MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday, Thirty-second Week in Ordinary Time

We must have a theme, a goal, a purpose in our lives. If we don't, you get lost.

Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9

This excerpt tells us that the powerful Word of Wisdom from heaven comes into the land of doom and recreates everything and makes all things new so that the children of God may be preserved and sustained. And all creation praise God, their deliverer and savior.

Let God's word of wisdom make all things new for you. Let God's wisdom transform you into a new being.

Psalm 105

Sing to him, sing his praise, Proclaim all his wondrous deeds. Glory in his holy name; Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord!

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus told the disciples a parable about a widow who refused to give up in seeking justice. The corrupt judge, finally, gave her justice. Then Jesus asked them: "If a corrupt judge will listen eventually, how much more do you think the loving Father would listen to the cry of his children?" Then he added: "He will give them swift justice".

So, be strong. Stand your ground. Persevere in seeking justice!

Saint of the Day, November 15 - St. Albert the Great and 24 other saints are remembered this day.

Albert was born sometime before the year 1200, probably in Bavaria, in southern Germany. We know very little about the details of his family origins. We know that he was well educated, attended the University of Padua where he learned about Aristotle and his writings.

In 1245, Albert became a Master of Theology under Gueruc of Saint-Quentin. He was the first German Dominican to achieve the title. He later went on to teach theology at the University of Paris and became the Chair of Theology at the College of St. James. One of his students was the famous Thomas Aquinas who would also become a doctor of the Church and a saint. Albert was very interested in Aristotle, and he made commentary on nearly all of Aristotle's works. He also studied the teachings of several Muslim scholars. At this time, the Islamic world led Europe in terms of scholarship, science, and medicine.

In 1260, Pope Alexander IV appointed Albert as bishop of Regensburg. Although he was a bishop, Albert refused to ride a horse and went everywhere on foot. The life of a bishop did not agree with Albert and he resigned from his post in 1263. Albert became ill in 1278 and he died on November 15, 1280.

St. Albert, the patron of scientists, lived during the period when the first universities came into being. He studied every field of knowledge that was taught in those schools of learning. He became a Dominican. One of his students, Thomas Aquinas, was brilliant but very shy. Albert saw the greatness of Thomas and affirmed and encouraged him!

He studied everything he could, including plants, animals and astronomy! He was the first to study the mountain ranges of Europe! While many believed that such studies would destroy Christianity, Albert believed that all knowledge could help us deepen the knowledge and experience of God! His faith and hard work paved the way for a new age of scientific exploration.

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