

Thoughts on the Daily Word:

32nd Week of Year. Thursday 16th November. Readings: Wisdom 7:22-8:1; Psalm: 118; Luke 17:20-25.

This month we remember the coming of peace in the Great War, the one meant to end all wars. Sadly, we also remember the end of the Second World War. This time can have conflicting emotions. Joy at the coming of peace and the victory over unheard of cruelty but also a terrible grief over the loss of so many lives in conflict. Today's Gospel I think reflects the same conflictual emotions of the early Christian community. It was full of joy over the expected coming of the Kingdom of Christ and yet reality meant persecution and much suffering. Jesus is preparing his disciples for just that challenge and telling them that the Kingdom is actually within them but that it will become a reality in the world. This is the plan of God so brilliantly described in the Wisdom books of the Old Testament. As we come to the end of the Church's Year, at the beginning of winter darkness, we are reminded of the faith that we need to hold on to.