

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Transfiguration of Our Lord
January 24 through January 31, 2021*

Catechesis Notes for the Week —Psalm 106:1-23—A Prayer of Rejoicing in the Lord’s Forgiveness—Psalm 106 continues the theme of meditation upon the Lord’s saving acts in redeeming Israel from Egyptian slavery. In the previous psalm nothing was mentioned of Israel’s failure to trust in the Lord and in all He was doing for them. But in Psalm 106 there is a clear confession of their sin during the time of the Lord’s great deliverance from Egypt. Despite their doubts and fears, the Lord saved them for His name’s sake. He was faithful to His promises of love. Again and again, they went astray, again and again He called them to repentance and through the things they suffered because of their own weaknesses, they would learn to trust Him as their faithful God and Savior. This serves as an example and encouragement to us in our own pilgrimage of faith.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Theme: The Glory of God Shines through Jesus’ Human Nature!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Luke 9:23

If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

Psalm 106:1-23 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: *Oh, Lord, we give thanks to You for Your steadfast love and mercy. Your faithfulness to Your promise of salvation is our only comfort and strength. Teach us to confess our sins daily in true contrition and faith. Rescue us from our unbelief, doubts, and fears, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	88	89	91	92	95, 96	98, 100	101	103
Evening	87	90	93	94	97	99	102	104

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Transfiguration of Our Lord—Matthew 17:1-9 St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor—Acts 16:1-5	
Monday	Jonah Is Swallowed by the Great Fish—Jonah 1:1—2:10 The Conversion of St. Paul—Acts 9:1-22	Romans 6:1-14
Tuesday	The Sign of Jonah—Matthew 12:38-45 St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor—Titus 1:1-9	Jonah 2:1-10
Wednesday	Jesus Walks on the Water—Matthew 14:22-36	Colossians 2:11-15
Thursday	Jesus Washes the Disciples’ Feet—John 13:1-15	1 Corinthians 6:9-11
Friday	Parables of the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin—Luke 15:1-10	Isaiah 1:16-18
Saturday	The Israelites Demand Water—Exodus 17:1-7	1 Cor. 9:24—10:5

The Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism— Part IV

<i>What does such baptizing with water indicate?</i> It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.	Third Grade +
<i>Where is this written?</i> St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six:	First Grade +
We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that,	Kindergarten +
just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. [Rom. 6:4]	Second Grade +

Prayers: Catechism Prayers, In Our Prayers at Peace, and the Collect for the Week

Prayer to Live in Daily Contrition and Repentance

Heavenly Father, through Your Word and Spirit, You call us to daily contrition and repentance for our sin that the Old Adam in us might be drowned and die with all his sins and evil desires. Work true repentance in our hearts every day. Teach us to confess our sins and to flee to Christ for our life and salvation. By Your Word of forgiveness raise up the new man of faith in us that we might live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for New Life in Christ

Almighty God, we give thanks to You for our baptism into Christ, where we were buried with Him through our baptism into His death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too may live a new life. Grant us this new life, O Lord, that we might live faithfully and joyously as Your children in the blessed hope of everlasting life in Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Jody Ligrow (1/24), Mackenzie Dhein (1/28).

Wedding anniversaries: Joe and Nicola Giordano, Larry and Tammy Haga (1/27).

The sick: All those recovering from the Coronavirus. Don Scholz, hospitalized. Larry Martin recovering from a broken leg. Duane Perry in therapy. Jeremy LaFore and his family as he battles ALS. David Berger, hospitalized.

Jim Nitzsche, Brian Nienabor, Roger Laubenstein, Jill Franklin, and Allison Witte in treatment for cancer.

The Bereaved: The family of John Bruss's friend Larry, who died this past week.

Collect for the week of the Transfiguration of Our Lord:

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for the Feast of St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor: (January 24)

Lord Jesus Christ, You have always given to Your Church on earth faithful shepherds such as Timothy to guide and feed Your flock. Make all pastors diligent to preach Your holy Word and administer Your means of grace, and grant Your people wisdom to follow in the way that leads to life eternal; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul (January 25)

Almighty God, You turned the heart of him who persecuted the Church and by his preaching caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world. Grant us ever to rejoice in the saving light of Your Gospel and, following the example of the apostle Paul, to spread it to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for the Feast of St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor (January 26)

Almighty God, You called Titus to the work of pastor and teacher. Make all shepherds of Your flock diligent in preaching Your holy Word so that the whole world may know the immeasurable riches of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week

"'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here" (stanzas 1-2)

414

Looking forward to Septuagesima Sunday

January 31, 2021

Hymns: 534, 565, 575, 566, 693, 573

Exodus 17:1-7: It was the Lord who sustained Israel throughout their wilderness pilgrimage. He sustained them with manna from heaven and with the water from the Rock. Paul tells us in First Corinthians that the Rock that followed them was Christ. Israel's pilgrimage for forty years in the wilderness corresponds to the pilgrimage of the Church in this valley of sorrow. It is the Lord alone who sustains us by His grace. He gives us the true manna from heaven, His body and blood, in the Supper.

1 Corinthians 9:24—10:5: The baptismal life is a pilgrimage through this vale of tears to the resurrection to eternal life. In this week's epistle, Paul describes it as a race. He calls us to temperance and a life of quiet repentance in which we discipline our bodies with the sure and certain Word of God. Most of us don't realize that the Word of God that is studied, received, meditated upon, and believed has a positive effect not only upon our faith, but also upon our physical life in this world. Though the children of Israel had been redeemed from their slavery through the blood of the Passover Lamb and their baptism in the cloud and in the sea, and though they had eaten of the spiritual food the Lord provided, many of them died in impenitence. Paul's warning calls us to receive the Lord's Supper with repentant hearts and with a hunger and thirst for His strength. Paul's teaching on the Lord's Supper emphasizes that Christ's body and blood are truly given to us in the Sacrament and that worthy reception of the Lord's Supper requires a penitent faith in the Gospel.

Matthew 20:1-16: All the workers received the same wage regardless of when they were hired. What does this mean? All Christians receive the same gift of salvation regardless of when they come to faith. Why? Because salvation is based upon Christ's work and not our own. According to human reason, salvation is unfair because it is not based on our works at all but is given freely by grace for Christ's sake. This is a parable of grace that teaches us that God shows no partiality in the bestowal of salvation. His gift is given solely on the basis of His undeserved love, and not because of a man's works.