

MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday, Seventh Week of Easter

Rule your mind with serenity rather than with force and manipulation.

(Lao Tzu)

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31

Paul was brought to Rome and kept under house arrest. He continued to proclaim the good news of Jesus to many during this period of imprisonment. He said, "I wear these chains solely because I share the hope of Israel".

Psalm 11

**The Lord is in his holy temple;
The Lord's throne is in heaven.
His eyes behold, His searching glance is on mankind.**

John 21:20-25

Jesus had warned Peter about the kind of life that he would have to live and the kind of sacrifice he would have to make and the eventual surrender of his will to God's will. Then he said to Peter, "Follow me".

At this point Peter asked Jesus about John. Jesus, said to Peter that he had his call and he had to respond to that call and he didn't have to worry about the call and response of John.....it is another way of saying, "you have your mission.....you don't have to compare yourself with others....."

Why worry about what another may or may not do..... You have your mission.

Carry on your mission, if you really love...Your love must transcend comparison, competition and control...reach out in service.....go beyond the call of duty.....walk the extra mile.....

**Each one has his/her gift.....you have yours.
Each one has his/her call.....you have yours.
Each one has his/her place.....you have yours.
Each one has his/her mission.....you have yours
Each one has his/her prayer.....you have yours.**

Saint of the day, May 23 - St. John Baptist de Rossi and 25 other saints are remembered this day.

John Baptist de Rossi was born into a poor family on February 22, 1698, in Genoa. When his father died, he lived with his cousin, Lorenzo de Rossi, who was the canon at St. Mary's in Cosmedin. He began his studies at the Collegium Romanum under the guidance of the Jesuits. He then studied philosophy and theology at the Dominican College of St. Thomas. During this time, it was discovered that he had epileptic seizures.

John wanted to become a priest, but his epilepsy was an impediment for becoming a priest. However, John was given a dispensation and was ordained a priest on March 8, 1721.

As a priest, he worked in Rome, caring for the homeless who wandered the streets of the city. He tended to the needs of the sick and assisted in helping find a hospice for homeless women. He aided prisoners, helped workers, and literally touched thousands of needy people—the sick, the homeless, prostitutes, transient cattle drivers who came to market in Rome, and other rough sorts. By day he devoted himself to the sick poor in Rome's hospitals. By night he ministered to street people at a refuge. He did this for over forty years.

From around 1748, his health began to deteriorate, and his epileptic seizures became more violent and he was confined to the sick bed. He died on May 23, 1764 and was canonized on December 8, 1881 by Pope Leo XIII

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs