

SEPTEMBER 4, 2019  
Wednesday of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Week in OT  
Lk. 4: 38-44

### WORK AND PRAYER

In the life of St. John Paul II, “prayer was vital to him because he saw that closeness to Christ as the source of any good, he could accomplish. One night, the nuns that cared for him could not find the Pope. After searching the house, they rushed panicking into the chapel, where they found him on his knees in prayer. Noticing their worry, the Pope asked, “Sisters, is anything the matter?” “We were worried for Your Holiness,” they replied. The soon-to-be-blessed John Paul II smiled, “I too, was worried for my holiness,” he answered. John Paul II – The Road to Sainthood by Jim Gallagher

Sometimes, we forgot to pray everyday because we are too busy with our work. Our gospel for today lead us to reflect on the busyness of Jesus Christ but He makes time to pray. After all His missionary work, that is, healing the sick, preaching the Good News and performing miracles, “at daybreak, he departed and went into a deserted place” to pray and be in communion with His Father. For Jesus, he needed time to pray quietly even if there are a lot of things to do for the Kingdom of God. The crowds could not see the great value of prayer that is why they kept looking for Him.

Perhaps, my brothers and sisters, we are not different from the crowds. We often give importance to our work, our fun-filled life, our social media more than our prayer life. Prayer is essential to Jesus for Him to work well. Prayer assisted Jesus to keep doing the work of God, no matter what others wanted from him. He always has time to prayer because for Him, that’s the best way to be with His Father, to listen to Him and to know what God the Father wants Him to do. So like Jesus, if we keep on praying, have time for

prayer and devote some time to the Blessed Sacrament, we can understand God's will, and make the best use of our lives everyday.

Keep on praying, even simple one like as you wake up in the morning, just say "Thank you Lord for the beautiful morning" or at night "Lord, forgive all my wrongdoings today", or even make a sign of the cross as you leave the house, before driving your car, or spent a time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, or come to mass early and pray quietly in the pews instead of talking to one another. My brothers and sisters keep on praying, it can change us, it can lead us to heaven.