

DAY ONE READING AND PRAYERS

Morning Reading

Scripture Text: Psalm 107

“My name is Patrick. I am a sinner, a simple country person, and the least of all believers. I am looked down upon by many. My father was Calpornius. He was a deacon; his father was Potitus, a priest, who lived at Bannavem Taburniae.¹ His home was near there, and that is where I was taken prisoner. I was about sixteen at the time. At that time, I did not know the true God. I was taken into captivity in Ireland, along with thousands of others. We deserved this, because we had gone away from God, and did not keep his commandments. We would not listen to our priests, who advised us about how we could be saved. The Lord brought his strong anger upon us, and scattered us among many nations even to the ends of the earth. It was among foreigners that it was seen how little I was.

“It was there that the Lord opened up my awareness of my lack of faith. Even though it came about late, I recognized my failings. So I turned with all my heart to the Lord my God, and he looked down on my lowliness and had mercy on my youthful ignorance. He guarded me before I knew

¹ The location of Bannavem Taburniae is uncertain. In section 43, Patrick mentioned going to Britain, with the phrase “quasi ad patriam” — “as though (or nearly) to my native land”. He again refers to Britain in section 23.

him, and before I came to wisdom and could distinguish between good and evil. He protected me and consoled me as a father does for his son.” *Confession 1, 2*

Morning Prayer

Lord, like Patrick, I confess that I was — and am — a sinner. I once was lost, but now am found because of your mercy to me. I had sinned against conscience and your commands, and did not obey Christ. Disbelief and self-will was my predicament, and I was estranged from you. You sought me before I searched for you; your love welcomed me and has filled my life with hope.

Noon Reading

“That is why I cannot be silent — nor would it be good to do so — about such great blessings and such a gift that the Lord so kindly bestowed in the land of my captivity. This is how we can repay such blessings, when our lives change and we come to know God, to praise and bear witness to his great wonders before every nation under heaven.”

Confession 3

Noon Prayer

Remind me of your gift of repentance so that I may rehearse the bestowals of your kindness. Renew a steadfast spirit in me, then I will witness of you and rejoice in your new life. Your goodness makes me a happy debtor, and I will pay and repay you for ever and ever if only by your grace in me and to me.

Evening Reading

Scripture Text: Acts 2:32-36

“There is no other God, nor will there ever be, nor was there ever, except God the Father. He is the one who was not begotten, the one without a beginning, the one from whom all beginnings come, the one who holds all things in being — this is our teaching. And his son, Jesus Christ, whom we testify has always been, since before the beginning of this age, with the father in a spiritual way. He was begotten in an indescribable way before every beginning. Everything we can see, and everything beyond our sight, was made through him. He became a human being; and, having overcome death, was welcomed to the heavens to the Father. The Father gave him all power over every being, both heavenly and earthly and beneath the earth. Let every tongue confess that Jesus Christ, in whom we believe and whom we await to come back to us in the near future, is Lord and God. He is judge of the living and of the dead; he rewards every person according to their deeds. He has generously poured on us the Holy Spirit, the gift and promise of immortality, who makes believers and those who listen to be children of God and co-heirs with Christ. This is the one we acknowledge and adore — one God in a trinity of the sacred name.

“He said through the prophet: ‘Call on me in the day of your distress, and I will set you free, and you will glorify me.’ Again he said: ‘It is a matter of honor to reveal and tell forth the works of God.’” *Confession 4, 5*

Evening Prayer

Father, I profess with the saints that I believe in you, and in your son Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit. Faith is the 'object' of my life — “that” which I believe and know as a matter of truth. It is also the 'subject' of my life — “by which” I believe as the operative principle that governs my attitude, actions, ambition, and ultimate outlook. Lord, I believe and know; increase my faith and knowledge! May all the saints and churches adhere to that faith and advance in faith.