died alone, in 1160, ending her strange and wonderful life unknown to the world. Her body was discovered several centuries later, in 1625, during the pontificate of Pope Urban VIII.

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