

MORNING MEDITATION

Friday, Twenty Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

**Serenity comes from a stable home, safe environment,
opportunities for fulfillment and meaning for life.**

Galatians 3:7-14

Paul taught the Galatians to trust in God and to rely on their faith rather than the law. He says, "no one is justified in God's sight by the law..... the just man shall live by faith". Christ has delivered us from the power of the law and brought us into the power and freedom of the spirit.

Psalm 111

**I will give thanks to you O Lord, with all my heart;
in the company and assembly of the just.
Great are the works of the Lord,
exquisite in all their delight.**

Luke 11:15-26

Jesus was accused of being in league with the devil. Today's excerpt from Luke is the response of Jesus to this accusation. Slander and derogatory statements are very cruel arrows hurled against others. They often tend to stick. This is what they did to Jesus.

**This is a call to be complimentary rather than derogatory in our ways. Think well of others.
Speak well of others. Give others the benefit of the doubt.**

Sufferers were healed and health had come where disease had been. This was a sign that the kingdom of God had arrived. **Reflect on bringing healing and wholeness to others.**

Jesus says: the man who is not with me is against me and the man who does not gather with me scatters. **This is a call to take a stand. One is either on the way or in the way!**

Jesus says again: it is not enough to remove evil from the heart (soul). You must fill it with the spirit.

Be filled with goodness and truth and justice and love and all God's gifts! The best way to avoid evil is to do good.

Saint of the Day, October 9 - Saint Denis and Companions and 26 other saints are remembered this day.

We do not have accurate information about St. Denis and companions (Rusticus and Eleutherius). The first mention we have of these saints comes in the sixth century writings of Saint Gregory of Tours. They were martyred around 258 C.E. Denis (or Dionysius as he is also called) is the most famous of the three. Born and raised in Italy, he was sent as a missionary to Gaul (now France) around 250 C.E. by Pope St. Clement along with five other bishops.

Denis is known as the first bishop of Paris and the Apostle of France. There he was captured by the Parisians along with Rusticus and Eleutherius about whom we have no further information. After a long imprisonment, the three were beheaded with a sword and their bodies were thrown into the river. Denis' body was retrieved from the Seine by his converts and buried.

In the ninth century, Denis' story and identity became fused and confused with Dionysius the Areopagite and Pseudo-Dionysius, but later scholarship has re-established his identity as a separate saint.

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