

PDT prayers
week 8 –
Wealth

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.

- Ecclesiastes 5:10

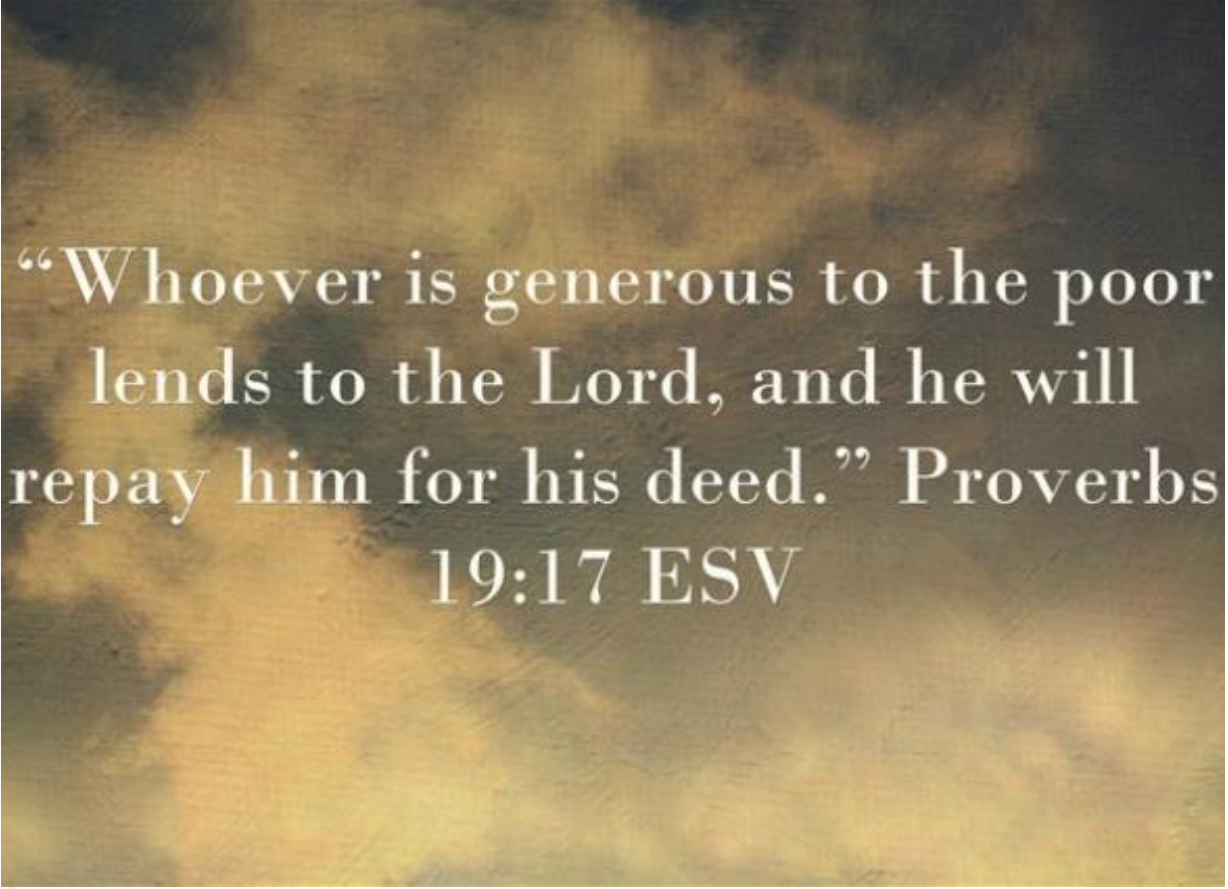


Monday 24th October


Christ our Lord, your light shines into the shadows, and shows us where the obstacles to change lie. We know that often they are in our own hearts, in the way we live, and in our daily choices and actions.

We pray that, each day, we make the choices and take the actions that will bring an end to poverty and hunger, and lead us all towards a fairer world.

St Joseph, Pray for us



“Whoever is generous to the poor
lends to the Lord, and he will
repay him for his deed.” Proverbs
19:17 ESV



Tuesday 25th October

You asked for my hands that you might use them for your purposes I gave them for a moment then withdrew them for the work was hard.

You asked for my mouth to speak out against injustice. I gave you a whisper that I might not be accused.

You asked for my eyes to see the pain of poverty. I closed them for I did not want to see.

You asked for my life that you might work through me. I gave you a small part that I might not get "too involved".

Father, forgive me, renew me, send me out as a usable instrument, that I may take seriously the meaning of your cross.

St Joseph, Pray for us

Wednesday 26th October

Lord God, you feel so strongly about the needy, the afflicted, the weak, and the imprisoned – and you love them so deeply. Inspire the leaders among us to uphold the rights of the downtrodden and to serve with fairness, justice and integrity.

St Joseph,
Pray for us

SPEAK UP FOR THOSE WHO
CANNOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES;
ENSURE JUSTICE FOR THOSE
BEING CRUSHED. YES, SPEAK UP
FOR THE POOR AND HELPLESS,
AND SEE THAT THEY GET JUSTICE.
(PROVERBS 31:8, 9 NLT)



Thursday 27th October



Basic necessities of life

We pray for the Church throughout the world, that she may be a voice for those who lack even the basic necessities of life, tirelessly serving them and calling for change.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

We pray for the world's leaders, that they may not hide behind their power or abuse it, but work for the good of all humanity, particularly the poor throughout the world.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

We pray for our local community, that we may show our love through our respect for each other and for our environment, gladly sharing what we have with those in need.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

The Friday message



Paying the Imperial Tax to Caesar

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶ They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷ Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax^[a] to Caesar or not?”

¹⁸ But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for paying the tax.” They brought him a denarius, ²⁰ and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?”

²¹ “Caesar’s,” they replied.

Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

²² When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.



meaning

Today we hear the story of the Jesus being confronted by the Jewish leaders about how money should be used, whether people should pay taxes. They were trying to get Jesus to say something that they could hold against him but they were surprised by his response.

“So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

Think about it, Caesar’s image may have been stamped on a coin but where was God’s image stamped? And the answer to that question is so significant. Think all the way back to the very beginning of the Bible, Genesis 1, God’s image is stamped on every human heart, we are made in the image of God.

In other words, Caesar may be worthy of a coin but God is worthy of our hearts. And that changes the way we view leadership under God. So we appropriately honour the people who are in charge in our life and different leaders. We see this all throughout scripture. At the same time, we ultimately glorify God. No worldly leader is worthy of our hearts. God alone is worthy of our trust and our allegiance and our hope. Jesus calls us to give our lives to God, everything we are not just one part.

How can give back to God what is his? What gifts and talents can we use to serve each other and God?



Lord, we pray that this weekend will be filled with rest, refreshment, and quiet time with You. Our lives can seem so overwhelming and confusing, but we know that You are there by our side always.

St Joseph – Pray for us



Happy
Weekend

Final
thought...

*“The only things we can keep are the
things we freely give to God,”*

C.S. Lewis