

Lectio Divina



Lectio Divina for the Fourth Week of Lent

We begin our prayer:

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

O God, who renew the world
through mysteries beyond all telling,
grant, we pray,
that your Church may be guided by your eternal
design
and not be deprived of your help in this present age.
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, Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent

Reading (*Lectio*)

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Read the following Scripture two or three times.

John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" — which means Sent —. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am."

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.

He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.



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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.

Contemplation (*Contemplatio*)

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

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

“Go wash in the Pool of Siloam” — which means Sent —. Where is God sending me? How am I responding to God’s call?

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. How have I failed to see my own sinfulness and God’s grace? How can I open my eyes and heart to God’s love and mercy active in my life?

Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him? How would I describe Jesus to someone who does not know him? How can I come to know Jesus better?

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

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

Closing Prayer:

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;

beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul.

He guides me in right paths
for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for you are at my side
With your rod and your staff
that give me courage.

You spread the table before me
in the sight of my foes;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
for years to come.

From Psalm 23

Living the Word This Week

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

Read Chapter Seven of the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults* to grow in your knowledge of Jesus Christ:

<https://www.usccb.org/sites/default/files/flipbooks/uscca/files/assets/basic-html/page-105.html>

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