

LEARNING FROM THE MASTER

Our Blessed Lord started with prayer. He prayed while carrying out his ministry and he ended with prayer. He was constantly and consistently one and in communication, in communion with the Father. This he did and taught. Today we read about his prayer to the Father at end of his earthly ministry before his ascension into heaven, back to the Father. We know that from there, he intercedes for us. He taught by example. This can be inferred from the words, 'In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach' (Acts 1:1). Little wonder the Apostles, 'having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, 'Lord, you can read everyone's heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place' (Acts 1:15-17. 20-26).

Beloved People of God, prayer remains the 'Master key'. Praying, does not and should stop anyone from planning. Planning on the other hand, must not exclude prayer. Prayer ought to help with planning. It goes hand in hand with proper and adequate planning. Proper prayer perfects vision and makes mission clearer. Consistency in prayer helps with fine-tuning of planning. With prayer, the success of a well-planned activity declares gratitude to God, giving him glory. On the other hand, it can help to redefine that which would have been called 'failure'.

May we learn from the Master, our Lord and Saviour. He prayed in season and out season. He prayed at the early hours of the morning. He prayed late in the night. Indeed, Jesus prayed always. We ought to pray always and not lose heart. We must pray persistently, consistently and not give up (cf. Lk 18:1). In all, we learn the habit of prayer, in supplication, in love and thanksgiving.

Fr. Ted

All to Jesus – Through Mary our Mother

Seventh Sunday of Easter (B)

12th May 2024