

“Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses it will save it.”
Luke 17

Thirty-Second Week of Ordinary Time: Nov. 7 - 13, 2010

[Creighton U Online Ministries Home Page](#) | [Daily Reflections](#) | [Online Retreat](#) | [Weekly Guide Home](#)
[PDF of this Page](#)

Thirty-Second Week of Ordinary Time

On the **Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**, in **Luke's Gospel**, the Sadducees ask sly questions of Jesus, hoping to confuse him on the idea of a Resurrection. Jesus refutes them by quoting Moses: “the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive.”

Tuesday is the **Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome**, with its own special readings. Wednesday is the **Memorial of Saint Leo the Great, pope and doctor of the Church**. Thursday is the **Memorial of Saint Martin of Tours, bishop**. Friday is the **Memorial of Saint Josaphat, bishop and martyr**. Saturday is the **Memorial of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, virgin**.

The first readings this week are from the pastoral letters to **Titus, Philemon**, and the **Second and Third Letter to John**.

Continuing **Luke's Gospel**, we hear Jesus talk about scandal and about forgiveness. He calls us to “have faith the size of a mustard seed” in order to do extraordinary things in his name. Jesus tells us to be obedient to what God calls us to do and simply say, “we have done what we were obliged to do.” We learn a lesson about gratitude when Jesus heals ten lepers and only one, “foreigner” returns to give thanks. Jesus tells the confrontational Pharisees that the Kingdom of God's coming can't be “seen” and it won't be announced. “For behold, the Kingdom of God is among you.” “But first [the Son of Man] must suffer greatly and be rejected by this generation.” All we can do is to be faithful: “Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses it will save

Daily Prayer This Week

This is a good week to ask Jesus what his messages are for us. What is he warning us about? What is he asking us to change? How is he encouraging us to place our trust in him? The answer will be different for each of us, but we have to pay attention and listen, in order to hear it. All of us need to hear him say, “Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses it will save it.” But each one of us needs to ask “In what ways do I seek to 'preserve my life' and in what ways do I need to 'lose' my life?”

The trouble with this kind of reflection is that we too often let ourselves off the hook by saying, “I just don't have time.” And, on some days, our day is really “booked” from morning to night. Finding intimacy with God in the midst of our everyday life and becoming a contemplative in action provides a very real way to stay in focus and to reflect, even when we are very busy. This practice is meant to make use of the “free” time we have in the background of our consciousness each day.

The key to this kind of prayer is to begin each day with a moment of consciousness of what we desire, need, are asking for. *Dear Lord, thank you for this day. Let me begin this day thinking of you and your love for me. Let me simply do whatever we ask me to do as your servant today.* This only takes 20 seconds. We all have 20 seconds. However, we all find that it isn't easy to do this because our Lord is not very present in our day to day awareness, and we may never have simply talked with the Lord as the first thing we do when we awake. With

it.” Finally, Jesus tells the parable “about the necessity for [his disciples] to pray always without becoming weary.” God will give justice to those who call out to him with faith.

Being prepared for the coming of the Kingdom and not being side-tracked by false claims of Jesus' presence are keys to **Luke's Gospel** for the **Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**. Jesus says, “By your perseverance you will secure your lives.”

practice, it works.

As we prepare for Sunday, we can spend a bit more moments each day, simply talking with our Lord at brief in between times during the day. Hopefully, we'll be seeing in all the things around us, that we are being invited by the Lord to accept him, to let him call us and open our hearts to respond generously. To what is he calling us? A great question to ask right up to the time we go into church on Sunday. When there, we can give God thanks and praise for opening our awareness and our readiness for him.

[Send us an e-mail](#)

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#) | [Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer](#) | [Tell a Friend about these Weekly Guides](#)
Visit the [Daily Reflections](#) Each Day This Week