

**SUNDAY, February 20, 2022**  
**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Prayer for the Morning**

*The Lord has created us to know and love him. With joy, let us praise him!*

**Glory to the Father ... Alleluia!**

**Hymn** **Meter: 14 14 4 7 8**

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!**

**O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!**

**All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; Praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,**

**Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!**

**Hast thou not seen how thy desires have been Granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who hath fearfully, wondrously, made thee;**

**Health hath vouchsafed and, when heedlessly falling, hath stayed thee.**

**What need or grief ever hath failed of relief? Wings of his mercy did shade thee.**

**Canticle** **Sirach 50:22-24**

*What is man, of what worth is he?/ the good, the evil in him, what are these? (Sir 18:6)*

*God the Father has created us for sanctification. One of the major themes of Vatican II was the universal call to holiness. We are called to follow Christ and in imitating him to recover the image and likeness of God. It is an awesome concept. As we grow in virtue and love we grow in similarity to God in his attributes.*

**And now, bless the God of all,  
who has done wondrous things on earth;  
Who fosters men's growth from their mother's  
womb, and fashions them according to his will!  
May he grant you joy of heart  
and may peace abide among you;  
May his goodness toward us endure in Israel  
as long as the heavens are above.**

**Glory to the Father...**

**Word of God** **John 6:37-40**

Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it [on] the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him [on] the last day.

In the image of God/ has man been made.

(Gn 9:6)

**Canticle of Zechariah**

*He created them male and female. (Gn 5:2)*

**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**

**Let us thank God for creating us and for the honor he has given us as his children. We pray for our sanctification and say:**

**R/Lord, make us holy.**

**You sent Jesus your son as an exemplar and savior - give us the grace to grow in Christlikeness. R/**

You have given us the example of the saints throughout the ages – support us as we strive to imitate them. **R/**

You give us the Eucharist, that we may enter into the mystery of your love – let us use the graces of all the sacraments to grow in likeness to you.: **R/**

Personal intentions

**Our Father....**

*O God of creation, we praise you, so wonderfully you made us and wonderful are your works! Lead us in the ways of holiness that we may fulfill your plan of sanctification and live for ever with you in joy. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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**Reading 1**      **1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23**

In those days, Saul went down to the desert of Ziph with three thousand picked men of Israel, to search for David in the desert of Ziph. So David and Abishai went among Saul's soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade, with his spear thrust into the ground at his head and Abner and his men sleeping around him.

Abishai whispered to David: "God has delivered your enemy into your grasp this day. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need a second thrust!" But David said to Abishai, "Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the Lord's anointed and remain unpunished?" So David took the spear and the water jug from their place at Saul's head, and they got away without anyone's seeing or knowing or awakening. All remained asleep, because the Lord had put them into a deep slumber.

Going across to an opposite slope, David stood on a remote hilltop at a great distance from Abner, son of Ner, and the troops.

He said: "Here is the king's spear. Let an attendant come over to get it. The Lord will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness. Today, though the Lord delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the Lord's anointed."

**Reading 2**      **1 Corinthians 15:45-49**

Brothers and sisters: It is written, The first man, Adam, became a living being, the last Adam a life-giving spirit. But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual. The first man was

from the earth, earthly; the second man, from heaven. As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one

**Gospel**      **Luke 6:27-38**

Jesus said to his disciples: "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

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**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*