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MORNING PRAYER

Fr. Wm. McNamara

“Awaken each morning to thank God for a new day, a new opportunity to discover Him...and, then, by His power and grace, to be an instrument of His power and peace in my community and in the world.”



MAY

The answer is simple and obvious. Those who live in unhappy failure have never exercised their options for the better things of life because they have never been aware that they had any choices!...

Look closely. Consider the choices still available to you, choices that you can elect immediately, no matter what your present condition may be, so that you can live the remainder of your life as your Creator intended for you to live – in glory, not in shame.

I choose a better way to live!”

GOLDEN RULE

Bits & Pieces, 6/85

“Mary Kay Ash begins with the *Golden Rule* – doing unto others as you would have them do unto you. “You’ll always be fair to people,” she explains, “if you put yourself in their shoes and consider what their reaction will be to things.”

Another facet of her formula for success involves encouraging people. “Forget their mistakes,” she advises, “and zero in on one small thing they do right. Praise them and they’ll do more things right and discover talents and abilities they never realized they had.”

WANT OF WONDER

GK Chesterton

“The world will never starve for want of wonders, but only for want of wonder.”

FAIL INTELLIGENTLY

Charles F. Kettering

“We need to teach the highly educated person that it is not a disgrace to fail and that one must analyze every failure to find its cause. He or she must learn how to fail intelligently, for failing is one of the greatest arts in the world.”

THE CHOICE

Og Mandino

“CHOICE! The key is choice. You have options...So how do we explain that vast multitude of humanity that continues to exist in hopeless mediocrity, unfulfilled, frustrated, envious, drained of confidence and self-esteem, unable to meet even their daily obligations, and sad – so sad – that each new day produces no fresh seedling of hope, only more weeds of despair from showers of tears?”



ON ANGER

St. John Chrysostom

“Whoever is without anger, when there is cause for anger, sins. For unreasonable patience is the hotbed of many vices, it fosters negligence, and incites not only the wicked but the good to do wrong.”

WHEN WE GROW

M. Scott Peck
The Road Less Traveled, p. 268

“When we grow, it is because we are working at it, and we are working at it because we love ourselves. It is through love that we elevate ourselves. And it is through our love for others that we assist others to elevate themselves.”

MAKE THINGS HAPPEN

SOUNDINGS, 9/86

“There’s no such thing as a born hard worker, a born sales person, or a born genius. We are all born ignorant, with innate underdeveloped abilities. One cannot afford merely to let things happen. If you want success, you have to *make things happen*.”

SOME GREAT DESIRE Phillips Brooks
Elbert Hubbard’s Scrapbook, p 17

“Bad will be the day for every man when he becomes absolutely contented with the life that his is living, with the thoughts that he is thinking, with the deeds that he is doing, when there is not forever beating at the doors of his soul some great desire to do something larger, which he knows that he was meant and made to do because he is still, in spite of all, the child of God.”

ON THINKING

Bennis & Nanus
Leaders, p. 40

“Thinking prepares one for what is to be done, what ought to be done. Thinking, though it may be unsettling and dangerous to the established order, is constructive: it challenges old conventions by suggesting new directions, new visions.”

THE SEVENTH FLUTE

THE CHRISTOPHERS, Vol. 47
Three Minutes a Day, Aug. 19

Preacher William L. Stidger once told a story about the conductor Walter Damrosch who stopped his orchestra when everything was apparently going along smoothly. He asked, “Where is the seventh flute?”

As Stidger points out, the conductor didn’t ask for the first flute, or the second flute – but the seventh. Even the seventh flute had an important role in creating the harmony the leader desired.

The lesson, Stidger explained: “We may feel inferior, untalented, not beautiful and some of us uneducated. But each of us has a part to play and should play it well.”

He tells how he used to watch the man who plays the triangle in a large orchestra. Often the player would sit through the entire number. Eagerly waiting. Then, toward the close, he would, with perfect timing, deftly strike the instrument and produce just the right note.

In other words, there is no unimportant job.

Whatever your part is in this world, do it well.

AS YOU GRADUATE

Source Unknown

Cherish your memories,
but look FORWARD.
Treasure your friendships
but reach OUTWARD.
Learn from the past
but move ONWARD.
Live each day with hope
and climb UPWARD.

ON LEADERSHIP

William Arthur Ward

“Leadership is based on inspiration, not domination; on cooperation, not intimidation.”

LIFE IS LOST

Stephen Vincent Benét

“Life is not lost by dying; life is lost minute by minute, day by dragging day, in all the thousand and small uncaring ways.”

THE OLYMPIC MOTTO

Source Unknown

A friend of Baron Pierre de Coubertin, Father Henri Martin Didon, OP, was principal of the Arcueil College, near Paris. An energetic teacher, he used the discipline of sport as a powerful educational tool.

One day, following an inter-school athletics meeting, he ended his speech with fine oratorical vigor, quoting the three words – “Citius, Altius, Fortius” (faster, higher, stronger).

Struck by the succinctness of this phrase, Baron de Coubertin made it the Olympic motto, pointing out that “Athletes need ‘freedom of excess.’ That is why we gave them this motto...a motto for people who dare to try to break records.”

