

St. Mary of the Angels, Geelong

Monday 30th September 2024

Saturday 6th October 2024



Daily Reflections

<http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/daily.html>

MONDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024

26th week in Ordinary Time

Job 1: 6-22, Psalm 16: 1-3, 6-7, R.v. 6, Luke 9: 46-50.

Reflections: Lord, bend you ear and hear my prayer.

We live in an extremely competitive world and thrive on identifying who is the greatest or the richest or the highest achiever. But is that what life is all about? Recently a young umpire called a stop to the game between two sides of eight-year-olds because one of the parents was over-excited about their son's contribution. He approached the parent and said, 'Do you realise your child is doing the best?' Then he resumed the game. The parent quietened down and later thanked the umpire for reminding him of the real purpose of playing sport. We might want our sporting team to be on top of the ladder but, deep in our hearts, we can be satisfied if the players all do their best and it is a fair game. Jesus said: 'The least among you all, that is the one who is great. 'Surely what God wants for us is to be the best person we can be, not preoccupied with being the greatest.

 **ONE WALK** *with* **Jesus**

"Whoever receives this child in my name
receives me,

and whoever receives me receives the
one who sent me.

For the one who is least among all of you
is the one who is the greatest."

Luke 9:48



Tuesday 1st October 2024

26th Week in Ordinary Time

Feast of St Therese of Lisieux

Job 3: 1-3, 11-17, 20-23, Psalm 87: 2-8, R.v. 3, Luke 9: 51-56

Reflection. Let my prayer come before you, Lord

When we face adversity, we seek an escape from our situation. Job's anguish at his underserved predicament is such that he wishes he had not been born. The disciples want Jesus to call down destruction on the Samaritan village that did not receive him. Jesus douses their anger, rebukes them and bids them move on. Therese of Lisieux, whose feast it is today, reminds us that the answer to all our difficulties is to engage in the work of love: Love can accomplish all things. Things that are most impossible become easy where love is at work. She would counsel that love and obedience to the present moment help us find peace in the midst of strife. Therese's mission was love and she challenges us to lighten our burden by living out especially in difficult circumstances.



WEDNESDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2024

26th Week in Ordinary Time

Exodus 23: 20-23, Psalm 90: 1-6, 10-11, R. v. 11,

Reflection I myself will send an angel before you to guard you.

Today's Gospel brings together children and angels. Reading a little further we will encounter sleep. Children and sheep have a special place in the parables of Jesus. Both trusting in nature, neither particularly sophisticated in outlook, both needing care and nurture. Jesus tells us to become humble – like a child – for admission to the kingdom of heaven. He also instructs us to protect and care for children because, in receiving a child, we also receive Jesus. Failure to do so will earn the displeasure of God who cares for his children so much as to provide them the care of a guardian angel. Here is another twofold teaching: a timely reminder of the recent sins of our Church, but also reminding us of God's provision for us through guardian angels for intercession and protection. St John of God's provision for us through guardian angels for intercession and protection. St John Bosco urged: 'when tempted, invoke your angel, who is more eager to help you than you are to be helped.



THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2024

26th Week in Ordinary Time

Job 19: 21-27, Psalm 26: 7-9, 13-14, R. v. 13,

Reflection. Lord let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in You.

Jesus sends out seventy-two disciples to preach the good news in the towns of Galilee. Jesus is under no illusions about the difficulty of the task. Indeed, he likens it to sending sheep amongst wolves. He gives them no material provisions. No food. No money. Just the power of his word, to cast out demons, and heal the sick in his name. Failure is to be expected but they are not to dwell upon it. As they shake the dust off their feet, they predict the destruction of those cities. Nothing has changed in the mission field. Jesus calls us to preach his healing and transformative word. There will be successes and there will be failures. How do we deal with failure? We can trust the enduring promise of the kingdom, or we can let failure disempower us.



FRIDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2024

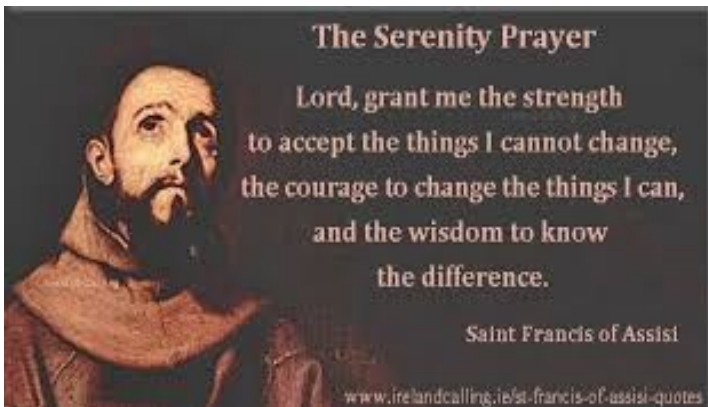
26th Week in Ordinary Time

St Francis of Assisi

***Job 38: 12-21, 40: 3-5, Psalm 1:38, 1-3, 7-10, 13-14, R. v. 24,
Luke 10: 13-16.***

Reflection. Guide me Lord, along the everlasting way.

Jesus, the itinerant preacher, rebukes the Galilean towns that reject his message. As he travels, he brings healing to many, but that is not sufficient for acceptance. Many of those towns were indeed destroyed in an earthquake in the fifth century, but archaeologists discovered the remains of churches, so some faith took root. The disciples engage in the mission of Jesus: proclaiming the kingdom of God. St Francis, centuries later, takes up the task to 'build God's Church'. Not the physical building of churches but a renewal of the message of Jesus. Francis models himself on Jesus as a poor itinerant preacher. Turning his back on life of comfort, he begins a spiritual renewal of the Church. In our day we face not only material poverty but also a spiritual poverty into which Jesus can bring healing and hope.



SATURDAY 5th OCTOBER 2024

26TH Week in Ordinary Time

**Job 42: 1-3, 5-6, 12-17, Psalm 118: 66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130. R.
v. 135, *Reflection Lord, let your face shine on me.***

We often ask ourselves why bad things happen to good people. This is the theme of the Book of Job. In the end, God himself exonerates Job and brings to task the friends who had questioned Job's goodness and integrity. The suffering ends. God exalts Job and not only reinstates his wealth and status but raises them to a higher level. Job accepted the suffering that God had allowed to beset him. Suffering remains a mystery, but it can also become a grace. Suffering brings us self-knowledge. In suffering we learn our weaknesses and our strengths. We accept our limitations. We grow in wisdom and compassion for others. Fighting suffering can bring anger, bitterness and self-destruction.



*27th Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

