

Lectio Divina



Lectio Divina for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

We begin our prayer:

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

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Collect, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Reading (*Lectio*)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.

Luke 9:11b-17

Jesus spoke to the crowds about the kingdom of God, and he healed those who needed to be cured. As the day was drawing to a close, the Twelve approached him and said, "Dismiss the crowd so that they can go to the

surrounding villages and farms and find lodging and provisions; for we are in a deserted place here." He said to them, "Give them some food yourselves." They replied, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have, unless we ourselves go and buy food for all these people." Now the men there numbered about five thousand. Then he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty." They did so and made them all sit down. Then taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing over them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. They all ate and were satisfied. And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets.

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.



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Prayer (*Oratio*)

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?

Jesus spoke to the crowds about the kingdom of God. How do I imagine the kingdom of God? How do I see the inbreaking of the kingdom in this world?

We are in a deserted place here. When have I felt alone and abandoned by God? How can I become more aware of God's presence?

And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets. In what ways do I waste God's gifts? How can I respond with gratitude to God's generosity?

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

Closing Prayer:

The LORD said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand
till I make your enemies your footstool."

The scepter of your power the LORD will stretch
forth from Zion:
"Rule in the midst of your enemies."

"Yours is princely power in the day of your birth,
in holy splendor;
before the daystar, like the dew, I have
begotten you."

The LORD has sworn, and he will not repent:
"You are a priest forever, according
to the order of Melchizedek."

From Psalm 110

Living the Word This Week

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

Make a contribution in cash or in kind to your
parish food pantry or to a local food bank.

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