



Judgment Sunday

Mat. 25: 31-46

“ For I was hungry and you gave me food.”

It is true that hunger goes down deep within the human being, just like the thirst, the alienation of one's soul and the shame of being naked, condemned and unforgiven. They all meet at the core of our being and of our existence and touch the image of God in us.

Hunger for food and for everything that nourishes the body and the soul. Hunger for being loved, for receiving the gift with no condemnation, with no condescension, but with thanksgiving. Thirst for water as the source of life that sweetens our thirst for truth, righteousness and holiness. The water that transforms the abyss of the soul into the inner chamber where the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night.

Naked and ashamed of being nothing and doing nothing good. Ashamed of our own sins and of those who mock our shamefulness. Ashamed of the nakedness that uncovers the innocence harmed within me. Ashamed of the heaviness that carries us around. Ashamed of being avoided by someone who could forgive. Praying for the cloth that covers the body after the soul has deserted it. Ashamed of my prayer, ashamed to hope for mercy. Desiring the freedom to know how to do good within an oppressive system, in the captivity of sin that systematically deconstructs the common good, tearing down the temple, wounding the community of the saints who cannot recognize each other, “who made me a stranger to my brothers”.

Mark 15:34 (the Gospel on Friday): “ Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” “ My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”

In the gospel of Mark, Christ finds himself alone on the cross, with God who is absent. After being deserted by His disciples, Christ experienced the deepest despair of the human being: to be forgotten by God. His cry before giving up His soul is the cry of prayer (see Ps. 22). On the cross He is one of the Godforsaken people, being the first in all things.

Ps. 20 “You shamed the counsel of the poor man because the Lord is his hope”.

People who are rejected by the community come closer to God. Through the cross we see that sin hurts our being so much. Human sins, together with the alienation of one's soul hides God from my brother's sight. The cry of the one who is “forgotten” by God was turned into prayer by Christ on the cross. This is the prayer of the one who is rejected by the community and who lives in his heart God's abandonment. A prayer that is made known to us when they approach us hungry, thirsty, naked and in need of our care. With this prayer comes also great hope, the hope of Godforsaken people who speak to us the news of the Resurrection.

What is this hope for us?

If we had known the poverty of the poor, the hunger of the hungry, the thirst of the thirsty, the loneliness of the forgotten people of God, the shame of the naked, the pain and despondency of the sick, the lack of freedom that paralyzes the human heart, we would have learnt about the reality of hope, which was brought about by prayer in a Godforsaken heart. Christ is praying to the father from the cross and He approaches our deserted heart through those with whom He shares in this abandonment. He reconciles us with the Father in the light of His Resurrection.

For more on Christ alone with God who is absent please see Richard Bauckham "Jesus and the God of Israel" and Ps. 20, 21 and 22.

For those who are sick

Mikayla and her brother Luca; Karunawathi, Gloria, Vijekumari, Ronda, and Regina; Delia; Valerie; Tom; Traian; Peter; Marco; Kim (knee surgery); Tihomir; Kate; Payton Clark (back surgery); Sana, and her family in Egypt. Isaiah; Mary; Sydney; Peter Christine; Stephanie; Iulia; Jason; Sophia; Alexander; Charles; Tom; Paul; Phillip Hadler and his wife Juliet; Cristeena; Ann brown's daughter; Silvia, Jincy; Shiron Crisreen; Allain; Levalin and the family; Seena Colin and her husband; Waheeda and children; Faizah; Shirin and her family; Eva; Frank, Cristina; Daniela, Jerry; Delia ; Ragaie; Victoria; Mike Farida; Roselyne and family ; Ana, Cornelia; Leon to Jerry; Nikitha, Ocean; Gloria, Anne, Marina, Marie, Edemene; Joanna and family GN; Rejoice; Romana, Coline, Michael, Peter, Henry, George, Kelly; Tom; Marina; Sandra and her son Chris; Kumari; Susan; child James; Aaron; Sylvia; Fr Jonathan; Tharshini and her two children; Ann Tyron and her family; Sandra Gomaz's children; Sameen; Sophia; Amy; Swetha and children ; Charitha; Jitesh's parents ; Demene; Carol; Gloria; Hawa Bibi; Vimaladevi; Lynn; Michelle; Emanuel (Mani); Stefanie; Geoff; Joey; Evangelia; Sophia; Melanie; Césare; Tanya; Piper; Darius; Zamalk; Nelly; Nahla; Mira; Sandral ; Brenda; Anna Avairo's daughter Vol Gomaz; Levlin's two children Sri' ; Helen; Paul; Wafaa

Please pray for health and salvation:

Community In Goma and the children in their care: Neema; Rosine; Justine; Miriam; Chance; Jemya; Patricia; Alliance; Nice; Dorcas; Justine; Agnes; Muhindo Dorcas.

George, Connie, Nick, Fennie, Theodore, Chris, Nick, Toula, Steven, Nicole, Tony, Sam, Sophia.; Prayer for Mary Mcgee. She lost her grandmother.; Fr. Michael and Pani Karen; Anthony and the family. He lost his brother in Trinidad. He is hoping to make a visit to Trinidad; Ramanand and his families in Guyana, USA and here in Canada (Ramanand lost three of his family members including one of his brothers, suddenly within two months); Paola; Elizabeth; Matthi; Dave and his family; Jai's family; Anne Tyran; Joseph to find housing; Lito; Mauro, Prayers for Ted's family (incarcerated son to be free)

Dameal asking prayers for his future wife Fathima to be free from addictions

Liz Gibicar asking prayers for her mother; Tejasree and her mother; Prashastha; Maria and Dingo; Crisent; Helen; Greta; Elizabeth; Dean; John; Liz; Crisent; Ann Brown; Elizabeth; Sifie; Allen; Leon; Ricky and his family from back home for the hope of reuniting; Aaron, Anastas, Olivia, Gelly, Frank, Eva, George, Rebecca, Andreas, Cathyann, Reigan, Stephanie, Peter, Christine; Christian family from Bangladesh, Sandra, Peter, Angel, Bless, Grace, Swetha family; Atlaw single mom at shelter, Vernevil family; the family of Kenide; Saathiya; Sena; Vinothiny

Yvienne; Abdul; Sakanthalathevy; Jumke; Naimi; Anish; Joshua DanielJMaria Lolita Soliman Torres, Jonathan , Richard, Richard, Mary , Elizabeth, Michael, Bill, Robert, Alan, Joanne

Please pray for the deceased:

Elena; Pani Mary; Rejoice`s mother ;Edmund; Pani Eleanor; Fr John; Alexandru; Constantin; Robert; fr Aurel; Georgi; Rada; Petre; Stela; William; Samuel; Debie; John; Amy, Willie; Dave`s wife; Ana; Shirin `s cousin in Jordan; Father Lawrence; Dave; Anne Tyran`s father; Edith, Sr. Mary Magdalene, Joice, BettyAnn, James, Pauanasuy Kamthasang, Maria (Covid), Andrei, Agostina, Carminda, Vimaladevi's sister; Sri's mother, Carol's Mother and 23 year old nephew passed away in Haiti. Demene`s mother; Dalalzaki.