

MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday, Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time

**Patience is one of the little virtues
that nurtures the virtue of forbearance.**

Jeremiah 7:1-11

Jeremiah had another experience of God where God directed him to call his people to reform their ways. This was the message Jeremiah was directed to deliver: “This is the temple of the Lord.....only if you would reform your ways and your deeds...deal justly with neighbor....no longer oppress resident alien, the orphan and the widow, no longer shed innocent blood of follow strange gods....then, I will remain in this place...”

Psalms 84

**My soul yearns and pines
for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my flesh
cry out for the living God**

Matthew 13:24-30

Jesus told his listeners a parable about a man sowing good seed in his field. While he slept, an enemy sowed dandelion or tares in the middle of his field. Both the good and the bad seeds sprouted and the servants came forward to gather up the tares. But the man asked them to let them grow together to maturity for fear of destroying the good seed in the process of removing the bad. At harvest time, the good and the bad will be separated by those who know how to sort them out.

This parable teaches us many things: there are negative forces in the field and so be cautious; it is often difficult to distinguish between good and bad and so turn to those who have knowledge and wisdom for direction; don't be too quick to draw conclusions or make judgments; only God can and will make the final judgment...

Pray for wisdom and prayerfully discern your choices. Trust in God and leave judgments in his hands.

Saint of the day, July 27 - Saint Pantaleon and 18 other saints are remembered this day.

Pantaleon was born around the year 275. He was the son of a rich pagan, Eustorgius of Nicomedia, and had been instructed in Christianity by his Christian mother, Saint Eubula. After the death of his mother, Pantaleon left the church, studied medicine, and became physician to the emperor. Saint Hermolaus convinced him that Christ was the better physician, that faith was to be trusted over medical advice and Pantaleon returned to his faith in the Church.

By miraculously healing a blind man by invoking the name of Jesus over him, Pantaleon converted his father, upon whose death he came into possession of a large fortune. He freed his slaves and, distributing his wealth among the poor, developed a great reputation in Nicomedia. Envious colleagues denounced him to the emperor during the Diocletian persecution. The emperor wished to save him and sought to persuade him to apostasy. Pantaleon, however, openly confessed his faith, and as proof that Christ was the true God, he healed a paralytic. Notwithstanding this, he was condemned to death by the emperor, who regarded the miracle as an exhibition of magic. He was martyred in the year 305.

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