

Lectio Divina



Lectio Divina for the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time

We begin our prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, who through the grace of adoption chose us to be children of light, grant, we pray, that we may not be wrapped in the darkness of error but always be seen to stand in the bright light of truth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

(Collect, Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Reading (*Lectio*)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.
Luke 9:51-62

When the days for Jesus' being taken up were fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem, and he sent messengers ahead of him. On the way they entered a Samaritan village to prepare for his reception there, but they would not welcome him because the destination of his journey was Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?" Jesus turned and rebuked them, and they

journeyed to another village.

As they were proceeding on their journey someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus answered him, "Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head."

And to another he said, "Follow me." But he replied, "Lord, let me go first and bury my father." But he answered him, "Let the dead bury their dead. But you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." And another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say farewell to my family at home." To him Jesus said, "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God."

Meditation (*Meditatio*)

After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

If practicing lectio divina as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.

Prayer (*Oratio*)



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Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.

Contemplation (Contemplatio)

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

They would not welcome him. Where have I felt unwelcomed? Who needs my welcome today?

I will follow you wherever you go. To where is Jesus calling me to follow him? Where am I afraid to follow?

No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God. What obstacles prevent me from following Jesus? What sins, behaviors, attitudes do I struggle to leave behind?

After a period of silent reflection and/or discussion, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Closing Prayer:

Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;
I say to the LORD, "My Lord are you.
O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,
you it is who hold fast my lot."

I bless the LORD who counsels me;
even in the night my heart exhorts me.

I set the LORD ever before me;
with him at my right hand I shall not
be disturbed.

Therefore my heart is glad and
my soul rejoices,
my body, too, abides in confidence
because you will not abandon my soul
to the netherworld,
nor will you suffer your faithful one
to undergo corruption.

You will show me the path to life,
fullness of joys in your presence,
the delights at your right hand forever.

(From Psalm 16)

Living the Word This Week

How can I make my life a gift for others in charity?

Learn what that Church is doing to protect the life and dignity of migrants and refugees at www.sharethejourney.org.

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