

MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday, Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

Forbearance is a powerful virtue and a transforming gift.

James 5:13-20

James encourages his readers to pray when suffering and hardships set in. He also advises them to call in God's ministers to pray for them. He says, "the fervent prayer of a holy man is powerful"....trust in his prayer.

James also advises his readers to be sensitive and attentive to those who stray from the truth and do all that is possible to bring them back to truth. This is a ministry that is worthy of honor and praise.

Psalm 141

**LORD, I call to you; hasten to me;
listen to my plea when I call.
Let my prayer be incense before you;
my uplifted hands an evening offering.**

Mark 10:13-16

The disciples of Jesus tried to keep the children away from their master. Their master was busy and they did not want him disturbed by noisy children. Jesus said to them, let the children come to me.....the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.....Jesus calls, invites and challenges us to welcome the Kingdom as a child would. Children are blessed with certain gifts which they naturally and spontaneously share.

Reflect on some of those gifts such as qualities of welcoming , giving and receiving, joyfulness, remembering the joyful and forgetting the sorrowful, trusting people, capacity to obey, freedom to be, non-pretentious attitude, etc.

Welcome the Kingdom as a child would, feely, joyfully, gratefully.....To welcome the Kingdom is to welcome the values of the kingdom and be cautious of the values of the world. We are a kingdom people, royal people, and God's people. Royal people must live noble lives.

Discover and develop childlike qualities.....

Saint of the day, May 25 – St. Bede the Venerable and 23 other saints are remembered this day.

Bede was born in the year 673 near the English town of Jarrow. At an early age, his parents entrusted him to the care of the abbot of the Monastery of St. Paul, Jarrow. The abbot and a group of other monks instructed Bede not only in scripture and theology, but also in sacred music, poetry and the Greek language.

Recognizing his remarkable devotion to prayer and study, Bede was ordained a deacon at the age of 19 and ordained a priest at the age of 30. After becoming a priest, he began working on farming, baking, and other works of the monastery, besides celebration Mass. He gave priority to prayer, fasting and charitable hospitality. He showed excellence in a wide range of subjects.

Bede declined a request to become abbot of his monastery. Instead, he concentrated on writing, and produced more than 45 books – primarily about theology and the Bible, but also on science, literature, and history. He also taught hundreds of students at the monastery and its school, which became renowned throughout Britain.

Bede died in Jarrow on May 26, 735 praying his favorite prayer, “Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As in the beginning, so now, and forever” shortly after finishing an Anglo-Saxon translation of the Gospel of John. Pope Leo XIII canonized and declared him a Doctor of the Church in 1899.

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