

MORNING MEDITATION

Thursday, Thirty First Week in Ordinary Time

Forbearance enable us to bear with our own imperfections, failures and shortfalls as well as those of others around us.

Philippians 3:3-8

Paul insisted that the real circumcision was not a mark in the flesh; it is true worship, true confidence in the Grace of God in Jesus. So it is Christians and not Jews who are truly circumcised. He claimed that he was circumcised in the flesh, was a true Israelite of the tribe of Benjamin, born of Hebrew parents and now a Christian and so he is truly circumcised in all the sense of the term. However, Paul claimed that the only gain for him was his knowledge of Jesus Christ and everything else a loss in light of Christ.

Psalm 105

Sing to him, sing his praise,
Proclaim all his wondrous deeds.
Glossy in his holy name;
Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord!

Luke 15:1-10

Jesus was accused of being in the company of sinners. He told them the parable of the lost sheep. Even one single sheep is precious. The loss of that single sheep is great. The joy of discovering the lost is even greater!

Jesus told them another parable about a woman who diligently searched for a lost coin. The loss of a single coin calls for diligent search because it is precious (not just any coin)! Re-discovery of the lost precious coin calls for great rejoicing! **So will it be with the re-discovery of every person.....the heavens rejoice!**

**You are not just “another” in tens or hundreds or thousands or millions - you just are!
And as you are, you are precious in the eyes of God!**

Great is the loss if you are lost because you are not just one in a million! You just are one unique, precious person!

Greater is the joy of your re-discovery! Even the angels rejoice!

Saint of the Day, November 7 - Saint Didacus & 18 other saints are remembered this day.

Didacus of Alcalá, also known as Diego de San Nicolás, was a Spanish Franciscan lay brother who was among the first group of missionaries to the newly conquered Canary Islands. Didacus was born c. 1400 into a poor but pious family in the small village of San Nicolás del Puerto in the Kingdom of Seville. Near that town a holy priest led a hermit's life. Didacus obtained his consent to live with him and, though very young, imitated the austerities and devotions of his master. They cultivated together a little garden, and also employed themselves in making wooden spoons, trenchers and similar utensils. After having lived a hermit's life for some time, he returned to his home, but he, soon after, went to a convent of the Observant Friar Minors at Arrizafa, and there took the habit among the lay brothers.

After his profession he was sent to the mission of his Order in the Canary Islands, where he did a great work in instructing and converting the people. He served as chief guardian of the community of Friars, care of the sick Friars, etc. In 1463 he was taken ill and died at Alcalá de Henares on 12 November 1463 and was canonized in 1588. San Diego, California, is named after this Franciscan

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs