



STRENGTH OF THE WEEK



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STEADFASTNESS

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STEADFASTNESS

INTRODUCTION

This week our strength building on the virtue of Hope is STEADFASTNESS.

The strength of being dutifully firm and unwavering.

“Hope is the sure and STEADFAST anchor of the soul.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church # 1820

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STEADFASTNESS

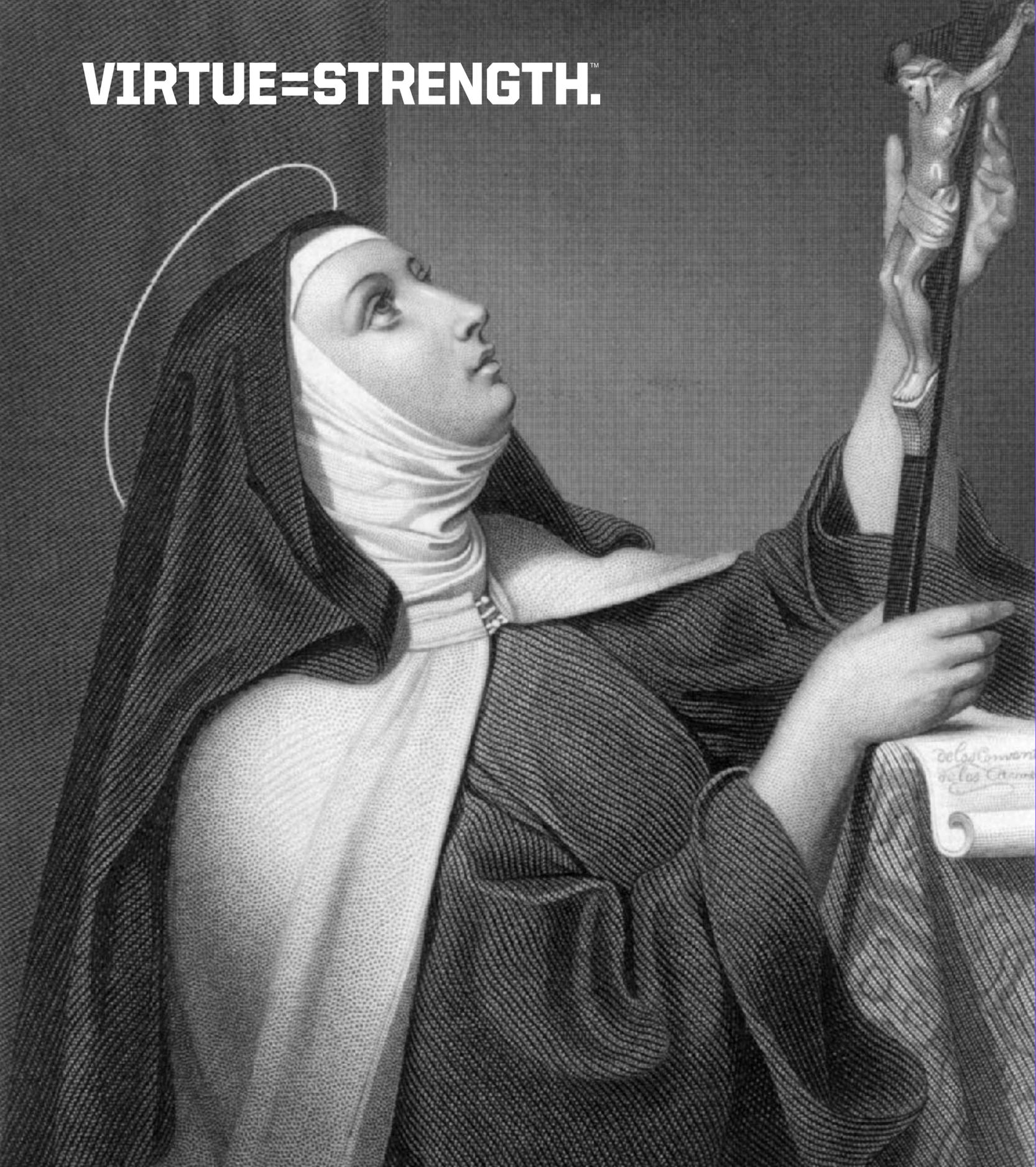
RESOLUTION

WAY TO LIVE THE VIRTUE THIS WEEK

When you give your word to do something, stick to it.

Don't give up when it gets difficult or boring.

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STEADFASTNESS

[ST. TERESA OF AVILA VIDEO](#)

St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

Carmelite nun, prominent Spanish mystic, religious reformer, author, theologian of the contemplative life and mental prayer and first female Doctor of the Church.





STORY

A SOLDIER NOT TO BE DETERRED FROM PRAYER BY RIDICULE

A young man who had the habit of kneeling down every morning and night to say his prayers enlisted in the army. The first night in the barracks he knelt down by his bedside as he was accustomed to do, and silently recited his night prayers. The other soldiers, his seniors both in age and rank, had never witnessed anyone do this; they immediately began to make fun of him. The young man, however, took no notice and calmly finished speaking with our Lord and then lay down in bed.

The second evening he knelt down as before. His mates started up again with whistles, laughs and jeers. The third evening came, and his fellow soldiers continued their shameful outbursts but the young man was not deterred and he paid no attention to what was said or done.

The next night as the same routine began to take place, at last one of the noisiest men said, "Leave him alone, comrades; there is the making of a good soldier in him for he can withstand some fire."

From the time forth, no one disturbed him at his prayers; nay more, several men began to follow his example, or if they did not kneel down, at least they breathed a silent prayer before drifting off to sleep. The courageous and prayerful young soldier quickly rose to distinction in the army.

JESUS TEACHES US

Matthew 10: 28-33

And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.

Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge.

Even all the hairs of your head are counted.

So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father.

But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father.



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“Can you expect to go to heaven for nothing?”

*Did not our Savior track the whole way to it with
His tears and blood?*

And yet you stop at every little pain.”

- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

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CLOSING PRAYER

Grant me, O Lord my God,

a mind to know You,

a heart to seek You,

wisdom to find You,

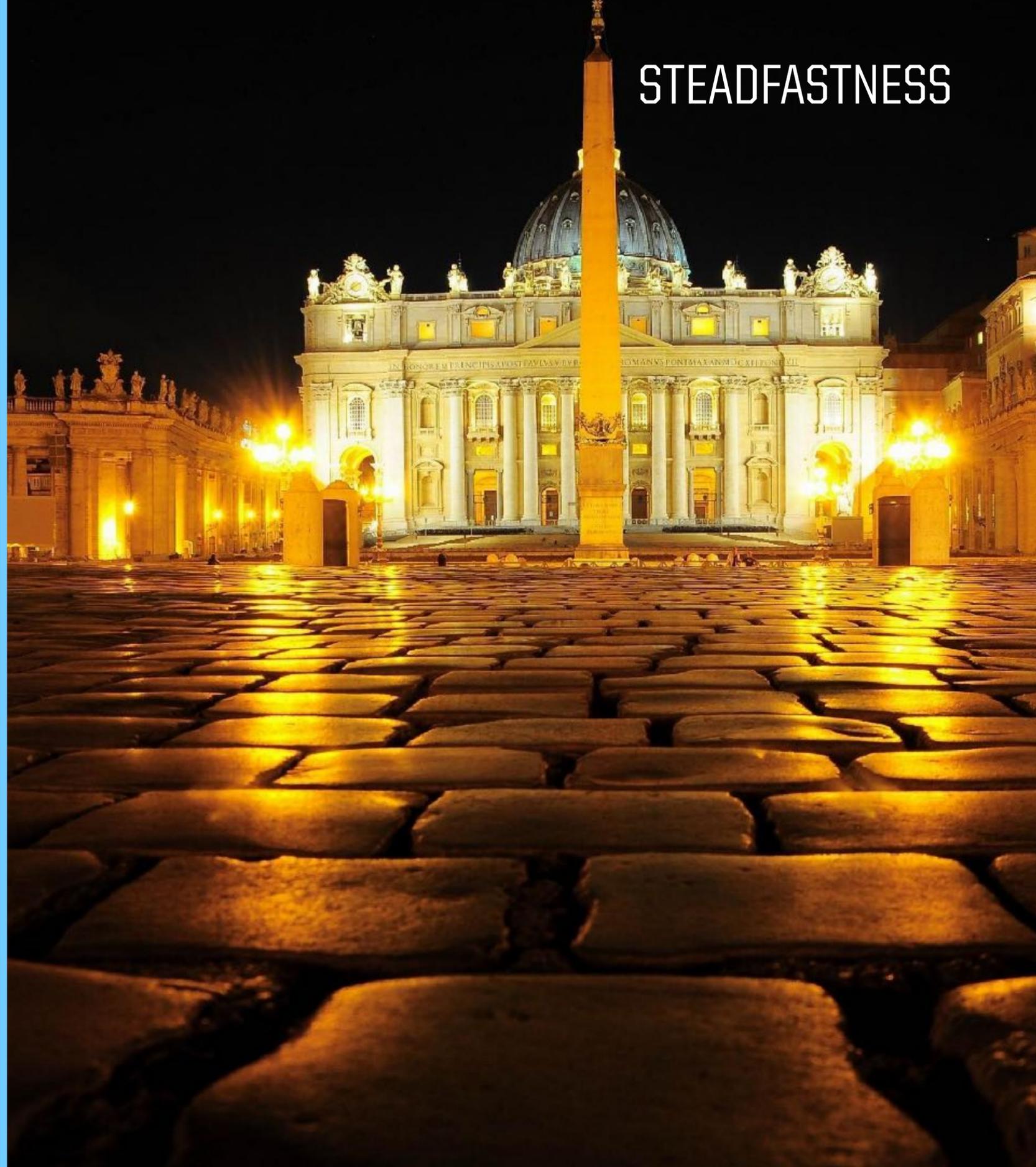
conduct pleasing to You,

faithful perseverance in waiting for You,

and a hope of finally embracing You.

- Saint Thomas Aquinas

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