

Verbum Dei

GUIDELINES FOR PRAYER

“May your
kingdom
Come”

(Luke 11:2b)

“Reviving the gift that is in you”

June 28-July 4, 2021

General Objective:

To grow as a Verbum Dei family in the missionary, prophetic, itinerant and expansive spirit so that we can form joyfully, apostles of Christ and evangelizing communities.

Objective of the Week:

To live like Jesus carrying the perspective of the coming of God’s Kingdom

“A Future Not Our Own”
(from St. Oscar Romero)

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith.
No confession brings perfection.
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.
No programme accomplishes the church’s mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about:

We plant seeds that one day will grow.
We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for God’s grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.

MONDAY

(St. Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr)

Luke 13:18-19 ¹⁸ Jesus asked, “What is the Kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it with? ¹⁹ It is like this. A man takes a mustard seed and plants it in his field. The plant grows and becomes a tree, and the birds make their nests in its branches.”

What is the Kingdom of God for me? How am I encouraged by Jesus in today’s prayer to collaborate with Him in building the Kingdom of God?

TUESDAY

(Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles)

Matthew 13:44-45 “The Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man happens to find a treasure hidden in a field. He covers it up again, and is so happy that he goes and sells everything he has, and then goes back and buys that field.

What specifically is He telling me to do for the kingdom to be visible?

WEDNESDAY

(The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church)

2 Cor.12:8-10⁸ Three times I prayed to the Lord about this and asked him to take it away. ⁹ But his answer was: "My grace is all you need, for my power is greatest when you are weak." I am most happy, then, to be proud of my weaknesses, in order to feel the protection of Christ's power over me. ¹⁰ I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and difficulties for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

What does He made me to realize in prayer to live for the kingdom?

THURSDAY

(St. Junipero Serra)

Mt.25:34-40 ³⁴ Then the King will say to the people on his right, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world. ³⁵ I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your

homes, ³⁶ naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ The righteous will then answer him, 'When, Lord, did we ever see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? ³⁸ When did we ever see you a stranger and welcome you in our homes, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we ever see you sick or in prison, and visit you?' ⁴⁰ The King will reply, 'I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these followers of mine, you did it for me!'

What is He inviting me to do in this time of prayer?

FRIDAY

(St. Oliver Plunkett)

Mt. 18:1-4 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, asking, "Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?"

² So Jesus called a child to come and stand in front of them, ³ and said, "I assure you that unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the Kingdom of heaven. ⁴ The greatest in the Kingdom of heaven is the one who humbles himself and becomes like this child.

Mt.7:13-14 ¹³ "Go in through the narrow gate, because the gate to hell is wide and

the road that leads to it is easy, and there are many who travel it. ¹⁴ But the gate to life is narrow and the way that leads to it is hard, and there are few people who find it.

What values of the kingdom that He wants me to live? How am I continuously opting for the values of the Kingdom?

SATURDAY

(St. Thomas, Apostle)

Luke 12:32³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the Kingdom.

How am I invited to live in the perspective of God's kingdom?

14th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading: Ez 2:2-5

Resp. Psalm: Ps 123:1-4

2nd Reading: 2 Cor 12:7-10

Gospel: Mark 6:1-6a