

MORNING MEDITATION

The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Peace, silence, stillness and serenity are good for the heart.

2 Timothy 4:1-8

Paul encouraged Timothy to preach the good news at all times....correcting, reproofing, appealing....to stick to this task...constantly teaching and never losing patience, whether convenient or inconvenient....be faithful to fulfilling the mission. Paul says that he has fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith and is waiting for the reward...

Be faithful to the mission God has given you when convenient and inconvenient!

Psalm 71

**I give you thanks with music on the lyre,
For your faithfulness, O my God!
I will sing your praises with the harp,
O Holy One of Israel!**

Luke 2:41-52

This excerpt from Luke's Gospel is about the parents of Jesus finding him in the temple after a search for three days. Joseph and Mary anxiously searched for their lost son, found him in the temple, took him to the safety of their home where he grew in wisdom and knowledge and age. It is in the safety of an ordinary home, in a safe and loving environment that children have an opportunity to grow up to be mature, free, joyful, faith-filled, virtuous and wise men and women.

Be Safe. And be a safe person to be with. May your home be safe. Make your home a safe place, a sanctuary for yourself, for your spouse, for your children, for your parents, for your neighbors. Be safe! And look out for each other's safety!

Be grateful.... grateful for your family, however imperfect or broken it may be, be grateful. Be grateful for your spouse, for your children, for your parents.....just be grateful!

Saint of the day, June 13 – St. Anthony of Padua and 10 other saints are remembered this day

St. Anthony of Padua was born on August 15, 1195 into a wealthy family in Lisbon, Portugal. He joined the Augustinian canons in 1210 and probably became a priest. In 1220 he joined the Franciscan order, hoping to preach to the Saracens (Muslims) and be martyred. On his way to Morocco, he became seriously ill and was forced to return home. However, his ship back to Portugal was blown off course and eventually landed in Sicily. Because of his continuing poor health, he was not allowed to pursue his missionary work among the Saracens. Instead, he taught theology at Bologna, Italy, and at Montpellier, Toulouse, and Puy-en-Velay in southern France, winning great admiration as a preacher.

Recognized as a great man of prayer and a great Scripture and theology scholar, Anthony became the first friar to teach theology to the other friars. After he led the friars in northern Italy for three years, he made his headquarters in the city of Padua. He resumed his preaching and began writing sermon notes to help other preachers. In the spring of 1231 Anthony withdrew to a friary at Camposampiero where he had a sort of treehouse built as a hermitage. There he prayed and prepared for death.

On June 13, he became very ill and asked to be taken back to Padua. He died on June 13, 1231 en route to Padua, Italy and was canonized on May 30, 1232 by Pope Gregory IX. On January 16, 1946, Pope Pius XII declared him a doctor of the church.

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