

# Daily Prayer

*Feria*

*Wednesday, August 30, 2023*

*We enter into a time of quiet. We offer to God our selves and in the silence know that God embraces us as God's very own. We offer our hopes and our concerns through our prayers and in the silence listen for God. Today we hold in our prayers the ordinary moments in life—the trials and the joys. We begin by saying*

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,  
**and teach me your paths.**

## The First Reading

You remember our labour and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was towards you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you should lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

*1 Thessalonians 2.9-13*

## The Psalm

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, ♦  
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter ♦  
and our tongue with songs of joy.

Then said they among the nations, ♦  
'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has indeed done great things for us, ♦  
and therefore we rejoiced.

Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, ♦  
as the river beds of the desert.

Those who sow in tears ♦  
shall reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed, ♦  
will come back with shouts of joy,  
bearing their sheaves with them.

*Psalm 126*

## The Gospel Reading

'Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful, but inside they are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of filth. So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

'Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous, and you say, "If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of

the prophets." Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors.

*Matthew 23.27-32*

*In silence, we ask what the readings have to say to us today. Is there something that draws us more deeply into the reading? What does God have to say to us? What do we have to ask God?*

*When the time is right, we conclude our time of silence with the canticle*

## **The Canticle ~ A Song of Wisdom**

Send Wisdom forth from your holy heavens;  
from the throne of your glory  
send what is pleasing to you.

O God of our ancestors and Lord of mercy, ♦  
you have made all things by your word.

By your wisdom you have formed us ♦  
to have dominion over the creatures you have made;

To rule the world in holiness and righteousness ♦  
and to pronounce judgement in uprightness of soul.

Give us the Wisdom that sits by your throne; ♦  
do not reject us from among your servants,

For we are your servants, ♦  
with little understanding of judgement and laws.

Even one who is perfect among us ♦  
will be regarded as nothing  
without the wisdom that comes from you.

With you is Wisdom, she who knows your works, ♦  
and was present when you made the world.

She understands what is pleasing in your sight ♦  
and what is right according to your commandments.

Send her forth from the holy heavens, ♦  
from the throne of your glory send her.

That she may labour at our side ♦  
and that we may learn what is pleasing to you.

For she knows and understands all things, ♦  
she will guide us wisely in our actions  
and guard us with her glory.

*Wisdom 9.1-5a,c,6,9-11*

*Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.*

Send Wisdom forth from your holy heavens;  
from the throne of your glory  
send what is pleasing to you.

*We continue in prayer for those people and situations that we hold up before God and  
continue with the concluding collect, the Lord's prayer and the closing sentences.*

## **The Intercessions**

In peace, let us pray to Jesus our Lord,  
who ever lives to make intercession for us.

Saviour of the world,  
be present in all places of suffering, violence and pain,  
and bring hope even in the darkest night.

Inspire us to continue your work of reconciliation today.  
*In peace we pray.*

Lord of the Church,  
empower by your Spirit the work of your Church in every land.  
Give us grace to proclaim the gospel joyfully in word and deed.  
*In peace we pray.*

Shepherd and Guardian of our souls,  
guide and enable all who lead and serve this community  
and those on whom we depend for our daily needs.  
Grant that we may seek the peace and welfare of this place.  
*In peace we pray.*

Great Physician,  
stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness and peace  
to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.  
Fill us with compassion, that we may be channels of your healing  
love.  
*In peace we pray.*

Conqueror of death,  
remember for good those whom we love but see no longer.  
Help us to live this day in the sure and certain hope of your eternal  
victory.  
*In peace we pray.*

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,  
to the mercy and protection of God. Amen

*Our prayers conclude*

Almighty God,  
your Son taught us that the greatest commandment is to love you  
and to love one another.  
Grant us your gift of love, we pray,  
that we may be led from the darkness of self-obsession  
to the light of mutual care and fellowship,  
lived out in friendship with Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[let us pray as our Saviour taught us,]*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen

*We conclude*

May God grant to the world justice, truth and peace.

**Amen.**



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