

November 6, 2016 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Our birth made us mortal, our death will make us immortal!**

2Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14

Psalm 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15

2Thessalonians 2:16-3:5

Luke 20:27-38

In the first reading seven brothers are arrested, tortured, and put to death because they refuse to eat certain foods and break God's law received from heaven. They are martyred along with their mother and are willing to lose their earthly life because of hope in the King of the world who will raise them up to eternal life and bring vindication. God's power gave them life and they believe it will redeem them into a new life.

The psalmist asks for protection from violent men. His prayer is honest, his outcry clear, his direction clear, his faith in being heard is strong. He will walk the narrow path without faltering and will see God's face in eternity.

In the second reading Paul acknowledges that the Lord protects us against the evil one and strengthens us to promote the word of the Lord. He asks for prayers so that others will quickly accept the gospel message accepted by the Thessalonians. Pray, he says, that we may be delivered from confused and evil men who lack faith and that our hearts will be strengthened by every good deed and word.

In the Gospel Jesus explains the truth of the resurrection by emphasizing God is the God of the living. Children of the resurrection are children of God and become like angels no longer liable to death.



**The Father strengthens us;  
The Son offers us constancy;  
The Holy Spirit equips us for every good work.**

The examples of today's readings remind us to remain strong and true in our beliefs in the face of confused unbelievers. Those before us were faithful even when facing death. Our guidance comes from the Living God who hears our outcries and protects us in time of danger. The resurrection is reality as well as a God-given hope and faith in Christ takes the sting out of death. Let us follow right paths and be examples of the word that lives in us.

### **Be Forgiving**

Compared to God's charity ours is so much shallower that we often find that small annoyances are the hardest to forgive. If we focus our prayer on the all-forgiving Father we will be able to let go of such displeasures and become more like the Son. *O Lord, you are good and forgiving full of love to all who call.* (Psalm 86:5).

In the same way let us ask the Lord to preserve us from the temptation to trap others in their shortcomings by passing on small-minded gossip. "Let your mouth be constant in blessings and no one's abuse will ever fall upon you. Insult generates insult and blessing, blessing". (St, Isaac of Nineveh)

<http://melkaplace.com>