

Lectio Divina



Lectio Divina for the Fifth Week of Easter

We begin our prayer:

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

O God, by whose grace,
though sinners, we are made just
and, though pitiable, made blessed,
stand, we pray, by your works,
stand by your gifts,
that those justified by faith
may not lack the courage of perseverance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Collect, Thursday of the Fifth Week of Easter

Reading (*Lectio*)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.

John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back

again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way.” Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father.”

Meditation (*Meditatio*)

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



CATHOLIC.BIBLE

- 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*)

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?

I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. When have I felt that God is far away from me? When have I felt that God is near?

If you know me, then you will also know my Father. How can I get to know God better? How can I grow in love for God and his Church?

Believe because of the works themselves. How do I demonstrate my faith by the way I live? How can I be of greater service to those in need?

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

Closing Prayer:

Exult, you just, in the LORD ;
 praise from the upright is fitting.
 Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;
 with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises.

Upright is the word of the LORD ,
 and all his works are trustworthy.
 He loves justice and right;
 of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,
 upon those who hope for his kindness,
 To deliver them from death
 and preserve them in spite of famine.

From Psalm 33

Living the Word This Week

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

Learn more about Catholic social teaching (<https://www.usccb.org/offices/justice-peace-human-development/catholic-social-teaching>) as a way to put your faith into practice.

Excerpts from the *New American Bible, revised edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C. and are used by permission of the copyright owner. Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition* © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

Excerpts from the English translation of *The Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.