

MORNING MEDITATION

Monday, Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Live your life believing that God is abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Tobit 1:1-3; 2:1-9

The story of Tobit takes place during exile in Babylon. Tobit and his family remain faithful to God in unfriendly surroundings and show outstanding courage and brotherly love in the face of unfair criticisms.

Psalm 112

**Happy the man who fears the Lord,
who greatly delights in his commands.
His posterity shall be mighty upon the earth;
the upright generation shall be blessed.**

Mark 12:1-12

In this excerpt, we have the parable of the tenant farmers. This parable teaches us many things. Take a moment...prayerfully reflect on the following thoughts:

- We are trusted stewards of God's gifts. Be responsible! Be trustworthy!
- We are trusted to cultivate the gifts that God has given to us. How have you been cultivating the gifts that God has given to you?
- God has been gracious to us and so gifted us with all necessities. Be grateful! Be gracious! Share your gifts with others.
- Abuse of God's gifts brings disaster. Respect your gifts and the gifts of others! Use your gifts wisely and appreciate the gifts of others!

Saint of the day, June 5 - St. Boniface and 37 other saints are remembered this day.

St. Boniface was born in the year 675 in Crediton, Devon, England during very difficult

circumstances. People were afraid of leaving their homes because of the vandals, warrior tribes raiding their villages. Boniface became a Benedictine monk and later a priest. He felt called to preach the Gospel to the vandals. In 719 Pope Gregory sent Boniface to Germany as a missionary and later to Holland to work with the vandals who had settled there.

Many of the Christian converts had returned to paganism, and for those who still called themselves Christian, their beliefs were not in line with all teachings of the Church. The priests themselves were lax or improperly trained. Boniface reported his findings to Pope Gregory, and Pope Gregory instructed him to reform the German Church. In 722, Boniface became Bishop. Over time, Boniface restored the obedience of the clergy to their bishops in union with the pope of Rome. He destroyed idols and pagan temples and built churches on those sites.

Many Benedictine monks and nuns followed him. He set up many prayer houses, seminaries and churches. On June 5, 754, as he was preaching the Gospel in Frisia, Boniface and several other companions were murdered by a group of local inhabitants.

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