

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Week of the Ninth Sunday after Trinity
 August 14 through August 21, 2022

Catechesis Notes for the Week —*Summer Stories from St. Luke: The celebration of the Feast of St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord is on Monday with Mary’s visit of her cousin Elizabeth who is pregnant with John the Baptist. Mary is called a saint, not because she has no sin, but because she was called to faith and to be the mother of our Lord by a gift of God’s grace. In the same way, we are all called and chosen by grace alone. Christ’s forgiving righteousness calls us saints. Mary was honored to be the mother of God’s Son. The incarnation of the Son of God in human flesh means that Jesus partakes of our flesh and blood in every way in order to redeem us from all sin and every weakness of our sinful flesh. The account of the Widow’s Two Mites contrasts the false faith of the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Scribes with the true faith of the widow who, without pretense or an attempt to justify herself before others, put into the Temple treasury all that she had. Jesus’ catechesis during Holy Week then shifts to a discussion of the Signs of the End and the Destruction of Jerusalem. The destruction of the Temple, the rise of false doctrine, wars, earthquakes, famine, pestilence, and persecution will all characterize the end times before the Second Coming of Christ. Finally, the Parable of the Fig Tree concludes Jesus’ catechesis on the end times. As the change in the leaves of the fig tree indicate that summer is near, so these signs of the end times indicate that Christ’s coming is near. The Church is to live each day in anticipation of His coming with fervent faith in His Words to the end: “Heaven and will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”*

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out 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: Make Friends with Unrighteous Mammon.

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 2 Samuel 22:2-3

The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; The God of my strength, in whom I will trust, My shield and the horn of my salvation, My stronghold and my refuge; My Savior, You save me from violence.

Psalm 54 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord, our God, who desires not the death of the wicked, convert those who hate us without a cause, and turn the hearts of those who persecute Your Christians. Protect the poor and the innocent against the oppression of unjust men. Grant us patience under the cross and preserve us in the true faith all the days of our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	98, 100	101	103	105	107	109	112, 113	115
Evening	99	102	104	106	108	110, 111	114	116

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Parable of the Unjust Steward—Luke 16:1-13	
Monday	St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord—Luke 1:39-56	Galatians 4:4-7
Tuesday	The Widow’s Two Mites—Luke 20:45—21:4	Malachi 3:1-7
Wednesday	The Signs of the End—Luke 21:5-19	Malachi 3:8-12
Thursday	Destruction of Jerusalem and Signs of Christ’s Coming—Luke 21:20-28	Malachi 3:13-18
Friday	The Parable of the Fig Tree—Luke 21:29-38	Malachi 4:1-6
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Jeremiah 7:1-11	1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The Catechism: What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors (first half)

(Preschool and kindergarten children review the primary texts of the first three commandments)

What does God’s Word say the hearers of God’s Word owe their pastors? The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.	First Grade + 1 Corinthians 9:14
Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.	Second Grade + Galatians 6:6-7

The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.

For the Scripture says,

“Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,” and

“The worker deserves his wages.”

Third Grade +
1 Timothy 5:17-18

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

Prayer for Hearers of God’s Word:

O Lord Jesus, we give thanks to You for the gift of pastors who preach Your saving Gospel and administer Your life-giving sacraments to us. Crucify our flesh and destroy all impenitence and unbelief in us, so that we who have received faithful instruction in the Word of God might provide generously for the support of our pastors. Teach us to believe that our pastors, who faithfully sow the seed and tread out the grain of Your Word, are worthy of their wages and are entitled to reap from what they have sown. Teach us to believe that preaching and teaching Your Word is the most important work that our pastors do, so that we might honor and support them in this work, live together with them in the peace of Your forgiveness, and hold them in the highest regard in love for the sake of the Gospel; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Mark Schneider (8/14), Jan Finke (8/16), Sierra Fredrich (8/17), Brenda Greschner (8/18), Beth Bender, Mark Ruhbusch (8/20).

Wedding Anniversaries: Travis and Lindsey Dubnicka (8/14), Jeff and Christine Dubnicka, Bob and Cheryl Piper (8/15), Bob and Doreen Corso (8/16), Barry and Maureen Wurster (8/20).

The Sick: Rev. Shane Cota recovering from open heart by-pass surgery; Heather Peters, Barbara Wieting, Josiah Boehringer and Linda Ongna (niece of Sharon Martin) with cancer.

Hospice care: Bernice Lemke

Peace for the war in Ukraine

Collect for the Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; 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 St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord

Almighty God, You chose the virgin Mary to be the mother of Your only Son. Grant that we, who are redeemed by His blood, may share with her in the glory of Your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, 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

“What is the World to Me?”

730

Looking forward to the Tenth Sunday after Trinity

August 21, 2022

Hymns: 912, 579, 691, 565, 728, 563, 834

Jeremiah 7:1-11: *What characterized Judah’s fall from faith were impenitence and the absence of the preaching of repentance by the priests and prophets of the land. Those few, like Jeremiah, who did call the people to repentance were persecuted, imprisoned or killed. Those who spoke as if all was well in the land were elevated to positions of prominence. The Lord will not have His Word set aside. The call to repentance is necessary. Without it, no one can come to faith or receive the salvation of the Lord.*

I Corinthians 12:1-11: *St. Paul opens this chapter of First Corinthians with a reminder of the Holy Spirit’s essential work: He creates faith in Christ that confesses that Jesus is Lord. As the Catechism reminds us, “I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him, but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel.” Faith is the work of the Holy Spirit. Unbelief and cursing of the Son of God is the work of the Evil One. In addition to the Spirit’s work of calling to faith in Christ, the Holy Spirit is also responsible for a “diversity of gifts.” Some of these gifts are unique to the office of Apostle and the time of the New Testament, like the working of miracles. Some of these gifts continue in the church throughout time, like the gift of prophecy that is seen in the preaching of the Word. But every gift of the Spirit works together in the cause of preserving faith in Christ and building up the Church. The Holy Spirit is never responsible for division or strife.*

Luke 19:41-48: *Our Lord wept over Jerusalem for the destruction that would soon come upon her. For she did not recognize the time of God’s visitation in Christ, who had come to bring her peace (Luke 19:41–48). Through His prophets God had consistently called His people to turn from their deceit and false worship. “But My people do not know the judgment of the Lord” (Jer. 7:1–11; 8:4–12). They sought to establish their own righteousness rather than receive Christ’s righteousness through faith (Rom. 9:30–10:4). So it was that God was in His temple to cleanse it, a precursor to the once-for-all cleansing from sin which He would accomplish in the temple of His own body on the cross. God grants us to know the things that make for our peace—His visitation in the Word and Sacraments—that by the Holy Spirit we may penitently confess “Jesus is Lord” (1 Cor. 12:1–11).*