

November 17, 2024



Photo by Sr. Karin Nürnberg, CSJ, from the Abbey St. Hildegard in Eibingen, Germany

SEASON BY SEASON

By Sister Katherine “Kit” Gray, CSJ

Quotes

Teach us to count our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart.

PSALM 90:12

My times are in your hands.

PSALM 31: 15

And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

ROMANS 13:11

But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come.

In the time of my favor I heard you, and on the day of salvation I helped you. I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

2 CORINTHIANS 6:2

Reflection

What is time? What does time mean to me? What are some expressions I use about time?

Today is the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time in the Catholic liturgical year. Next Sunday is the Feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday in the Church year, and the following Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a new liturgical year. This “context” has me thinking about “time.”

The dictionary definition of time is “the indefinite continued progress of existence and events in the past, present, and future regarded as a whole.” That’s a mouthful and a mind-full. There are philosophical ideas about time that connect time with change: time may be an abstract way for humans to understand and mark change. If there is no change, there is no time.

In Greek, “chronos” refers to quantitative, measurable time like seconds on a clock, while “kairos” signifies a qualitative, opportune moment or “right time,” the perfect moment to act or take advantage of a situation; essentially, chronos is the “clock time” and kairos is the “right time” to do something or for something to happen.



Shallow Focus of Clear Hourglass

Photo by Jordan Benton

For Pondering

What do these expressions about time mean to you?

Time enough
I don't have time
Good time
Time flies
Behind the times

Killing time
Time is money
Beat the clock
Time will tell
God's time

For Prayer

*There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair under the heavens.*

*A time to give birth, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.*

*A time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to tear down, and a time to build.*

*A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.*

*A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.*

*A time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away.
A time to rend, and a time to sew;
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.
A time to love, and a time to hate;
a time of war, and a time of peace.*

What profit have workers from their toil?

*have seen the business that God has given to mortals to be busied about.
God has made everything appropriate to its time but has put the timeless into
their hearts so they cannot find out, from beginning to end, the work which
God has done.*

*I recognized that there is nothing better than to rejoice and to do well during
life.*

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-11

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