

**Bl. Kunjachan Thevarparambil** (Augustine) (1981-1973) dedicated himself to the spiritual and temporal welfare of marginalized Dalits. After receiving his major seminary formation at Puthenpally Seminary in Varapuzha, Augustine was ordained as a priest on July 16, 1915. He is to be counted as one of the foremost missionaries among the Dalits in India. He preached with his works, practising charity, and always sublime and more dedicated.



**First Reading:** (Rom 4:13, 16-18) The promise to Abraham and his descendants, that they should inherit the world, did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants -- not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, for he is the father of us all, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations" -- in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations; as he had been told, "So shall your descendants be."

**Ps 104:6-9, 42-43**

**R./ The Lord remembers his covenant for ever**

**Gospel:** (Lk 12:8-12) Jesus said to his disciples, "I tell you, every one who acknowledges me before men, the Son of man also will acknowledge before the angels of God; but he who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God. And every one who speaks a word against the Son of man will be forgiven; but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious how or what you are to answer or what you are to say; for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say."

## REFLECTION

Our movement towards God and every act of kindness is in and through the Holy Spirit. Therefore, when we close ourselves against the Holy Spirit or are not open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit we sin against the Holy Spirit. God cannot take away our freedom and also our fundamental option against God. We can choose to listen to the Holy Spirit to live in Christ and manifest Christ in our words and deeds. St Margaret Mary Alacoque lived close to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Bl. Kunjachan manifested it by being Jesus to others especially to the so called outcasts, the poor and the marginalized. **Let us live and manifest Jesus.**