

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of Quinquagesima Sunday
February 14 through February 21, 2021*

Catechesis Notes for the Week —Psalm 107:17-32—Psalm of Thanksgiving for God’s Help—“The 107th psalm is a psalm of thanks for the help that God shows to all people in their distress, whether they are Gentile or Jew. This help the heathen have sought by various idols and we Christians and heathen have sought by various saints [in the past] (and to a great extent still do)... We have thus divided all of God’s help among the saints, as the heathen among their idols, and have stolen and robbed from God—to whom alone this psalm is dedicated and to whom alone the psalm calls on us to thank.” Martin Luther, *Reading the Psalms with Luther*.

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: Jesus Sets His Face to Jerusalem

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:16

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?

The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

Psalm 107:17-32 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Thanks and praise be to You, Keeper of Israel, because You have guarded us in many a danger and helped us in many a need. Let Your good providence be over us in the future as in the past. Cause us steadfastly to trust in You, and to look to none other for help, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

| Daily Psalms | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------------|----------|--------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Morning | 131, 132 | 135 | 137, 138 | 5 | 38 | 22 | 43 | 84 |
| Evening | 133, 134 | 136 | 139 | 27, 51 | 126, 102 | 107, 130 | 31, 143 | 42, 32 |

Bible Readings for the Week:

| | Bible Narrative | Second Reading |
|----------------|---|------------------------|
| Sunday | Jesus Gives Sight to a Blind Man—Luke 18:31-43 | |
| Monday | No School—Love for the Brother—1 John 4:7-21 | |
| Tuesday | The Tree of Knowledge and the Tree of Life—Genesis 2:4-17 | John 1:1-14 |
| Wednesday | Man Eats the Forbidden Fruit—Genesis 3:1-24 | 1 Corinthians 11:17-26 |
| Ash Wed | Nineveh Repents in Sackcloth—Jonah 3:1-10 | Matthew 6:16-21 |
| Thursday | The Passover—Exodus 12:1-14, 17 | Matthew 26:17-30 |
| Friday | The Wedding in Cana of Galilee—John 2:1-11 | 1 Corinthians 10:14-21 |
| Saturday | David Slays Goliath—1 Samuel 17:40-51 | Hebrews 4:14-16 |

The Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar—What is the Sacrament of the Altar? Where is this Written?

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|---|----------------|
| <p><i>What is Sacrament of the Altar?</i> It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ Under the bread and wine, Instituted by Christ Himself For us Christians to eat and to drink.</p> | First Grade + |
| <p><i>Where is this written?</i> The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”</p> | Second Grade + |
| <p>Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”</p> | Kindergarten + |

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

Prayer before Receiving the Lord's Supper

O Lord Jesus, we give thanks to You that on the night You were betrayed You instituted the Lord's Supper from the Old Testament Passover and showed Yourself to be the true Passover Lamb. You redeemed us from slavery to sin, death, and the power of the devil through Your body and blood that was given and shed for our forgiveness upon the cross. Prepare us faithfully to eat and to drink of Your body and blood in the Lord's Supper, that we might receive every blessing of salvation that You won for us in Your suffering and death upon the cross. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of the Altar

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your own words You have instituted the Lord's Supper, teaching us to believe that it is Your true body and blood, under the bread and wine, for us Christians to eat and to drink. We give thanks to You for this precious gift. Give us true faith in Your words that we might receive Your body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation as You have promised. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Katie Larson (2/13), Lynn Leider (2/16), Doug Pom, Ashlynn Lueck (2/17), Carol David (2/18), Cole Petersen, Matthew Gatchell (2/19).

Wedding Anniversaries: Aaron and Jeanine Walentoski (2/14), Bob and Geri Zaretske (2/19).

The sick: All those recovering from the Coronavirus. Duane Perry in therapy.

Larry Martin recovering from a broken leg. Jeremy LaFore and his family as he battles ALS.

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

Collect for the week of Quinquagesima Sunday:

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; 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 Ash Wednesday:

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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

"O Lord, We Praise Thee" (stanzas 1-2)

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Looking forward to Invocavit Sunday— The First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

Hymns: 521, 656, 607, 418, 454

1 Samuel 17:40-51: In the lowliness of His humiliation and suffering, Jesus looked to be weak in the face of the Goliath of Satan, sin, and death. How could a lowly Shepherd defeat this colossal giant? David in his battle with the Philistine giant is a picture of how Jesus defeated Satan, sin, and death for us. The five stones in his pouch signify the Law. In Jesus' obedience unto death He fulfilled the Law and the judgment against us, thereby defeating Satan and crushing his head. Satan has no authority over us because Jesus has defeated him. Like Goliath, Satan boasted of his power in egotistical pride. Like David, Jesus gave all glory to His Father and relied upon Him alone: "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel ... the Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's."

Hebrews 4:14-16: The High Priest interceded for the congregation before God. At the center of his work was officiating at the sacrifices and interceding for the people before God for forgiveness for their sins. Every Old Testament priest was taken from the sinful congregation and was himself sinful. Jesus, though He was without sin, was tempted in every way that we are and chose in love to bear our weaknesses and infirmities. Because of this He knows our need in every way and can help us in our time of need with His grace. We are bold to approach the throne of grace in confession of sins and the Sacrament of the Altar, knowing that we will obtain His mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Matthew 4:1-11: "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God." Every step of the way in His time of testing and temptation from the evil one, Jesus quoted Scripture and defended Himself and the honor of His Father with the Word of God. Even when Satan twisted and misused God's Word, Jesus countered by faithfully proclaiming God's Word in reply. As strange as it sounds to our ears, Jesus did not even rely upon Himself; instead, He relied solely upon His Father's good and gracious Word. He was faithful unto death that we might be rescued from every manifestation of unfaithfulness from our sinful nature.