



**St Josefa Naval Girbes** (1820-1893) as a young woman, took the vow of chastity. Josefa was very active in her parish life. Opened a school for girls in her own home where she taught needlework and prayer. She was a member of the Third Order Secular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Teresa of Jesus. She had great devotion for the Virgin Mary.

**First Reading:** (Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27)

Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I but also all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks; greet also the church in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who was the first convert in Asia for Christ. Greet Mary, who has worked hard among you. Greet Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners; they are men of note among the apostles, and they were in Christ before me. Greet Ampliatius, my beloved in the Lord. Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and my beloved Stachys. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you. I Tertius, the writer of this letter, greet you in the Lord. Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus, greet you. Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed and through the prophetic writings is made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience

of faith -- to the only wise God be glory for evermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

**Ps 144:2-5, 10-11**

**R./ I will bless your name for ever,  
O Lord.**

**Gospel:** (Lk 16:9-15) Jesus said to his disciples, "Make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous mammon, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal habitations. "He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and he who is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon." The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they scoffed at him. But he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts; for what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

**REFLECTION**

**The logic of faith is freedom. It is God who sets people free and guarantees our liberty:** "I am the Lord thy God; thou shalt not have strange gods before Me." Henceforth, the Freedom of faith urges one to desire no other master but God and God alone. Any other influence is a distraction. Money can therefore neither be worshipped nor occupy undue place in our lives. Because it does not last forever, money is likely to deceive us. It remains praiseworthy as long as it serves and promotes life according to the gospel. Jesus who knows human hearts, warns us against any form of rationalization. Your most valuable possession is a pure heart.