

PAX - WITH THE GOSPEL FOR OUR GUIDE
POST-PENTECOST 1 2022
Covering the period from Pentecost Sunday until August 31

SECTION ONE: Reading and Reflection

Theme: The Psalter

The 150 Psalms which comprise the Psalter are described by Chouraqui as: "A small book; 150 poems; 150 steps between life and death; 150 mirrors of our rebellions and our loyalties, of our agonies and our resurrections. More than a book, it is a living being who speaks, who suffers, groans and dies, who rises again and speaks on the threshold of eternity; who seizes one, bears one away, oneself and all the ages of time, from the beginning to the end." Nathan A. Chouraqui died in 2007. He was a lawyer, writer, translator of biblical texts, a member of the Zionist league and a scholar with too many doctorates and degrees to count.

Joseph Gelineau, more well-known to us, was a Jesuit priest and composer. He worked on a great number of musical settings for Psalms, resisting ultra-modern liturgical music which often labelled a song with words such as "based on verse 2 of Psalm 64", as if that qualified it for use in the liturgy. I have found his teaching to be sound: "The Psalms may overwhelm or shock, bring peace or exaltation, but inevitably they draw us beyond ourselves; they force us to that meeting with God without whom we cannot live and who transforms our whole life. The Psalms compel us to faith and hope."

And then there is another obstacle for some of us: We may object that certain passages contradict the command of love taught to us by Christ. Surely, we've all thought this. Joseph Gelineau goes on to say that: "...we have only to follow the images through to their Easter fulfilment in Christ's Passover, and to ask ourselves what it is that the psalmist loves and hates to realize that the choice no longer lies between friends or enemies, but between the reign of evil which holds sway in us and the reign of grace which lays claim to us."

Others raise different objections: They don't care to join the psalmist in proclaiming their own innocence or loyalty; they don't want to pray in terms of an anguish they have not experienced or give thanks with a jubilation they have never felt. But do such people think that the prayers they use are their own prayers? Do they not realize that they stand before God in the company of the whole of humanity. Their prayer is that of the whole Church and it only reaches the Father through the voice of Christ the mediator.

The Psalms compel us to voice all the prayer of the people of God and of their Head.
The psalms force us to widen our hearts to the full dimensions of the redemption.

I have an Ecumenical Psalter in French, a gift from one of my sisters who was living in Paris in the 1980s. The notes in the front of the book say that "the Psalms are the highest form of Christian prayer."

If we can't see this, we need to go back over the teaching of A. Couraqui and Joseph Gelineau.

SECTION TWO: Further Reading and Reflection

We are Benedictine monastics, and so we pray the Liturgy of the Hours, consisting mostly of Psalms and the Sacred Scriptures.

Sr. Joan Chittister says, "The purpose of communal prayer [or the prayer of one Benedictine monastic] is to read the psalms and the Scriptures together over and over every day – in every monastery, [home] until they sink into our souls like the air we breathe. It is the daily drip, drip, drip of the Scriptures into the hearts and minds of every member of the community...that forms the heart and soul of the Monastic." (The Monastic Heart, page 41).

SECTION THREE: About the Rule of St. Benedict

The Rule of Benedict gives 19 chapters to the Liturgy of the Hours. Benedict is precise about the number of psalms, the arrangement of each hour, the hymns.

Before 1967, the Liturgy of the Hours in Benedictine monasteries was uniform everywhere and followed the psalm distribution given in the Rule. It was in Latin, and without pauses.

Sr. Elizabeth says that into "this very peaceful arrangement there came rumblings of change and also a sense of anticipation as well as apprehension. What a marvellous change it would be to have the Liturgy of the Hours in English at last! But then, what we already had in Latin and plain chant was so beautiful. It would surely be a long road before we could experience the same beauty with the Liturgy in English."

The work of the Benedictine Confederation: Permission from the Benedictine Confederation to make changes in the Liturgy of the Hours was given first to monks and later to nuns and sisters (1968). There were definite stipulations and conditions. Two areas came to notice immediately: the option of choosing a different psalm schema from that in the Rule of Benedict, and the option of replacing the three Little Hours with one or two. The Confederation actually provided the schemas that would make this transition peaceful. (schema is Latin for scheme).

Four psalm schemas were provided so that monasteries could make their own choice, provided that the 150 psalms were covered within two weeks.

- Schema as in the Rule of Benedict.
- Schema Fuglister
- Schema Scheyern
- Scheme OCSO (Cistercian)

Scheyern Abbey provided a thorough analysis of their background reasons for every part of their choice – so that we could see immediately that our own particular preferences and needs would be best met by adopting this. We also preferred a two-week cycle so that priority could be given to prayerfulness rather than to quantity. We voted at that time to replace the three Little Hours with a single Midday Hour. Reasons for this were earning a living and caring for the sick and elderly.

These changes were implemented in February 1973. They had a very beautiful and appropriate beginning as Sr. Moira Bradshaw OSB composed new antiphons for every daily 'hour', and we had seven booklets for each complete liturgical day. Sr. Moira, who entered in 1926, had graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. She embodied a spirit of quiet enthusiasm and devotedness and her part in the whole changeover was pivotal, because the older community had confidence in her judgment.

*Notker Fūgilister was a Catholic theologian and author. He wrote: 'The Genres of the Religious Lyric of Israel'; 'The Psalms of the Return, Book V Psalms 107-150; Israel's Sacred

Songs: A Study of Dominant Themes' (1966); 'Glory at the right hand. Psalm 110 in Early Christianity'; 'The Moral Attributes of God in the Psalms. (1971); 'Songs from a Strange Land: Psalms 42-51 (1979). Most likely, all of these books are out of print, but would be available on e-bay or in a theological library.

*Scheyern Abbey is in Bavaria. It was founded in 1050. This Abbey has an historic brewery, making "Helles Lager, and Dunkles (dark beer).

SECTION FOUR: Community History

When the Psalms are chanted in the monastic choir, the musical accompaniment is simple and gentle, allowing the prayer to find a home deeply within the monks giving awareness of the great and miraculous prayer that is taking place. We have an interesting story in our Chronicles concerning plain chant, which, according to the leaders of the 19th century monastic revival, is the chant which converts. "A student from Rome, who had studied plain chant under Monsignor Antonio Rella, conductor of the Sistine Choir, was visiting Sydney, Australia in 1903-1904. She, Miss Wallington, had entered a convent of nuns in Rome. The convent had been disbanded for reasons not given in our Chronicles. Miss Wallington saw in *Subiaco* (our first home), the monastic home she had lost. She entered the community and stayed for two years. While there, she trained the nuns, and particularly, the musicians of the house, in the art of plain chant. She departed for England when her father died and her mother was in need of her care. Before her departure, Mother Ignatius Harnett (Second elected Prioress), asked her who would be the best qualified to take over the monastic choir, and keep up the tradition which was established. Miss Wallington named Sr. Mary Joseph (Hilda) Brady. When Monsignor Antonio Rella visited *Subiaco* in 1922, he complimented the Prioress (by this time, Mother Mary Joseph Brady), on the monastic choir. He was not aware that one of his own students had made a significant contribution from 1904-1906.

SECTION FIVE: Liturgy

MAY

- 24: Our Lady Help of Christians
- 25: St. Bede of England
- 31: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

JUNE

- 01: St. Justin Martyr. M
- 03: St Charles Lwanga and companions, martyrs. (Memorial).
- 05: PENTECOST SUNDAY
- 11: St. Barnabas (Memorial)
- 12: Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
- 13: St. Anthony of Padua (Memorial)
- 19: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi).
- 21: St. Aloysius Gonzaga
- 22: Sts. John Fisher and Thomas More. (Memorial in Australia, Opt. Memorial in New Zealand).
- 24: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (Solemnity)
- 25: The Nativity of St. John the Baptist (Solemnity)
- 26: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- 28: St. Irenaeus (Memorial)
- 29: Sts. Peter and Paul (Solemnity)

JULY:

- 03: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- 10; 15TH Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- 11: St. Benedict.
- 15: St. Bonaventure
- 17: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- 22: St. Mary Magdalene (Feast)
- 24: 17TH Sunday in Ordinary Time. This day is the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, and in Australia, it is Bible Sunday.
- 25: St. James (Feast)
- 26: Sts. Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Memorial)
- 29: Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus
- 31; 18TH Sunday in Ordinary Time.

AUGUST

- 01: St. Alphonsus Liguori (Memorial)
- 03: St. Dominic
- 04: St. John Vianney (Memorial)
- 06: The Transfiguration of the Lord (Feast). This is also the day when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.
- 07: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- 08: St. Mary of the Cross (Solemnity in Australia. Feast in New Zealand).
- 10: St. Lawrence (Feast)
- 11: St. Clare (Memorial).
- 14: 20th Sunday in Ordinary time. The Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe is not celebrated this year because it falls on a Sunday
- 15: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 20: St. Bernard of Clairvaux.
- 22: Queenship of Mary
- 24: St. Bartholomew (Feast).
- 27: St. Monica (Memorial)
- 28: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. This is SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY.
(St. Augustine is omitted this year because it falls on a Sunday)
- 29: The Passion of St. John the Baptist (Memorial)
- 31: St. Aidan of Lindisfarne

The Liturgy from September 1 up to the First Sunday of Advent will be in the next edition of this Oblate Booklet.

SECTION SIX - Your Community

Let us pray for Oblates who are making the final part of their earthly journey.

For now, our retreat cottages are open, but on a small scale. Covid still lurks, and the daily figures keep us informed. Sr. Mary Bernadette and Sr. Grace who went to see family during our annual holidays are now in isolation for a week.

Our new Chaplain, Fr. Ed Travis msc has arrived and is slowly settling in.

There are Oblates in formation, waiting now, for the ceremony in October. Hopefully and with prayer, we will be able to go ahead as planned.

Sr. Elizabeth Funder and Sr. Clare Gamble need our prayer. Sr. Mary Claire Johnson also needs supportive prayer at present.

The weekend of 14-16 October is now an **Oblate Retreat Weekend**, and there will be an oblate ceremony at Mass on Saturday 15 October. Those who are making oblation need to contact me again. My email address is as follows: oblatedirector@jamberooabbey.org.au. Please let me know what "name" you are taking on this occasion. You will need to purchase an oblate medal and put it on a chain or a ribbon so that the Abbess can put it over your head during the ceremony. Medals can be purchased from Sr. Joanna (Abbey Gifts and Books).

Ph/Fax: +61 2 42361192 Email: abbeybookscraft@bigpond.com

Write:

Abbey Crafts & Books
695 Jamberoo Mountain Road
Jamberoo NSW 2533
Australia

WE WISH YOU THE RICHEST BLESSING OF PEACE ON YOUR FEAST DAY

May 31: Mary Elizabeth Locke, Jo Elizabeth Wickens, Sr. Elizabeth Funder

June 5: Rev. Cameron Boniface Freese; Jeff Boniface Smart and Arno Boniface Struzina.

June 11: Brian Barnabas McKinlay, Jan Barnabas Trevenen and Rosalie Barnabas Jacques.

June 12: Abbess Hilda Scott (St. Hilda of Whitby).

June 13: Therese Anthony Harding

Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus: Sr. Caritas Rodrigues

June 22: Katherine Thomas Lindsay, Margaret Thomas More Whetham.

June 23: Frances Mildred Cormack.

June 24: Carmen Giovanna Xuereb

June 30: Annette Cuthbert Dawes

July 03: Douglas Thomas Fitzpatrick

July 11: Ian Benedict Macdonald, Valerie Benedicta Dickson, Ken Benedict Press, Patrick Benedict Sleight, Marianne Benedict Scarf, Sonia Benedicta Aquilina, Russell Benedict Collins, Margaret Benedicta Houen, Geraldine Mary Benedicta Doyle, June Benedicta Jenkins, Garry Benedict Gleeson, Ellen Benedicta Woods, Brenda Benedicta Verbeek, Benedetta Marina di Mattia, Dorothy Benedicta Taylor, Chantal Mary Benedicte Jacquier, Patricia Benedict Thomas, Rosslyn Teresa Benedicta Rice, Matthew Benedict Ransom, Ivan Benedict Fitz, Claire Benedict Lanigan, Debra Benedicta Verbeek, Elizabeth Benedicta Arblaster, Felicity Benedict Giles

July 14: Dorothy (Veronica Guiliani) Touzell

July 15: Pamela Henry Herrick (St. Henry II, Patron of Oblates)

July 16: Fr. Paul Gurr O.Carm.

July 20: Valerie Margaret Johnson (Margaret of Antioch).

July 22: Sr. Magdalen Mather, Margaret Mary Magdalen Oomens, Kerri Mary Magdalen Olson, Pamela Magdalen Hassell. Marilyn Mary Magdalen Caruana, Phyllis Magdalen Rodriguez, Judith Mary Magdalen Pickering, and Reshika (Mary Magdalene) Fernando

July 25: Peter James Lambert-Brown

July 26: Daphne Anne Spelter

July 29: Sr. Joy Martha Jensen, Deborah Martha Pike and Wendy Mary Young, Christine (Mary of Bethany) Gilbert

July 31: Fr. John (Ignatius) Anderson.

August 8: Carol (Mary of the Cross) Xuereb

August 9: Anne (Edith) Fry, and Hilary (Teresa Benedicta of the Cross) Scarce.

August 11: Sr. Clare Gamble, Shirley Clare Basham, Rev. Ann Clare Dittmar McCollim and Marie Clare Manning
August 15: Sr. Maria Frances Slade,
August 20: Bernard Quinn, Fr. Peter Bernard Sheehan, Lee Ann Bernardine Wein, Dean Bernard Godric Piryak
August 23: Victoria Rose Sultana
August 27: Colleen Monica Fletcher
August 28: Juan Augustine Lorente, and Monica Augustina Rodriguez, Colleen Augustine Cashman, Monica Augustine Hunt
August 31: Leslie Aidan Whittet.

LET US PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AS OUR ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR:

May 24: Ivan Benedict Fitz
May 25: Phyllis Magdalen Rodrigues, Clare Therese Sydenham, Jeanette Therese McHugh, Phillip John Wilson.
May 30: Wendy Godric Orrock.
June 1: Fr. Mark Podesta.
June 3: Matthew Benedict Ransom
June 6: Loarraine Mary Irmina Stilo
June 8: Brenda Benedicta Verbeek, Judith Catherine Brown, Helene Miriam Mackey, Rev. Catherine Julian Eaton.
June 11: Bernadette Scholastica Packer.
June 12: Christine Gertrud Phillips, Lenka Gregoria Melville, Catherine Frances Turek, Peter Damian McElhone, Alfred Anselm Breznik, Rhonda Scholastica Kinsela, Debi Gertrud Russell, Isabel Frances Vicary.
June 14: Jean Julian Reid
June 14: Bishop Brian Gregory Mascord
June 22: Valerie Benedicta Dickson, Dorothy Benedicta Taylor
June 23: Aaron Placid McElhone, Margaret Benedicta Houen, Carmen Giovanna Xuereb and Josephine Antonia Petrie.
June 24: Libby Therese Denny, Catherine Scholastica Ransom
June 25: Varcha Giles Sidwell, Elizabeth Lioba Anderson, Bernadette Mary Maher, Paul Godric Griffiths, Colleen Monica Fletcher, Nancy Hilda Sage
June 28: Sonia Veronica Pleines
June 29: Sr. Julian Barbara Garwood
June 30: Rev. Nigel Thomas Wright
Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus: Anthony Anselm Tarleton, Ewa Mary Grajewska.
July 1: Sarah Louise Emmanuelle Kirsop and Rev. Sharon Lioba Baird.
July 9: Pam Magdalen Hassell
July 10: Lee Ann Bernardine Wein
July 11: Rev. Ian Patrick Crooks and Margaret Julian Crooks. Rosslyn Teresa Benedicta Rice, Ellen Benedicta Woods
July 12: Margaret Mary Magdalen Oomens
July 18: Melanie Syncletica Phillips
July 19: Susan Nano Dickson, and Elizabeth Benedicta Arblaster.
July 22: Kerri Mary Magdalen Olson
July 25: Sr. Joy Martha Jensen
July 26: Anne Sophia Norrie and Denis Nicols
August 6: Kilian Veronica de Lacy.

August 8: Anne Edith Fry
 August 9: Hilary (Teresa Benedicta of the Cross) Scarce
 August 10: Anthony John Smith and Vilma Elizabeth Smith.
 August 15: Noella Mary-Emmaus Sheerin, and Michelle Anne Mary Higlett.
 August 18: Marie Clare Manning
 August 22: Laura Gertrud Moya, Marianne Benedict Scarf, Irene Patricia McAllister, Josette Elizabeth Wickens, Antoinette Gertrud Jenkins, Ruth Hedwig Huebner, Assunta Benedicta Aquilina, Wilfrid Ambrose Moon, Nereda Gertrud Blake.
 August 24: Wendy Begu Fisher-Hudson
 August 29: Leslie Aidan Whittet, Susan Columba Marmion Lambert, Peter James Lambert-Brown.
 August 31: Pamela Hannah Winter

SOLEMN PROFESSION ANNIVERSARIES:

Corpus Christi: Sr. Agnes Manly
Sacred Heart: Sr. Antonia Curtis, and Sr. Maureen Therese Woodhouse.
 July 11: Sr. Therese Gilmour, Sr. Mary Bernadette Sunarjo
 August 6: Sr. Mary Veronica Chandler
 August 23: Sr. Caritas Rodrigues

MAY ETERNAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM AND MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:

May 29, 1876: Sister Mary Ann Hogan
 May 31, 1966: Sr. Mary Clare Bocher
 June 2, 1924: Mother Austin Marum (the first Child of Mary in Australia). The ceremony was held at our school. She and another twelve-year-old girl were accepted by the nuns without payment, - this was a request of Archbishop Polding. The school didn't open until 1851.
 June 2, 1987: Sr. Marian Bourke
 June 4, 1976: Sr. Mary Gertrude Flannery
 June 8, 1905: Sr. Mary Scholastica Therry
 June 9, 2011: Sr. Janice Robertson
 June 10, 1973: Sr. Mary Bernard Bryant.
 June 13, 1988: Sr. Miriam Murray
 June 16, 1920: Sr. Mary Paul Fairland
 June 16, 1932: Sr. Mary Stanislaus Egan
 June 18, 1861: Sr. Mary Aloysius Shortall
 June 18, 1980: Sr. Mary Audrey Bourke
 June 18, 2008: Oblate John Anselm Jamieson
 June 22, 2011: Oblate Gabriele Angelica Harders
 June 23, 1994: Oblate Clare Scholastica Empen
 June 23, 2001: Oblate Dr. William Canice Hudson
 June 23, 2012: Oblate Jean Edmond Peter Antoine
 June 27, 1972: Sr. Mary Bede Muschialli
 June 28, 1894: Mother Mary Placid Loughnan
 June 29, 1932: Mother Mary Justina Merewether
 July 2, 1888: Sr. M. Elizabeth Dwyer,
 July 5, 2008: Oblate Billie Jude Balson.
 July 10, 1891: Sr. M. Bridget O'Sullivan
 July 15th, 1943: Sr. Mary Scholastica Sugrue
 July 15, 1985: Sr. Mary Boniface McConnell
 July 19, 2009: Oblate Henning Maximilian Harders
 July 22, 2003: Sr. Marie Gregory Forster
 July 24, 1952: Sr. Mary Ann Harrington

August 9, 1968: Mother M. Mildred Potts, Fourth Elected Prioress of our community.
August 11, 1950: Sr. M. Annette Cunningham
August 22, 2012: Oblate Teresa Benedict Pozniak.
August 24, 2006: Mother Benedicta Philips, first Abbess of the community.
August 31, 2005: Sr. Joy Reynolds

SECTION SEVEN: Saints

St. Augustine said of the Psalmist: "The Psalmist is Christ himself. It is his voice I hear in the cry of the poor and in the praise of the faithful. The voice of Christ is not strange to me. Christ embraces the voices of all the members of his own body, of which he is the head: his suffering members crying out for justice, prolonging His Passion, and his members glorified by his Resurrection." (August 28 is the Feast of St. Augustine).

SECTION EIGHT: For Reflection

The Psalms are the prayerbook of the whole Christ. (St. Augustine)