

# Respice Finem

## MORNING PRAYER

Monday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### REFLECTION

Last week we reflected on the virtue of Prudence. We heard how Saint John Henry Newman described Prudence as being able to *discern the end* in everything that we begin to do.... In asking ourselves 'Where will this lead?' Our school motto puts the virtue of Prudence into a neat little Latin phrase. Easy to remember, but not easy to acquire.... *Respice Finem*, which means 'Look towards the End'. This week, as we end the Liturgical Year, and at the end of the month of November when we have prayed for the dead, it is good also to think about how things will end for you. Because one day will be the day when you die. Occasionally it is good to reflect on this reality; it can help you look at the way you're living your life. Are you making the best of it? On your deathbed, will you regret the way you're living your life now? If so, then now is the time to change.

### PRAYERS

Let us pray for those who are near to death, especially those near to us; May they find the strength to surrender into God's tender embrace.

Lord, hear us...

We pray for those who are dying alone in the hospitals nearby. May our prayers comfort them on their journey.

Lord, hear us...

St. Philip: **Pray for us.**

*House Saint*: **Pray for us.**

In the name of the Father...

# Respice Finem

Tuesday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## REFLECTION

***Respice Finem...*** 'Look towards the End'.

But how do you imagine *The End* will be for you?

As a Christian, the Bible says that your end will be as if Christ is coming towards you as your *King*, dressed in glory.

If he is your King then you are his *subject*, and as such, you should be doing his will 'on earth as it is in heaven'.

Every day, when you pray the Lord's Prayer and say '*Thy Kingdom come*', you are praying for the coming of the Kingdom, not just on earth in general, but within yourself in particular.

You are praying for the Kingdom to dawn in you, to bear fruit and to reach perfection in you.

God can be said to reign in your heart, if you open your heart to his call.

And remember never to fear death...

For you as a Christian, Love is stronger than death.

## PRAYERS

Let us pray together

**Our Father...**

**St. Philip: Pray for us.**

***House Saint: Pray for us.***

In the name of the Father...

# Respite Finem

Wednesday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## REFLECTION

You might imagine the end of your life as being like a *sunset*; like the sun setting in the sky after the day is done.

But pictures of the sun *setting* and sun *rising*... pictures of *dusk* and *dawn*... can be mistaken for each other.

Down here, it might seem that death is the moment when the light of day is extinguished, but it is exactly the opposite.

Down here you are the dark, but in the next world, you will be able to see properly for the first time, because you will be in the light.

Remember what Saint Paul says:-

*“The night is far spent, the day is drawing near.*

*Let us therefore lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us walk uprightly as in the day.”*

## PRAYERS

Let us pray for the souls of those who have been taken suddenly and without preparation from this world into the next.

Let us ask Mary, Morning Star, to pray for them that they find their home in the kingdom with Christ the King as we say together

**Hail Mary....**

St. Philip: **Pray for us.**

*House Saint:* **Pray for us.**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

# Respice Finem

Thursday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## ROSARY REFLECTION

Let us pray the Rosary today, for your own intentions and especially those who are at the end of their earthly lives:

### **THIRD MYSTERY OF LIGHT:**

### **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

*Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'*

*(One Our Father, ten Hail Marys, one Glory be)*

Friday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## FRIDAY PRAYER

*Remember that you can go to the chapel for confession this lunchtime*

Let us say together the prayer that the old man called Simeon prayed in the Temple, when he saw the baby Jesus in the arms of his mother.

It is the prayer which the Church says at the close of every day, and it is a prayer to pray at the end of our lives. It is easy to learn.

It is called the ***Nunc Dimittis***.

*Lord, now let your servant depart in peace  
according to your word.*

*For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all peoples,  
a light of revelation to the Gentiles  
and for the glory of your people Israel.*

*Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be,  
world without end.*

*Amen.*