

Reflection for the 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time
10 June 2018
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Jesus tells us that the gate into heaven is narrow. This is demonstrated in the Book of Sirach 46:1-10, when he recalls that Joshua and Caleb were chosen to be two out of 600,000 infantrymen to lead their people into the Promised Land. Their demonstrated trust and obedience to God sets them apart from the masses. Sirach notes that time and again Joshua is faithful to the Lord and he is richly rewarded. When they enter the land, God speaks to Joshua and Joshua responds to God in complete obedience and trust. I pray for the grace of obedience.

This narrow gate is also shown by the faith and grace of our martyrs, of which, St. Ignatius of Antioch is among. His pleading with the Christians of Rome to allow him to have the blessing of dying in the name of Jesus Christ, the grace of martyrdom. This plea shows this narrow path once again. I reflect on my own relationship with God every time I read the words of the truly faithful and their incredibly powerful trust in God. I also pray for the grace of this trust.

The gate is indeed narrow. Blessed are those who believe without seeing. O Lord, have mercy on me. Increase my faith that I, too, may have the fortitude necessary to endure the path you have laid out for me. That I may trust in you always. That I may cooperate with your graces and gifts obediently and readily. That I may enter through this narrow gate. In Jesus name, I pray. Amen.