



# Daily Reflections

**November 2, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Wisdom 3: 1-9**

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,  
and no torment shall touch them.

They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;  
and their passing away was thought an affliction  
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.  
But they are in peace.

For if before men, indeed, they be punished,  
yet is their hope full of immortality;  
chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,  
because God tried them  
and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them,  
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

In the time of their visitation they shall shine,  
and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;  
they shall judge nations and rule over peoples,  
and the LORD shall be their King forever.

Those who trust in him shall understand truth,  
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:  
because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,  
and his care is with his elect.

# **Our Scripture Reflection**

Today's Scripture reading was written by King Solomon for those who were concerned about the destiny of their loved ones who had died. He assures them that God is faithful and true. He will not allow those who are faithful to Him to simply perish for all eternity. They are "in the hands of God." While written prior to the death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus, King Solomon's words offered comfort to the grieving. Jesus' words, however, gave a promise and hope: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life....no one comes to the Father but through me."

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## **Food for your Journey**

When I was young, I longed to be a saint. What was I longing for? I think it was for certainty that my life had been, in the most profound sense, a "success" -- that great and glorious success that is sanctity. We revere the saints. We imitate them. Theirs is the true and lasting glory. Very clearly, this desire is, unconsciously, as worldly as that of the writer who wants to write a masterpiece or the politician who yearns to be prime minister or president. None of these ambitions has the least to do with what Jesus preached -- that lowliness, that love for last place, that readiness to die and be forgotten ... . To be concerned with oneself in any way, to watch one's growth in "holiness" or "prayer," to be spiritually ambitious, all this Jesus earnestly sets his face against.

--Sr. Wendy Beckett (author of the BBC art-appreciation series, Sister Wendy's Odyssey and Sister Wendy's Grand Tour) in *The Mystery of Love: Saints in Art through the Centuries* (HarperOne, 1996).

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## **A Prayer From The Heart**

Dear Jesus, Today I pray for my loved ones who have died. Lord, by virtue of their Baptism You gave them the promise of eternal life. You sacrificed Your life for that promise. Hold them, Lord, in Your loving arms until we are all raised in glory. Amen