

Good News Daily

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Sunday, September 12

Acts 5:34-42 *And every day in the temple and at home they did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.* (v.42 NRSV)

In the time of Covid-19 lockdown, we found new ways to teach and proclaim the word of God. I was used to using the Mission St. Clare app on my tablet to lead me through daily morning and evening prayer. I noticed that the app was linking to live and recorded video services across the United States and abroad. I enjoyed sampling the services offered. My home parish quickly adapted, and our priests lead morning prayer with a homily six days a week for six months on YouTube. This proved to be an essential tool for coping with fear and isolation for many in the parish. As live services resumed with restrictions, those needing to stay at home could watch the video feed from the Sunday Holy Eucharist. A pandemic may alter the way in which we worship, but it cannot prevent us from worshiping our Lord.

1 Kings 19:8-21; Psalms 24, 29; John 11:45-47

Monday, September 13

Psalms 56 *For you have delivered my soul from death, and my feet from falling, so that I may walk before God in the light of life.* (v.13)

More people than ever are walking in my neighborhood. When we were asked to stay home to slow the spread of the pandemic, couples and families I hadn't seen before were now strolling for exercise. We wave as we pass at safe distance. Many folks have maintained the healthful practice of walking daily. I pray that you and I walk in His light.

1 Kings 21:1-16; Psalms 57, 58; 1 Corinthians 1:1-19; Matthew 4:1-11

Tuesday, September 14

Matthew 4:12-17 *"The people who sat in the darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."* (v.16)

The practice of morning prayer has prompted me to thank the Lord for another day when I wake up. Some days I row my single scull at sunrise, and I thank the Lord that I can enjoy that sunrise on the water. I am grateful for the beauty of the wildlife I see. Eagles, fish, and manatee, all wonderfully made. Thank You, Lord, for this blessed day.

1 Kings 21:17-29; Psalms 61, 62; 1 Corinthians 1:20-31

Wednesday, September 15

1 Corinthians 2:1-13 *But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.* (v.7)

I love mysteries. If I find a good written series, I'll read all them in order, if possible, from the library. I often then buy the most recent one of the series because the library doesn't yet have it. My husband and I have watched mystery series streamed on television and then at the conclusion of the series searched out the author and read the series in print. I want to know what happens next in fiction *and* in God's Holy Word.

1 Kings 22:1-28; Psalm 72; Matthew 4:18-25

Thursday, September 16

Matthew 5:1-10 *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."* (v.3)

I recently had a wildlife encounter. I was headed downstream in my single scull as an alligator was headed upstream. I didn't see the gator coming, but I sure felt him. His tail slapped my leg and then my rigger as he submerged. I stayed upright and paddled home. Thanks be to God!

1 Kings 22:29-45; Psalms 70, 71; 1 Corinthians 2:14—3:15

Friday, September 17

2 Kings 1:2-17 *“O man of God, please let my life, and the life of these fifty servants of yours, be precious in your sight.”* (v.13b)

Sometimes the third try is the charm. Two captains of fifty men each are sent by the king of Samaria to tell the prophet Elijah to come down from the hilltop. One after the other delivers the message to Elijah that he has to come down. Each captain and his company are smote in response. Finally, the third captain of fifty does something different. He has listened and learned. He takes a different approach. He humbles himself on his knees and begs Elijah to spare their lives. Elijah comes down.

Please Lord, let me not make the same mistakes I see others making. Let me be like the third captain, willing to listen and learn and do what is pleasing in Your sight.

Psalms 69; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23; Matthew 5:11-16

Saturday, September 18

2 Kings 2:1-18 *“Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.”* (v.9b)

This request of Elisha to Elijah shows his admiration and respect for Elijah, as well as his willingness to take over his duties. Yet it seems a strange thing for which to ask.

Have you known and loved and admired someone you wished you could be more like?

Psalms 75, 76; 1 Corinthians 4:1-7; Matthew 5:17-20

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