

Sunday, February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prayer for the Morning

Christ reveals God's wisdom: let us give him thanks and praise!

Glory to the Father... Amen. Alleluia!

Hymn **Meter: 88 88 88**

Give me, O Lord, the grace to see,
And wisdom to acknowledge thee,
My being's Source and sovereign Lord,
My greatest Good, my life's Reward,
My truest wealth and treasure here,
Than dearest earthly friend more dear.
Give me the grace to see my life
A gift most precious in thy sight,
A gift to be preserved for thee
In beauty of integrity,
A gift unspoiled by evil's blight,
Adorned with virtue's shining light.
And give me, Lord, the grace to see
The happiness of serving thee
In holiness of life and heart,
Where sin or evil play no part;
And grant that none shall ever be
Less true or good because of me.

Psalm **95**

It is not those who hear the law who are just in the sight of God; rather, those who observe the law will be justified.
(Rom 2:13)

Wisdom comes from the Lord and from obeying his holy word. But following the letter of God's law is insufficient. Our hearts must be united to his Sacred Heart; we must love and trust in him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord
and shout with joy to the Rock who saves us.
Let us approach him with praise and thanksgiving
and sing joyful songs to the Lord.
The Lord is God, the mighty God,
the great king over all the gods.
He holds in his hands the depths of the earth
and the highest mountains as well.
He made the sea; it belongs to him,
the dry land, too, for it was formed by his hands.
Come, then, let us bow down and worship,
bending the knee before the Lord, our maker.
For he is our God and we are his people,
the flock he shepherds.
Today, listen to the voice of the Lord:
Do not grow stubborn, as your fathers did

in the wilderness,
when at Meribah and Massah
they challenged me and provoked me,
although they had seen all of my works.
Forty years I endured that generation.
I said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray
and they do not know my ways."
So I swore in my anger,
"They shall not enter into my rest."

Glory to the Father...

Word of God **James 4:11-12**

Do not speak evil of one another, brothers. Whoever speaks evil of a brother or judges his brother speaks evil of the law and judges the law. If you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save or to destroy. Who then are you to judge your neighbor?

Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

(Rom 13:8)

Canticle of Zechariah

Unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter into the kingdom of heaven.
(Mt 5:20)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David. Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father...

Intercessions

God's people are guided by his law, both as written in his word and as written on our hearts. With joyful trust we ask:

R/Wisdom of God, fill us!

For civil authorities, – that they would make wise decisions based not only on the laws in force but also on the common good: **R/**

For scientists and medical researchers, – that their work would lead them closer to God, not further from him: **R/**

For those undertaking an academic study of theology, – that, unlike the scribes and Pharisees in today's Gospel, their hearts might be open to the love of God: **R/** **Personal intentions**

Our Father....

All-knowing Father, who have given us wisdom through your law of love, grant that we might always strive after this loving wisdom, and so to draw nearer to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sunday, February 5, 2023
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading 1 **Sirach 15:15-20**

If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you;/ if you trust in God, you too shall live;/ he has set before you fire and water;/ to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand./ Before man are life and death, good and evil,/ whichever he chooses shall be given him./ Immense is the wisdom of the Lord;/ he is mighty in power, and all-seeing./ The eyes of God are on those who fear him;/ he understands man's every deed./ No one does he command to act unjustly,/ to none does he give license to sin.

Reading 2 **1 Corinthians 2:6-10**

Brothers and sisters: We speak a wisdom to those who are mature, not a wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age who are passing away. Rather, we speak God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory, and which none of the rulers of this age knew; for, if they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard,/ and what has not entered the human heart,/ what God has prepared for those who love him,/ this God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel **Matthew 5: 17-37**

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called

greatest in the kingdom of heaven. I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

"You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment. But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; [and whoever says to his brother, Raqa, will be answerable to the Sanhedrin; and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna. Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court.

Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge, and the judge will hand you over to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Amen, I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.]

"You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body go into Gehenna.

"It was also said, Whoever divorces his wife must give her a bill of divorce. But I say to you, whoever divorces his wife—unless the marriage is unlawful—causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all; not by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is his footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Do not swear by your head, for you cannot make a single hair white or black. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one."

Men of St. Joseph Prayer

St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God's commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God's will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family's salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, terror of demons, pray for us!

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