

Sunday, October 4, 2026
Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

Prayer for the Morning

Let Christ be in our minds and on our lips!

Let us sing songs of praise!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia

Hymn

Meter: CM

Jerusalem, my happy home,
When shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?
Thy walls are made of precious stones,
Thy bulwarks diamonds square;
Thy gates are of right orient pearl;
Exceeding rich and rare;
Thy vineyards and thine orchards are
Most beautiful and fair,
Full furnishèd with trees and fruits,
Most wonderful and rare.
Thy gardens and thy gallant walks
Continually are green:
There grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs
As nowhere else are seen.
There's nectar and ambrosia made,
There's musk and civet sweet;
There many a fair and dainty plant
Is trodden under feet.
There cinnamon, there sugar grows,
Here nard and balm abound.
What tongue can tell or heart conceive
The joys that there are found?

Psalm

101

The Lord searches all hearts and understands all the mind's thoughts. (1 Chr 28:9)

To cultivate the vineyard of our hearts in a healthy way, we must build suitable protective walls around it, like the vineyard owner. One strong wall is the habit of choosing to dwell on what is good, as Saint Paul recommends in the second reading. In this Psalm, the faithful and the wicked who inhabit the inner house of the mind may be understood as the conflicting habits of thought that produce either nourishing fruit or wild grapes.

**My song is of mercy and justice;
I sing to you, O Lord.
I will walk in the way of perfection.
O when, Lord, will you come?**

**I will walk with blameless heart
within my house;
I will not set before my eyes
whatever is base.
I will hate the ways of the crooked;
they shall not be my friends.
The false-hearted must keep far away;
the wicked I disown.
The man who slanders his neighbor in secret
I will bring to silence.
The man of proud looks and haughty heart
I will never endure.
I look to the faithful in the land
that they may dwell with me.
He who walks in the way of perfection
shall be my friend.
No man who practices deceit
shall live within my house.
No man who utters lies shall stand
before my eyes.
Morning by morning I will silence
all the wicked in the land,
uprooting from the city of the Lord
all who do evil.**

Glory to the Father...

Word of God

Romans 2:15-16

They show that the demands of the law are written in their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even defend them on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge people's hidden works through Christ Jesus.

Behold, I know your thoughts. (Jb 21:27)

Canticle of Zechariah

In your distress, you shall finally return to the Lord, your God, and heed his voice. (cf. Dt 4:30)

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 Christ, let us pray:

R/ Our song is of mercy and justice.

Purify our hearts, that we may think thoughts of peace. **R/**

Purify our minds, that we may think thoughts of truth. **R/**

Purify our tongues, that we may speak words of love. **R/**

Personal intentions

Our Father....

O Lord, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, keep holy thoughts in the minds of your people for ever, and direct their hearts toward you, through your Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (cf. 1 Chr 29:18)

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Reading 1

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me now sing of my friend,/ my friend's song concerning his vineyard./ My friend had a vineyard/ on a fertile hillside;/ he spaded it, cleared it of stones,/ and planted the choicest vines;/ within it he built a watchtower,/ and hewed out a wine press./ Then he looked for the crop of grapes,/ but what it yielded was wild grapes.

Now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and -people of Judah,/ judge between me and my vineyard:/ What more was there to do for my vineyard/ that I had not done?/ Why, when I looked for the crop of grapes,/ did it bring forth wild grapes?/ Now, I will let you know/ what I mean to do with my vineyard:/ take away its hedge, give it to grazing,/ break through its wall, let it be trampled!/ Yes, I will make it a ruin:/ it shall not be pruned or hoed,/ but overgrown with thorns and briars;/ I will command the clouds/ not to send rain upon it./ The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel,/ and the people of Judah are his cherished plant;/ he looked for -judgment, but see, bloodshed!/ for justice, but hark, the outcry!

Reading 2

Philippians 4:6-9

Brothers and sisters: Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace

of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, what-ever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you..

Gospel

Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: "Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected/ has become the cornerstone;/ by the Lord has this been done,/ and it is wonderful in our eyes? Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will -produce its fruit."

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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