MORNING MEDITATION

Thursday, Thirty-third Week in Ordinary Time

Inner peace is the key: if you have inner peace, the external problems do not affect your deep sense of peace and tranquility.

(Dalai Lama)

Revelation 5:1-10

John had a vision of God with a scroll, written on both sides, in his hand. No one was found worthy to open the scroll. Finally, the Lamb of God, that was sacrificed, was found worthy to open the scroll, which contained the mysteries of the kingdom.

What a beautiful vision! God has a book (a scroll) that contains the mysteries of his plan and purpose for the universe, and that plan and purpose will be worked out in time, in God's time.

Psalm 149

Sing to the Lord a new song
of praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let Israel be glad in their maker,
let the children of Zion rejoice in their king

Luke 19:41-44

Jesus weeps over Jerusalem! He had an idea of what would happen to that city! He read the signs of the times!

Reflect on how Jesus expressed his own feelings and what that means for you!

If you only had known the path to peace, Jesus exclaimed!

Share this urgent longing of Jesus for "peace" and pray for peace.

The Jews were embarking on political maneuvers that ended in the destruction of Jerusalem in the year 70. The tragedy was that if they had only abandoned their dreams of political power and taken the way of Christ, it would not have happened.

Reflect on what this means for us today in the context of what is happening in our world. Pray about it.

Saint of the Day, November 19 - St. Nerses the Great and 165 other saints are remembered this day.

St. Nerses was a native of Armenia. He studied in Cappadocia and married a princess who gave birth to St. Isaac the great. After his wife died, he served as a chamberlain in the court of King Arshak of Armenia. In 353 he was made Catholicos of the Armenians. Nerses devoted much effort to reforming the Armenian Church, including convening a synod in 365 based on the principles he had studied under St. Basil at Caesarea. Though he established hospitals and monasteries, his reforms and denunciation of King Arshak's murder of the queen led to his exile. He returned after Arshak's death in battle, but relations were not much better with the new Armenian ruler, Pap, whose dissolute lifestyle caused Nerses to refuse him admission into church. Nerses was invited to a royal banquet at Khakh, on the Euphrates River, and was assassinated by poison.

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