

MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday, Twenty Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Serenity is the calm that comes from knowing you are enough.

I Corinthians 15:33-37, 42-49

In this excerpt, Paul tries to respond to the question about the nature of the resurrected body. He uses the analogy of the seed. When the seed dies the seed is dissolved and when it rises to new life and new beginnings, there is a difference in the new body and yet it is the same seed in spite of dissolution and difference. In the same way, the earthly body dies and is dissolved. When it rises, it has a different form, but it is the same person. Dissolved in death, transformed by resurrection, we still live.

Psalms 56

**Now I know that God is with me.
In God, in whose promise I glory,
In God I trust without fear;
What can flesh do against me?**

Luke 8:4-15

Jesus told his listeners the parable of the farmer going out to sow seeds. The seeds, which fell on various kinds of unproductive soil, failed to yield and the seeds, which fell on good soil, yielded abundance. The farmer keeps sowing knowing well that some of the seeds may fall on the wayside or among thorns or on rocky ground and may become unproductive. But he knows that some will fall on good soil and will yield. The farmer also knows that if he wants a good harvest, he has to prepare the soil, he has to choose good seeds, he has to sow and allow the seeds to sprout. He knows that if he wants a harvest, he has to sow even if some seeds may not meet his expectations.

The preacher must keep preaching, the teacher must keep teaching, the parent must keep loving, caring, educating and forming the character of children...knowing well that all that is taught may not be learned, all the love may not be fruitful, all children may not learn, all efforts may not be successful.....

Be faithful to your calling! All you do may not be successful in your eyes. Real success lies in your fidelity to who you are and what you have come to know as your calling. Just be faithful!

Saint of the Day, September 19 - St. Januarius and 12 other saints are remembered this day

Little is known about the life of St. Januarius. He was born in Italy and was bishop of Benevento during the Diocletian persecution, around the year 305. Bishop Januarius went to visit two deacons and two laymen in prison. He was then also imprisoned along with his deacon and lector. Legend has it that Januarius and his companions were thrown to the bears in the amphitheater of Pozzuoli, but the animals failed to attack them. They were then beheaded. What is believed to be Januarius' blood is kept in Naples, as a relic. It liquifies and bubbles when exposed in the cathedral. Scientists have not been able to explain this miracle to date.

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs