

**Sunday, August 18, 2024**  
**Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**Prayer for the Morning**

*Come, let us worship God in wisdom and in peace!*

**Glory to the Father...Amen. Alleluia**

**Hymn**

**Meter: LM**

All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.  
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell;  
Come ye before him and rejoice.  
The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;  
Without our aid he did us make;  
We are his folk, he doth us feed,  
And for his sheep he doth us take.  
O enter then his gates with praise;  
Approach with joy his courts unto;  
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
For it is seemly so to do.  
For why? the Lord our God is good;  
His mercy is for ever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.

**Psalm**

**122**

*Let whoever is simple turn in here;/ to him who lacks understanding, I say,/ Come, eat of my food,/ and drink of the wine I have mixed!* (Pro 9:4-5)

*The house of Wisdom is the house of God. On this day of worship, let us rejoice in the invitation to go to God's house to be fed, refreshed, and strengthened at the banquet of the Lamb in company with one another. By this food, we live.*

I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
"Let us go to God's house."  
And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.  
Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.  
It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.  
For Israel's law it is,  
there to praise the Lord's name.  
There were set the thrones of judgment  
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:  
"Peace be to your homes!  
May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peace!"  
For love of my brethren and friends  
I say: "Peace upon you!"  
For love of the house of the Lord  
I will ask for your good.

Glory to the Father...

**Word of God**

**Proverbs 8:1-4**

Does not Wisdom call,/ and Understanding raise her voice?/  
On the top of the heights along the road,/ at the crossroads she takes her stand;/  
By the gates at the approaches of the city,/ in the entryways she cries aloud:/  
"To you, O men, I call;/ my appeal is to the children of men."

Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord. (Eph 5:17)

**Canticle of Zechariah**

*Mine are counsel and advice;/ mine is strength; I am understanding.* (Pro 8:14)

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

With longing, we pray:

**R/** May peace reign among us!

You nourish us in wisdom and in truth: let us see the truth of your love for all peoples. **R/**

You strengthen us in understanding through your Word: let us grow in understanding for one another. **R/**

You call us to the feast of the Lamb: let us grow in willingness to share all your gifts with one another as you share the Bread of your own life with us. **R/**

### **Personal intentions**

**Our Father...**

*O God of all the living, you call us daily to the banquet of life. Open our hearts to the gift of your wisdom, Jesus Christ, that we may live according to your will and feast for ever at your table in heaven. 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*

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**Reading 1** **Proverbs 9:1-6.**

Wisdom has built her house,/ she has set up her seven columns;/ she has dressed her meat, mixed her wine,/ yes, she has spread her table./ She has sent out her maidens; she calls/ from the heights out over the city:/ “Let whoever is simple turn in here;”/ to the one who lacks understanding, she says,/ “Come, eat of my food,/ and drink of the wine I have mixed!/ Forsake foolishness that you may live;/ advance in the way of understanding.”

**Reading 2** **Ephesians 5:15-20**

Brothers and sisters: Watch carefully how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity, because the days are evil.

Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord. And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.

**Gospel** **John 6: 51-58**

Jesus said to the crowds: “I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.”

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever.”

### **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!

*Prayer for the Morning text used with permission of Magnificat.*