

# MORNING MEDITATION

Wednesday, Thirty-third Week in Ordinary Time

**Faithful people reflect God's faithfulness  
and steadfast people reflect God's steadfastness.**

## **2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31**

Seven brothers and their mother were tortured at the King's orders. Six of them suffered death, remaining faithful to the law of God, rather than obey the king's order. The mother encouraged the seventh son to persevere and be faithful to God's law and he did. The mother advised her sons, "God, who gave you life, will give it again".

**Reflect on qualities of patient endurance, perseverance in the face of trials and temptations, fidelity to commitments.....**

## **Psalm 17**

**I call upon you, for you will answer me O God;  
Incline your ear to me; hear my word.  
Hide me in the shadow of your wings.  
But I in justice shall behold your face....**

## **Luke 19:11-28**

Jesus told them the parable of a noble man who gave ten of his servants sums of ten units for investment. The noble man trusted his servants with his wealth.

**Reflect on God's trust! We are trusted with life, family, children, vocation.....**

Trust calls for loyalty, Fidelity. Trust calls for "TRUST" in return.

**Reflect on what it means to be trusted.**

The reward for faithfulness to trust is "more trust". Faithfulness to responsibilities and duties bring more responsibilities.

**Reflect: Faithfulness is its own reward!**

To him, who has, more will be given.

**Reflect: There is no such thing as standing still in Christian life. We either grow in virtue or we become weak...we become more committed or get side-tracked.....**

**Saint of the Day, November 22 - Saint Cecilia and 11 other saints are remembered this day.**

St. Cecilia was a young Roman Christian who made a vow of virginity (around second century). Her parents, however, insisted that she marry Valerian, a pagan. On her wedding night, she courageously told her new husband about her vow and that an angel was with her to protect her. Valerian was skeptical and told her he wanted proof of the angel. Cecilia sent him to the future Pope Urban. Valerian found Pope Urban and explained why Cecilia sent him. Pope Urban baptized Valerian, and when he returned to Cecilia, he saw an angel sitting beside her. So strong was Valerian's conversion that his brother Tibertius also wanted baptism. The brothers then began to serve Christ by burying Christians who were martyred.

Cecilia spent her time preaching the Word of God, and she converted up to 400 persons. Eventually, the brothers were arrested and put to death for refusing to worship pagan gods. Cecilia buried them, and she, too, was soon arrested and was to die for her faith. The official ordered her death by suffocating heat in her own bathhouse. That attempt failed. Then the official ordered the executioner to decapitate her. The executioner struck Cecilia's neck three times, but he could not completely sever her head. He left her on the floor, bleeding profusely. She lived like that for three days before she died. Cecilia was declared a saint by the early Christians because of her martyrdom. Cecilia is the patron saint of musicians.

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