

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) You are just, O lord and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 89)

ANTIPHON: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

RESPONSE: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

LECTOR: You turn men back into dust and say: "Go back, sons of men." To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. **R.**

LECTOR: You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. **R.**

LECTOR: Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. **R.**

LECTOR: In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws! Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn)) Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Or

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

TODAY'S READINGS Wisdom 9:13-18; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14: 25-33

NEXT WEEK (24th Sunday, Year C) Exodus 32: 7-11, 13-14; Psalm 50; 1 Timothy 1: 12-17; Luke 15: 1-32

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your day with
The Majellan*

St Gerard's Feast Day Blessing

Join us online in celebration for St Gerard Majella's feast day on Sunday October 16. St Gerard was born on April 6, 1726, in Muro Lucano, in Southern Italy. He desperately wanted to serve God but was twice rejected by the Capuchin order because of his sickly health. He was finally accepted by the Redemptorists as a lay brother. Saint Gerard died of tuberculosis at the age of 29. His intercession is sought for children, unborn children, women in childbirth, mothers, expectant mothers, motherhood, the falsely accused, good confessions and lay brothers. To receive the program and prayer card and register your prayer intention go to www.majellan.media/your-prayers

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The cost of following Jesus



4 September 2022 23rd Sunday Year C

Wisdom of God made manifest and all his teaching reflects this understanding, including the wonderful practical advice he gives to his friend Philemon about making peace with his former slave, Onesimus, who for some reason had run away.

Jesus invites us to follow him, but he is well aware of the demands that will be made if we accept his invitation. It is in that context that we can better understand his almost unpalatable teaching that our families might prove an obstacle to us in following him. Sometimes we need to be shocked before we get the message and undoubtedly this has something to do with Jesus' message about taking up the cross.

Clearly, he cannot be changing his fundamental teaching that we must "love our enemies and do good to those who hate us", in warning us that even the members of our families may not understand and might want to prevent us from giving up everything else for his sake. To reinforce his point, he offers us two very mundane examples – a builder preparing to build, a king preparing for battle – of calculating the pros and cons before making a decision.

Jesus invites us to be his disciples and we are continually learning more and more about the cost of that discipleship. As we weigh the pros and cons in our present situations, is he asking us to make a deeper commitment to him today?

Tim Buckley CSsR

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We often speak of learning from our mistakes, even though we sometimes fail to do so. Likewise, if you are interested in sport, you will often hear sportsmen or women speak of "taking the positives" from a contest they have lost, especially if it's a narrow loss.

As human beings we are naturally inquisitive and our search for meaning goes on from our earliest years. We learn by trial and error, like so many great discoveries, by experimentation and reflection.

Much of our knowledge comes through learning in "the school of life itself" and frequently "the school of hard knocks." It is not surprising then that throughout the scriptures, we find many of the authors almost pleading with us to stop and reflect on what is going on both in our own lives and in the world around us.

The wisdom books are particularly adept at challenging us in this way. So too does Jesus who is constantly asking us to look around and take note of the wonder of nature, and more importantly to look into ourselves and note our reactions in a variety of circumstances. The book of Wisdom itself invites us to accept the fact that we struggle to make sense of much of what is going on, but it also paves the way for what Jesus will teach us, namely that it is the spirit of God who will lead us to the truth.

St Paul realised that Christ was the