



*La Ofrenda, or, The Offering, Herrán, Saturnino, 1887-1918
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Prayer:

Giver of every gift, we grow closer to you in imitation of your own boundless generosity. Free us from the fear of scarcity, that we may know the joy and freedom of open-handed giving, and that your reign would spread more widely. Amen.

Weekday Reflection for Friday, June 25, 2021

Psalm 30 Lamentations 2:1-12 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

1 We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; 2 for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. 3 For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, 4 begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints — 5 and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, 6 so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. 7 Now as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you — so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

For reflection:

Paul praises the Macedonian Christians for their generosity even in the midst of hardship. Have you tended to be more generous when your resources have been more scarce or plentiful? Why?

Do you regard giving, whether to the church or to other benevolent causes, to be a responsibility or a privilege, or both? How so?