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Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues from place to place; and awesome sights and mighty signs will come from the sky.

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November 16, 2025

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mal 3:19-20a | 2 Thes 3:7-12 | Lk 21:5-19

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

We don't have to look far to find grief, violence, or chaos in our world. Perhaps it has made its way into our community or has pierced our hearts in deeply personal ways. Or even if the chaos of life has remained at a distance for now, it can be tempting to wonder if the end is near at times. But Jesus warns us against catastrophic thoughts. Listen to what he says in today's Gospel, when asked how we will know the end time is coming: "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for such things must happen first, but it will not immediately be the end." Jesus knew we would need his clear and steady reminder. If you find yourself fearing the state of the world, turn all your senses toward Jesus. Let your anxiety, grief, and concern become catalysts for prayer.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Although today's Gospel may at first be one that stirs fear, as we look deeper we realize that Jesus is speaking directly into the heart of our fear and offering his profound consolation. There is so much in this Gospel that can encourage us to continue to bear witness to Christ even in trying times. As we scroll through the news each day, remember Jesus' words to not be "terrified." If you find yourself in circumstances where it's not easy to stand up for your faith, Jesus tells us, "I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute." And when you look to the future with dread, remember that Jesus says, "not a hair on your head will be destroyed." Read these words again, drawing comfort and strength that the Lord is with you, guiding and protecting you through it all.

PRAY

If you find yourself feeling overwhelmed this week, pray the Prayer of St. Teresa of Ávila:

*Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices.*