

Lectio Divina



Lectio Divina for the Sixth Week of Easter

We begin our prayer:

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

Hear our prayers, O Lord,
so that what was promised
by the sanctifying power of your Word
may everywhere be accomplished
through the working of the Gospel
and that all your adopted children may attain
what the testimony of truth has foretold.
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, Friday of the Sixth Week of Easter)

Reading (*Lectio*)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.
John 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And

whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”

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*)

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



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Contemplation (*Contemplatio*)

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

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

If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
Which of God's commandments do I struggle most to keep? How can I open my heart to embrace God's commands more fully?

The Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. When have I felt unaccepted because of my faith? When have I denied acceptance to others?

I will not leave you orphans. When have I felt abandoned and alone? Who in my life is in need of accompaniment and companionship?

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

Closing Prayer

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth,
sing praise to the glory of his name;
proclaim his glorious praise.
Say to God, "How tremendous are your deeds!"

"Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you,
sing praise to your name!"
Come and see the works of God,
his tremendous deeds among the children of
Adam.

He has changed the sea into dry land;
through the river they passed on foot;
therefore let us rejoice in him.
He rules by his might forever.

Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare
what he has done for me.
Blessed be God who refused me not
my prayer or his kindness!

(From Psalm 66)

Living the Word This Week

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

Pray for those who are persecuted for their faith and make an effort to learn about religious freedom around the world.

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