

## **MORNING MEDITATION**

### **Thirty Second Friday in Ordinary Time**

**Hospitality means that we take people into our space,  
our lives, our minds and our hearts.**

#### **Wisdom 13:1-9**

This excerpt calls the readers to look beyond the apparent beauty or the lack of it of things they see. The foolish and ignorant men did not know God. Some thought fire, wind or air were gods because of their might. They failed to see beyond the visible...Some people, out of joy in the beauty of what they saw, thought them to be gods. The author calls such people to know how far more excellent than these the Lord is..... the original source of beauty fashioned them! They seek God busily among his works and are distracted by what they see....

**Look beyond what you see.....see the wisdom that has fashioned all you see!**

#### **Psalm 19**

**The heavens proclaim the glory of God,  
And the firmament proclaims his handiwork.  
Day pours out the word today  
And night to night imparts knowledge.**

#### **Luke 17:26-37**

Jesus responded to the question of the Pharisees about when the Kingdom would come. He said to them that God takes his own time breaking into history. But He does come in His time! Jesus warned them.....Beware of idle speculations! Speculations and gossips will be there. But beware! We must not leave our daily responsibilities, our ordinary work to follow the speculations. Be faithful to your commitments.

**So, learn to light a candle of patience and wait! Christ comes when you are faithfully and humbly and watchfully at your work, doing your duty, minding your business. No one will foresee His coming.....**

Jesus said, "where the carcass is, there will the vultures gather"- God will break in when necessary conditions are fulfilled.

**Live faithfully and humbly and lovingly so that whenever He comes, we will be there to meet him!**

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs

## **St. Albert the Great (1206-1280) and 24 other saints are remembered this day.**

Albert was born sometime before the year 1200, probably in Bavaria, in southern Germany. We know very little about the details of his family origins. We know that he was well educated, attended the University of Padua where he learned about Aristotle and his writings.

In 1245, Albert became a master of theology under Gueruc of Saint-Quentin. He was the first German Dominican to achieve the title. He later went on to teach theology at the University of Paris, and became the Chair of Theology at the College of St. James. One of his students was the famous Thomas Aquinas who would also become a doctor of the Church and a saint. Albert was very interested in Aristotle, and he made commentary on nearly all of Aristotle's works. He also studied the teachings of several Muslim scholars. At this time, the Islamic world led Europe in terms of scholarship, science, and medicine.

In 1260, Pope Alexander IV appointed Albert as bishop of Regensburg. Although he was a bishop, Albert refused to ride a horse and went everywhere on foot. The life of a bishop did not agree with Albert and he resigned from his post in 1263. Albert became ill in 1278 and he died on November 15, 1280.

St. Albert, the patron of scientists, lived during the period when the first universities came into being. He studied every field of knowledge that was taught in those schools of learning. He became a Dominican. One of his students, Thomas Aquinas, was brilliant but very shy. Albert saw the greatness of Thomas and affirmed and encouraged him!

He studied everything he could, including plants, animals and astronomy! He was the first to study the mountain ranges of Europe! While many believed that such studies would destroy Christianity, Albert believed that all knowledge could help us deepen the knowledge and experience of God! His faith and hard work paved the way for a new age of scientific exploration.

**Keep your minds open! Let all knowledge contribute to your freedom, growth and fulfillment!**