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FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN

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How much more "ordinary" can you get than the "third Sunday of Ordinary time"? For a non-Catholic, this would be a perfectly logical question / statement. But for Catholics, when speaking about the Liturgy even the most ordinary is extraordinary. We number the weeks of Ordinary Time because we can consider each week to be so special that it is unlike any other.

Each and every day that we can celebrate the Eucharist and grow in our friendship with Christ is part of the precious jewel that God has given us.

One modern spiritual master that understood this better than most is Thomas Merton. Many of you will know him as a monk and author of spiritual mysticism. I use his writing often to help me meditate. He raises the bar in my prayer. He helps me go deeper in my dialogue with the Lord. That is why I wanted to pass on to you for your prayer life in this Ordinary Time one of his prayers. I find it to be spectacularly honest and I hope it helps you:

Prayer by Thomas Merton

***"My Lord God,
I have no idea where I am going.
I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will end.
nor do I really know myself,
and the fact that I think I am following your will
does not mean that I am actually doing so.
But I believe that the desire to please you
does in fact please you.
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.
And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,
though I may know nothing about it.
Therefore will I trust you always though
I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."***

Let me know when you see me around if you found this helpful.

God bless, Father Jonathan