

Sunday, September 13, 2026
Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Prayer for the Morning

Jesus Christ is God's peace: come, let us adore!

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: 87 87 D**

Though unseen, O Lord, I love thee,
Wondrous is thy saving might,
Thus to wean my soul so sweetly
From its sinful chief delight:
More thou did in one short instant
Than a world could e'er have done,
Winning thee a happy dwelling
In this sterile heart of stone.

Psalm **37:3-9**

Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight. (Sir 27:30)

Anger is a spontaneous emotional response to injury. To deny that we sometimes feel angry when offended is foolish and harmful. However, to nurse our anger is to harden our hearts so that we shut ourselves out of the life of love that animates Christ's Body and delights the human spirit.

If you trust in the Lord and do good,
then you will live in the land and be secure.
If you find your delight in the Lord,
he will grant your heart's desire.
Commit your life to the Lord,
trust in him and he will act,
so that your justice breaks forth like the light,
your cause like the noon-day sun.
Be still before the Lord and wait in patience;
do not fret at the man who prospers;
a man who makes evil plots
to bring down the needy and the poor.
Calm your anger and forget your rage;
do not fret, it only leads to evil.
For those who do evil shall perish;
the patient shall inherit the land.
Glory to the Father...

Word of God **Ephesians 4:31-32**

All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, and reviling must be removed from you, along with all malice. [And] be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.

Bear with one another and forgive one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.
(cf. Col 3:13)

Canticle of Zechariah

See that no one returns evil for evil; rather, always seek what is good [both] for each other and for all.
(1 Thes 5:15)

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

In the spirit of Christ, our peace, let us pray:

R/ Have mercy, Lord our God!

For those who have angered us: grant them peace, we pray. **R/**

For those who have harmed our loved ones: grant them your forgiveness and ours, we pray. **R/**

For those whose hearts are hardened against forgiving, grant them healing, we pray. **R/**

Personal intentions

Our Father....

God of mercy and compassion, you have forgiven us our sins through the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, which we remember with special gratitude on this holy day of worship. Remake our own hearts in his likeness, that we may forgive and love all who offend us, as you have forgiven and loved us through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Reading 1 **Sirach 27:30-28:7**

Wrath and anger are hateful things,/ yet the sinner hugs them tight./ The vengeful will suffer the Lord's vengeance,/ for he remembers their sins in detail./ Forgive your neighbor's injustice;/ then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven./ Could anyone nourish anger against another/ and expect healing from the Lord?/ Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself,/ can he seek pardon for his own sins?/ If one who is but flesh cherishes wrath,/ who will -forgive his sins?/ Remember your last days, set enmity aside;/ remember death and decay, and cease from sin!/ Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor;/ remember the Most High's covenant, and -overlook faults.

Reading 2 **Romans 14:7-9**

Brothers and sisters: None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Gospel **Matthew 18:21-35**

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to

settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt. At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.' Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan. When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, 'Pay back what you owe.' Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison until he paid back the debt. Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole affair. His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?' Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart."

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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