

# MORNING MEDITATION

Thursday, Third Week of Easter

**Serenity is the quiet confidence that comes from within.**

## **Acts 8:26-40**

Philip, on his journey to Gaza, in a mysterious way, met a young man who was anxious to hear the Gospel. He explained to the young man the prophesy about the suffering servant, shared with him the good news of Jesus and baptized him at his request. **Share the good news with others on your journey. All our journeys give us opportunities to witness to the good news of Jesus.**

## **Psalm 66**

**Bless our God, you peoples, loudly sound his praise.  
He has given life to our souls and has not let our feet slip.**

## **John 6:44-51**

The Jews judged things by human values and external standards. They didn't see any more in Jesus than "a carpenter's son" from Nazareth. How could a carpenter's son have a message from God? God's messengers don't fit the human standards and expectations!

**Would one reject a gift because the wrappings don't fit the standard? God's message comes to us through the most unexpected and surprising people, events, situations, and ways.**

The Jews didn't listen. Their minds were closed. They heard with resentment, anger, superiority, indifference.... not with openness to learn. So, they didn't learn and they didn't hear God. **The only listening, that is worthwhile, is that which hears and learns.**

Jesus began to speak about eating his body and drinking his blood. And this eating and drinking gives life that will last - eternal life. To "eat and to drink" is to take in. So long as Jesus remains a historical figure or a figure in a holy book, he is external to us. But when he enters our life (our hearts, minds), we can feed upon the life and the power and the strength and the vitality and the spirit that He gives to us. Another way of saying it would be: "stop thinking of Jesus as a subject for theological debate....just take him into your life.....then you will have real life.....you will begin your journey into the eternal.

**Revitalize your life with the life of Jesus until you are filled with the life of God!**

**Saint of the Day, April 23 - St. George and 9 other saints are remembered this day.**

Very little is known about St. George's life. He was probably a high-ranking officer in the Roman army. Tradition speaks of Emperor Diocletian torturing St. George to make him deny his faith in Christ. However, despite some of the most terrible tortures even for that time, St. George showed incredible courage and faith and was finally beheaded near Lydda in Palestine. His head was later taken to Rome where it was interred in the church dedicated to him. His death may have been on April 23, 303 A.D.

Stories of his strength and courage soon spread throughout Europe. The best-known story about St. George is his fight with a dragon, but it is highly unlikely that he ever fought a dragon, and even more unlikely that he ever visited England, however his name was known there as early as the eighth-century.

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs