

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

When I was in Deacon School 1 thing we learned about homilies is that they need to be relevant  
**In the light of current events – today's 2<sup>nd</sup> reading couldn't be more relevant to us today**

St Paul says “Have no anxiety at all, BUT in everything, by prayer, petition, and with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God THEN the peace of God, that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus”

NOW THEN – “Have no anxiety at all” - Today we have:

- New War in Israel
- Old War in Ukraine
- Earthquake in Afghanistan kills over 2000 people
- Our Gov is basically shut down – no Speaker – no budget - chaos
- Synod in Rome is revealing division in the Church on issues of faith & morals

“Have not anxiety at all” REALLY? NOW WHAT – in the face of all this?

**Next verse:**

But in everything 1. by prayer 2. by petition 3. with thanksgiving  
Make your requests known to God

In the midst of all these things, this is our job – **Prayer, Petition, with Thanksgiving**  
Thanks (Confidence God will work)

**In our personal prayer and petition for:**

Israel, Ukraine, Our Government, Afghanistan, Synod – & whatever else is going on in your life

EXPECT - What Paul promises

“The peace of God, that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus”

That's possible if we do what Paul suggests in the last half of this reading:

“Finally my brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, anything worth of praise, think about these things. Then the God of peace will be with you.”

We can't help but be exposed to all the anxiety creating crisis swirling around us BUT  
St Paul says – in the midst of all the anxiety causing things in the world, be at peace

Bring all these issues to God with PRAYER PETITION with THANKSGIVING -  
Surrender your anxieties to God & trust in Him

NOTE = this not only works with these global issues causing anxiety

Paul's advice works with our personal ones as well

- My sisters are fighting, my job is at risk, my child is sick
- PRAYER PETITION and THANKSGIVING work there to
- That we may have peace