

MORNING MEDITATION

Tuesday, Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time

**Surrendering your personal need to control
and trusting divine providence brings you peace and serenity.**

Ephesians 5:21-32

This is one of the often misunderstood and misinterpreted excerpts from the letter to the Ephesians. The exhortation in this excerpt seems to contradict common understanding about women and their role in family and society. I know many who take offense at the ideas expressed in this excerpt. However, I believe we will have better insights into the meaning and value of the letter, if we see verse 21 as the basis of the whole chapter. Verse 21 says, "Defer to one another out of reverence for Christ."

To defer means to submit or yield out of respect/reverence. We are called to yield to one another in service out of reverence for Christ. We are the body of Christ and every member in the Body is special and important in the Body. One member is not more important or significant than the other. In a body each member submits to other members out of respect. Members are at the service of one another.

Psalms 128

**Blessed are you who fear the Lord,
Who walk in his ways!
For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork;
Blessed shall you be and favored.**

Luke 13:18-21

Jesus speaks about a tiny mustard seed which when planted sprouts and grows into a shrub, yields more seeds and becomes a shelter for the birds of the air...He says, the Kingdom of God grows in similar ways...Great things happen from small beginnings.

Let your life grow and become fruitful...it has the power within it to become fruitful! Give your life a chance, tenderly care for it, nurture it...let the Lord make it fruitful in his time!

Let the birds of the air find shelter, a home...be approachable, be available, be hospitable, be welcoming and non-threatening...let people find you safe to be with...

Jesus also speaks about a little yeast in the flour which has the power to change, transform

the whole dough and give it a chance to be bread for others...

Be open to change and be transformed by the Grace poured into the heart by the Holy Spirit.....Trust in the power of God's grace to transform you....

Saint of the Day, October 27 - St. Emiliana Boulancourt and 15 other saints are remembered this day

Emiliana was born around the year 1115. She lived as a solitary lay sister in the Cistercian Abbey of Boulancourt, located in the commune of Longeville, in Haute-Marne, Northeast France. She led a life of great penitence: fasting from food and liquids three days a week, wearing a hair shirt and a pointed iron chain, and going barefoot both in winter and in summer. she also led a wondrous life of prayer, constantly communing with God and frequently reciting the Psalms.

The fame of her sanctity spread quickly, and people came to consult her from all around, especially when they heard of her gift of prophecy. The saint received them with patience and humility, counseling them wisely and bringing about the conversion of many. Finally, worn out by her life-long labors and penances, the saintly woman died in 1178. Such was her renown that an eternal light was placed at her grave.

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