

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Week of the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels
 September 29, 2024, through October 6, 2024

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Solomon’s Kingdom at Its Best — This week’s Biblical narratives describe the reign of King Solomon before he began to pursue the appetites of the flesh. Solomon rightly asked for wisdom. He did not ask for wealth or other fleeting temporal blessings. The Lord granted his request and bestowed upon him the gift of a wise and discerning heart. This was the Lord’s gift and not anything for which Solomon could boast. His wisdom is on display this week in how he handles the two harlots in a dispute about their children. His kingdom was established upon the promises God made to David, and he built the Lord’s Temple in Jerusalem to be the location of God’s divine services in the Old Testament Church. The good qualities we see this week in King Solomon are prophetic types of the ultimate Prince of Peace, our Lord Jesus Christ. He would build a kingdom, speak eternal wisdom, and establish a peace that would never end.

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: Let Your Holy Angel Be with Me!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 3:20

By the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight,
 for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Psalm 91 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord God, heavenly Father, You have ordained Your holy angels to protect Your children on earth against the assaults of Satan and the wickedness of the world. We beseech You, of Your mercy, continually defend us by these ministering spirits, and replenish us with Your Holy Spirit that we may do Your will on earth as it is done in heaven, and hereafter, with all the angels and the elect, praise and glorify You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	42, 43	45	48, 49	51	54, 56	59	60, 61	65
Evening	44	46, 47	50	52, 53	55	57, 58	62	63, 64

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Their Angels Always See the Father’s Face—Matthew 18:1-11	
Monday	David Appoints Solomon to Succeed Him—1 Kings 1:1 (2-27) 28-35	James 3:1-12
Tuesday	Solomon Prays for Wisdom—1 Kings 3:1-15	James 3:13-18
Wednesday	Solomon’s Wise Judgment—1 Kings 3:16-28	James 4:1-12
Thursday	Solomon’s Kingdom—1 Kings 4:1, 20-34	James 4:13-17
Friday	Solomon Prepares to Build the Temple—1 Kings 5:1-18	James 5:1-12
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Genesis 28:10-17	Ephesians 4:22-28

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments— Review of the Commandments and the Close of the Commandments

What are the Ten Commandments? You shall have no other gods...etc.	Preschool +
What does God say about all these commandments? He says: “I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.” [Ex. 20:5-6]	First Grade +
What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.	Preschool +

Prayers: Collect for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, and In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels

Everlasting God, You have ordained and constituted the ministry of men and angels in a wonderful order. Mercifully grant that, as Your holy angels always serve and worship You in heaven, so by Your appointment they may also help and defend us here on earth; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer — “Let us pray...”

- Sunday:** For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.
- Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.
- Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.
- Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.
- Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God’s Word on the Lord’s Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts.

In Our Prayers this Week — “Let us pray for...”

Baptismal Anniversaries: Christine Dubnicka, George Kaminski (9/29), Melissa Brendel (9/30), Autumn Rank, Easton, Elijah, and Esmæ Lenling (10/4).

Wedding Anniversaries: Pat and Kate Handlos, Kevin and Sherry Larson, John and Pam Lehman (9/29), Don and Rosanne Fell (9/30), Dave and Anna Steinhilb (10/4), Kent and Christine Franklin (10/5).

The Sick: Lauren, (friend of the Carus family) critically ill and in need of a lung transplant; Doris Erickson and James Lampen, (father of Karen Frerking) in rehab; Mark Raygo, (uncle of Nate Duessler) recovering from a stroke; Diane, (friend of Jason and Cathy Petersen) diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer; Rev. Luke Boehringer recovering from cancer surgery Rev. David Groth, Jeanette Kellar, Rick Schuerman, Jean Reuss, and Steve Hayes (brother-in-law of Marty & Jon Bruss) in cancer treatment.

Those in Hospice: Yet Ngor Wong.

Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism.

Hymn of the Week

“Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying” (stanzas 1-5)

597

Looking forward to the Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

October 6, 2024

Hymns: 686, 708, 636, 847, 895

Genesis 28:10-17: In Jacob’s dream at Bethel, the Lord came to him and reaffirmed the promise of salvation through the coming Messiah: “in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” This is why Jacob confessed, “Surely the Lord is in this place...How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!” Wherever the saving Word of the Gospel is proclaimed, THERE is the very presence of the Lord Himself for the salvation of His people. The Lord’s Word is our comfort too: “I am the Lord God of Abraham...I am with you and will keep you wherever you go...”

Ephesians 4:22-28: Paul’s imagery of “putting off the old man... and putting on the new man” is specifically referring to the life of confession and absolution. The Holy Spirit renews our faith and life in Christ through His Word of grace and mercy in Jesus. Contrition and repentance, whereby we are brought to truthfully confess our sins before God, and the reception of Christ’s word of absolution is central to the Christian life. Jesus’ forgiveness heals and renews us. Since the old man grows continually more corrupt throughout our lifetime, we need Christ’s absolution to live the new life in Christ.

Matthew 9:1-8: A paralyzed man is the perfect image of humanity who cannot save itself from the bondage and paralysis of sin. The paralytic had to be brought to Jesus. We have to be brought to Jesus. His greatest problem was not physical paralysis, but the problem of sin which was the cause of all his maladies. It is the same for us. Jesus’ word addressed the real problem: “Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you.” It is this word that the self-righteous scribes objected to. They accused Jesus of blasphemy: using the power of God that He had no right to use. They were wrong. Jesus had the authority to forgive sins because He came into the world to pay the ultimate price for sin. The scribes had no power to make a man walk or to take away a man’s sin. It was impossible for them. It is impossible for us. But Jesus had the power to do both. To teach them that He had the power to forgive sins, He made the man to arise and walk. What none of us could do, Jesus did. He has now given the power to forgive sins to His Church, so that paralyzed and broken sinners might be set free and reconciled to God. “When the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.” Thanks be to God that Jesus’ power and authority to forgive sins is found in the Church where His Gospel is preached and His sacraments are administered. In Christ’s absolution, sinners are set free from bondage and reconciled to God.