

Prayer Gathering for 26th Week of Ordinary Time

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

OPENING PRAYER

**God of Love, Shelter of the Suffering,
you laid it all on the line for your wayward children,
sacrificing to the point of shedding blood.
Inspire our words and actions to comfort all who struggle
so that we may share and lighten their burdens.
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

READING

MOMENT FOR SILENCE

GOSPEL PASSAGE

SHARING QUESTIONS

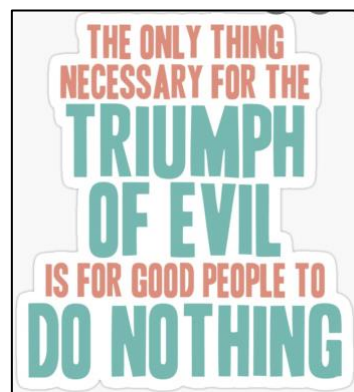
“Woe to the complacent... stretched comfortably on their couches... they eat [lamb] and [veal]... They drink wine from bowls... yet they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph!”
The people described in this passage are not doing anything *wrong* per se, but the suffering of others nearby makes their callousness offensive to God. What kind of suffering out there breaks through your complacency? What breaks your heart?

Rich man: “If someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.”

Abraham: “If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.”

Have you ever received a message from someone who has died through a dream, a vision or an encounter? What happened? How did it affect you?

POSTED RECENTLY



DISCUSSION

"There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day... And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores ..."

If this man had given himself a smaller portion in order to share with Lazarus, he might have been the hero of Jesus' story. When have you sacrificed in order to share? When have you regretted not sharing when you had an opportunity?

LITANY

When we are tempted to rehearse again and again the wrongs that were done to us long ago...

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

When we are over-focused on the comforts we wish we had...

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

When we spend more time looking in the mirror than out the window into the streets...

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

When we get lost in lofty ideas and neglect realities in front of us...

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

When we'd rather isolate than lend a helping hand...

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

When we have a litany of "what ifs" that keep us from sharing someone's burden...

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

When we realize we've done more toasting to the good times than helping in the bad times...

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

When we'd rather keep our own agenda than let God plan the day ahead...

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

When I'd rather watch another episode than change from sweatpants into overalls...

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

OUR FATHER

[OPTIONAL] PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.

CLOSING PRAYER

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

READING 1

A reading from the book of Amos:

Thus says the LORD the God of hosts:

*Woe to the complacent in Zion!
Lying upon beds of ivory,
stretched comfortably on their couches,*

*they eat lambs taken from the flock,
and calves from the stall!*

*Improvising to the music of the harp,
like David, they devise their own accompaniment.*

*They drink wine from bowls
and anoint themselves with the best oils;
yet they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph!*

*Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile,
and their wanton revelry shall be done away with.*

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

READING 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

*"There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen
and dined sumptuously each day.*

*And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,
who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table.
Dogs even used to come and lick his sores.*

When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham.

*The rich man also died and was buried,
and from the netherworld, where he was in torment,
he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off... and Lazarus at his side.*

*And he cried out,
'Father Abraham, have pity on me.
Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue,
for I am suffering torment in these flames.'*

*Abraham replied,
'My child, remember that you received
what was good during your lifetime
while Lazarus likewise received what was bad;
but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented.*

*Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established
to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go
from our side to yours or from your side to ours.'*

*He said,
'Then I beg you, father,
send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers,
so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.'*

*But Abraham replied,
'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.'*

*He said,
'Oh no, father Abraham,
but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'*

*Then Abraham said,
'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets,
neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"*

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ

Luke, chapter 16