

MORNING MEDITATION

Wednesday, Twenty Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

Simplicity in essence is purity, sincerity, genuineness, authenticity, and integrity.

Job 9:1-12, 14-16

Job says to his taunting friends that God is wise in heart and mighty in strength and that he must beg God for what is due to him.

Be humble before God and seek His wisdom.

Psalm 88

**Daily I call upon on your Lord;
To you I stretch out my hands,
Will you work wonders for the dead?
Will the shades arise to give you thanks?**

Luke 9:57-62

This excerpt tells us about the response Jesus made to those who wished to follow him. It also tells about how he challenged them to remain resolute and faithful to their mission and surrender themselves in service. Someone in the crowd expressed his desire to follow Jesus and he was asked to count the cost. Jesus called others to follow him and they had various excuses and he challenged them to seize the opportunity to be involved in the kingdom.

Count the cost before you make choices and decisions. Don't get carried away with feelings and ideas of the moment..... Learn to prayerfully discern choices.

Seize the opportunity when it comes. There is tragedy in "unseized" moments. May God give us strength to make choices and decisions that will save us from the tragedy of "unseized" moments.

When you have come to know the urgency of getting out of a situation or into a situation, choose to do so now. Do not wait for tomorrow. Now is the moment of Grace...Now is the kingdom.

Make a clean break from all the binding forces for discipleship. Stay focused on the Lord and His purpose for you..... do not look back or get side-tracked..... stay focused... no turning back.

Saint of the day, September 28 - St. Wenceslaus and 31 other saints are remembered this day

Wenceslaus was born around 911 near Prague in Bohemia. He was the son of Vratislaus I, the Duke of Bohemia. His grandfather, Bořivoj I of Bohemia, was converted to Christianity by Saints Cyril and Methodius. His mother, Drahomíra, was the daughter of a pagan tribal chief of the Havelli, but was baptized at the time of her marriage.

In 921, when Wenceslas was about thirteen, his father died and his grandmother became regent. Jealous of the influence that Ludmila wielded over Wenceslas, Drahomíra arranged to have her killed. Ludmila was at Tetín Castle near Beroun when assassins murdered her on September 15, 921. She is said to have been strangled by them with her veil. She was at first buried in the church of St. Michael at Tetín, but her remains were later removed, probably by Wenceslas, to the church of St. George in Prague, which had been built by his father.

Drahomíra then assumed the role of regent and immediately initiated measures against the Christians. When Wenceslas was 18, those Christian nobles who remained rebelled against Drahomira. The uprising was successful, and Drahomira was sent into exile and Wenceslaus assumed leadership of the government.

His rule was marked by efforts toward unification within Bohemia, support of the Church, and peace-making negotiations with Germany, a policy which caused him trouble with the anti-Christian opposition. His brother Boleslav joined in the plotting, and in September of 929 invited Wenceslaus to Alt Bunzlou for the celebration of the feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian. On the way to Mass, Boleslav attacked his brother, and in the struggle, Wenceslaus was killed by supporters of Boleslav. Although his death resulted primarily from political upheaval, Wenceslaus was hailed as a martyr for the faith, and his tomb became a pilgrimage shrine. He is hailed as the patron of the Bohemian people and of the former Czechoslovakia.

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