

Sir Thomas More by Hans Holbein the Younger

Famous last words

I cannot, therefore, mistrust the grace of God.

I will not mistrust him, Meg, though I shall feel myself weakening and on the verge of being overcome with fear. I shall remember how St Peter at a blast of wind began to sink because of his lack of faith, and I shall do as he did: call upon Christ and pray to him for help. And then I trust he shall place his holy hand on me and in the stormy seas hold me up from drowning.

And if he permits me to play St Peter further and to fall to the ground and to swear and forswear, may God our Lord in his tender mercy keep me from this, and let me lose if it so happens, and never win thereby! Still, if this should happen, afterward I trust that in his goodness he will look on me with pity as he did upon St Peter and make me stand up again and confess the truth of my conscience afresh and endure here the shame

and harm of my own fault.

And finally, Margaret, I know this well: that without my fault he will not let me be lost. I shall, therefore, with good hope commit myself wholly to him. And if he permits me to perish for my faults, then I shall serve as praise for his justice. But in good faith, Meg, I trust that his tender pity shall keep my poor soul safe and make me commend his mercy.

And, therefore, my own good daughter, do not let your mind be troubled over anything that shall happen to me in this world. Nothing can come but what God wills. And I am very sure that whatever that be, however bad it may seem, it shall indeed be the best.

St Thomas More, last letter to his daughter, Margaret Roper

Loving Lord, you refresh us with your presence and you sustain us with your life-giving word. Show us how to lift the burden of others, especially those who lack the basic necessities of life, and to refresh them with humble care and service. • Amen.

St Thomas More

"Lay all your cares about the future trustingly in God's hands and let yourself be guided by the Lord just like a little child."

> St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (St Edith Stein)



Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope Learn to build peace

Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often, we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope...

As sacred scripture teaches, the earth is the Lord's and all of us dwell in it as "aliens and tenants". If we really wish to prepare a path to peace in our world, let us commit ourselves to remedying the remote causes of injustice, settling unjust and unpayable debts, and feeding the hungry.

Pope Francis, Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the year 2025:1, 16

All of us are in God's hands. So, let us move forward, without fear, together, hand in hand with God and with one another other!

Pope Leo XIV







READINGS

Today: Revelation 7:2-4. 9-14 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12a

Monday: 2 Maccabees 12:43-45 Philippians 3:20-21 Luke 7:11-17

Tuesday: Romans 12:5-16b Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday: Romans 13:8-10 Luke 14:25-33

Thursday: Romans 14:7-12 Luke 15:1-10

Friday: Romans 15:14-21 Luke 16:1-8

Saturday: Romans 16:3-9. 16. 22-27 Luke 16:9-15

Next Sunday: Ezekiel 47:1-2. 8-9. 12 1 Corinthians 3:9c-11. 16-17 John 2:13-22