

**Affirmation Prayer...**

*God cares for those who suffer for his name.  
Let us praise him!*

**All: 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: SMD**

To leave the stones unthrown,  
To turn the other cheek,  
To bear a load an extra mile,  
To listen more than speak:  
Such are the marks of love,  
The testaments of grace,  
The daily glimpses of the cross  
Christ calls us to embrace.  
Not only in extremes,  
In moments stark and clear,  
In dark-night wrestling long and hard  
Or agony severe,  
But in some faithful act,  
Some scarcely conscious choice,  
We find the grace to hear and heed  
The bidding of Christ's voice.  
New crosses wait each day,  
New challenges to meet,  
New signposts for the way of life,  
New marks of death's defeat:  
Yet, be they great or small,  
Unique or commonplace,  
They help us look beyond ourselves  
To see and know Christ's face.

**Psalm** **69:7-15**

*Whenever anyone bears the pain of unjust suffering because of consciousness of God, that is a grace.* (1 Pt 2:19)

*Every Christian call is in some way a call to persecution and martyrdom. In many places in the world in our day Christians are persecuted and in danger of death. Each one of us is called to die daily to self and to imitate the suffering Christ. Is our faith strong enough that it can withstand persecution and hold fast in the face of death?*

Let those who hope in you not be put to shame through me, Lord of hosts:  
let not those who seek you be dismayed through me, God of Israel.  
It is for you that I suffer taunts,  
that shame covers my face,  
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,  
an alien to my own mother's sons.  
I burn with zeal for your house  
and taunts against you fall on me.  
When I afflict my soul with fasting  
they make it a taunt against me.  
When I put on sackcloth in mourning  
then they make me a byword,  
the gossip of men at the gates,  
the subject of drunkards' songs.  
This is my prayer to you,  
my prayer for your favor.  
In your great love, answer me, O God,  
with your help that never fails:  
rescue me from sinking in the mud;  
save me from my foes.

**All: 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.**

**Word of God** **Romans 8:35-39**

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? As it is written: "For your sake we are being slain all the day;/ we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Then they will hand you over to persecution, and they will kill you. You will be hated by all nations because of my name. (Mt 24:9)

**Canticle of Zechariah**

God has given us new life. (cf. Ezr 9:9)

**All: 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.**

**All: 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.**

**Intercessions**

Our strength is in God alone and so we pray:

**R/ Give us courage, Lord.**

When others challenge our faith, – may we not fear to stand up for the truth. **R/**

When we fear suffering for our faith, – let us not be tempted to compromise our beliefs. **R/**

When we see other Christians neglect their religious duties, – may we not be tempted to settle for mediocrity.: **R/**

**Personal intentions**

**All: Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass**

**against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

*God our Father, you are the king of martyrs and lover of those who suffer for you. Strengthen us in our daily struggles and make us willing to suffer and even die for love of you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Sunday, November 13, 2022  
Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Reading 1** **Malachi 3:19-20a**

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of Hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

**Reading 2** **2 Thessalonians 3:7-12**

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you: do not let anyone have any food if he refuses to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

**Gospel**

**Luke 21:5-19**

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not so soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'

**Men of St. Joseph Prayer**

**All: 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!**

**Prayer for the text used with permission  
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