

Prayers and Blessings at Home

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 3, 2017



Scripture Readings

Jeremiah 20:7–9

Psalms 63:2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9 (2b)

Romans 12:1–2

Matthew 16:21–27

Prayer during Summer

Lord, God of all creation,
we give praise and thanks to you
for the summertime,
a time to rest and a time to grow,
a time to learn and a time to pray.
May we use our time well,
for it is your gift to us.

Open our eyes to your presence
in the beauty all around us.

May we be good friends to others.

Keep us safe in all that we do.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Examination of Conscience

☉ Peter has doubts about what Jesus tells the disciples when he foreshadows what is going to happen to him in Jerusalem. Do I have doubts about Jesus in my life? Have I been able to set my gaze on him and follow him?

☉ Do I accept or avoid suffering in my life? Do I ask God to help me bear my crosses?

Did You Know?

. . . that the Hill of Crosses is a site in northern Lithuania where pilgrims have left thousands of crosses, crucifixes, icons, and other religious images? The Hill has been a location for Lithuanian Catholics to honor their heritage and pray for peace, often in times of strife for their homeland. St. John Paul II visited the site in 1993.

Living the Liturgy at Home

Since the earliest days of Christianity, the image of the cross has been the principal symbol to signify the religion. Crosses and crucifixes allow us to remember and honor that Jesus died on a Cross in order that he could be raised to glory. Where are the crucifixes and crosses in your home? Do you or your family members wear one around your necks? Whenever you see or wear a cross this week, reflect upon how it was the tool that Jesus used to “trample down death by death.” Also, reflect upon the crosses that you have to carry in your own life. Present them to God and ask for help in carrying your burden.