October 31, 2019

Scripture

Some Pharisees came to Jesus and said,"Go away, leave this area because Herod wants to kill you."
He replied,"Go and tell that fox,
'Behold, I cast out demons and I perform healings today and tomorrow,
and on the third day I accomplish my purpose.
Yet I must continue on my way today, tomorrow, and the following day,
for it is impossible that a prophet should die
outside of Jerusalem.'
"Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you,
how many times I yearned to gather your children together
as a hen gathers her brood under her wings,
but you were unwilling!
Behold, your house will be abandoned.
But I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say,
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."

Our Scripture Reflection

After having “set His face towards Jerusalem” (Luke 9:51), today’s Gospel text shows us just how resolute and determined Our Lord was to accomplish the work for our salvation. Nothing, no one, not even the threat of death would slow Him down or cause Him to stop moving forward. He wanted and always will want us to spend eternity in Heaven with Him some day. How do you respond to that? Perhaps if we could just stop from time to time and recall how determined He was to save us despite the terrible cost, we would be humbled and perhaps become more grateful. And maybe, just maybe, we might spend our days showing our gratitude by living His was and not our own.
Food for your Journey

A pointed fable is told about a young lion and a cougar. Both thirsty, the animals arrived at their usual water hole at the same time. They immediately began to argue about who should satisfy his thirst first. The argument became heated, and each decided he would rather die than give up the privilege of being first to quench his thirst. As they stubbornly confronted each other, their emotions turned to rage. Their cruel attacks on each other were suddenly interrupted. They both looked up. Circling overhead was a flock of vultures waiting for the loser to fall. Quietly, the two beasts turned and walked away. The thought of being devoured was all they needed to end their quarrel.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You went all the way to Jerusalem and willingly accepted a terrifying death on the cross. You would have it no other way, that’s how much You loved and continue to love us. Help me, Lord, to show my gratitude by living the way You want me to live as Your faithful disciple. Amen