

Sunday, August 2, 2026
Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Prayer for the Morning

The Lord is always with us. Let us praise him with joy!

Glory to the Father... Alleluia

Hymn

Meter: 77 77

Father, who didst fashion me
Image of thyself to be,
Fill me with thy love divine,
Let my every thought be thine.
Holy Jesus, may I be
Dead and buried here with thee;
And, by love inflamed, arise
Unto thee a sacrifice.
Thou, who dost all gifts impart,
Shine, sweet Spirit, in my heart;
Best of gifts thyself bestow;
Make me burn thy love to know.
God, the blessed Three in One,
Dwell within my heart alone;
Thou dost give thyself to me;
May I give myself to thee.

Psalm

23

Do not be conquered by evil but conquer evil with good. (Rom 12:21)

By the grace of baptism we are bound to the Holy Trinity in a very special way. May we be conscious of this great grace and seek to grow ever closer in this union of love. Thus we will live always under the protection of the love of Christ, from which no adversity can separate us..

**The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.
He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.
You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

Glory to the Father...

Word of God

Jeremiah 32:37b-41

I will [...] settle them here in safety. They shall be my people, and I will be their God. One heart and one way I will give them, that they may fear me always, to their own good and that of their children after them. I will make with them an eternal covenant, never to cease doing good to them; into their hearts I will put the fear of me, that they may never depart from me. I will take delight in doing good to them: I will replant them firmly in this land, with all my heart and soul.

They ascended Mount Zion in joy and gladness and offered holocausts, because not one of them had fallen; they had returned in safety.

(1 Mc 5:54)

Canticle of Zechariah

The name of the Lord is a strong tower;/ the just man runs to it and is safe. (Pro 18:10)

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

We want to be in the loving embrace of God at all times. We pray:

R/ Keep us safe, O Lord!

When we have trouble seeing the right way, – lead us in the right path. **R/**

When we are frightened, – comfort us. **R/**

When we need to take risks, – give us courage.

R/

Personal intentions

Our Father....

God our Father, you are closer to us than we can even imagine. Enlighten our hearts and hold us close in your embrace. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Reading 1

Isaiah 55:1-3

Thus says the LORD: All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk! Why spend your money for what is not bread; your wages for what fails to satisfy? Heed me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare. Come to me heedfully, listen, that you may have life. I will renew with you the everlasting covenant, the benefits assured to David.

Reading 2

Romans 8:35, 37-39

Brothers and sisters: What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 14:13-21

When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. The crowds heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns. When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, "This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves."

But they said to him, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me," and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over—twelve wicker baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children.

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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