

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Seventh Week of Easter
May 17 through May 24, 2026*

Catechesis Notes for the Week— The Table of Duties: To Youth — “Submission” and “humility” are not terms that any of us naturally gravitate toward. The sinful flesh wants to submit to no one and is filled with arrogance and pride. If the sinful flesh doesn’t get its way, it rebels. From where does the will to “submit” and “humble oneself” come? It comes from faith in the Gospel. Our Lord Jesus submitted Himself as a young man, because He trusted in His Father who promised to do good through His submission. He humbled Himself to the point of the death of the cross, because He trusted His Father to do good through His suffering. When youth are admonished to submit to their elders and humble themselves before them, they are really being invited to trust God to do them good in their office as youth, even though they may have to endure things that they don’t agree with or enjoy. The way of faith is always the way of deference toward others. This we learn to believe through the faithful reception of the Gospel and Sacrament of our Lord.

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: Jesus Prays for His Church!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: John 14:2-3

**In My Father’s house are many mansions;
if it were not so, I would have told you.**

I go to prepare a place for you.

**And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself;
that where I am, there you may be also.**

Psalm 68:1-10 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on Psalm 68: Merciful God, we humbly implore You to cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of Your truth and finally attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	78	80	82, 84	85	88	89	91	92
Evening	79	81	83	86	87	90	93	94

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Easter 7: Jesus’ High Priestly Prayer—John 17:1-11	
Monday	Jesus Prays for All Who Believe in Him—John 17:20-26	1 Chronicles 16:31-36
Tuesday	The Commission to Baptize and Teach All Nations—Mt. 28:16-20	Daniel 7:9-14
Wednesday	Mark Records the Command to Preach the Gospel—Mark 16:9-20	Joshua 1:1-9
Thursday	Jesus Opens the Scriptures to the Disciples—Luke 24:44-53	Genesis 22:1-19
Friday	Matthias Is Chosen to Fill Judas’s Office—Acts 1:12-26	Isaiah 52:7-10
Saturday	Pentecost: Numbers 11:24-30	Acts 2:1-21

The Catechism: Table of Duties— To Employers and Supervisors and To Youth

(Preschool children and everyone, review the primary texts of the first commandment through the conclusion)

<p><i>What does God’s Word say to employers and supervisors?</i> Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with Him.</p>	<p>Third Grade + Ephesians 6:9</p>
<p><i>What does God’s Word say to youth?</i> Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”</p>	<p>First Grade + 1 Peter 5:5</p>
<p>Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.</p>	<p>Second Grade + 1 Peter 5:6</p>

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

Collect for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him 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
Monday: For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work
Tuesday: For deliverance against temptation and evil and those struggling with besetting sins
Wednesday: For marriage and family
Thursday: For the Church and her pastors; and for fruitful and salutary use of the Lord’s Supper
Friday: For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the persecuted and oppressed
Saturday: For the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away from Christ

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

- Birth:** Daniel Jordan Krueger, infant son of Erik and Jennifer Krueger
Baptismal anniversaries: John Lehman, Jason Petersen (5/17); Jacob Weber (5/19); Bob Corso (5/20); Peter Greschner (5/21); and Autumn Walentoski (5/23).
Wedding anniversaries: Jennifer and Paul Johnson (5/18); Adam and Gracelyn Kerner (5/19); Jeffrey and Ali Meehan (5/20); Nate and Jenny Duessler, and Mark and Julie Goltermann (5/22).
Marriage: Bill and Donna Schaefer united in holy matrimony yesterday.
Those Serving in the Armed Forces
The sick: Jon Bruss recovering from a broken wrist; Polly Joubert recovering from knee replacement surgery; and Jodi Winn (Sharon Murphy’s niece) in rehab recovering from a head injury.
In cancer treatment: Bob Rothe, Michael Piper (Bob Piper’s brother), Michael Gehl (friend of the Bruss family), Mary O’Flyng (acquaintance of the Rothe family), Tim Francis (brother of Cheri LaFore); Loretta Lampen; Ivy Kunkel, Tracy Espinosa, Ken Hinckle, Diane Bulawa, and Rev. Luke Boehringer.
Those in hospice care: Sid Franklin, and Shirley Radeck (Melody Ruhbusch’s cousin).

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

Hymn of the Week

“See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph” (Stanzas 1-3)

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Looking forward to the Feast of Pentecost

May 24, 2026

Hymns: 503, 497, 699, 768, 498, 922

Numbers 11:24-30: In this Old Testament account of the Spirit being given to the elders of Israel, we see a prophetic type of how the Holy Spirit would be given by Jesus to the Apostles after His ascension into heaven. Most important to note about this gift of the Spirit is that it both came “from the Word” and enabled those who received it to “proclaim the Word.” So it was on the Day of Pentecost. The Spirit was given to the Apostles through Jesus’ preaching of the Word precisely so that they could preach the Word faithfully. The Holy Spirit is poured out today wherever the Gospel is faithfully preached according to the Apostolic Word.

Acts 2:1-21: St. Luke’s account of the Day of Pentecost records the signs associated with the Spirit being poured out upon the Apostles. The sound of rushing wind was a sign that the Holy Spirit was given for the sake of the preaching of the Gospel and that the Spirit blows like the wind, converting to faith when and where He pleases in those who hear the Gospel. The tongues of fire upon their heads designated these men to be the chosen and authoritative witnesses of Jesus. The Church is bound to their Word because the Apostolic Doctrine comes from the Holy Spirit. The ability to speak in foreign languages is a sign that the Gospel is for all people, of every race, tribe, nation, and language. Jonah’s prophecy concerning the outpouring of the Spirit in the last days describes the entire period of the Church’s life from the time of the Apostles to the Second Coming of Christ. During this period, the Holy Spirit is poured out through preaching. This preaching creates both the faith that calls upon the Lord for salvation and the hope of the glorious resurrection of the body to eternal life.

John 7:37-39: Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel come at the conclusion of “the Feast of Tabernacles” or “the Feast of Booths” which commemorated the long period of time in which the children of Israel lived in tents in their wilderness wandering. This feast came at the end of the harvest and celebrated the ingathering of grain and the fellowship they shared together in the faith. During their wilderness wandering the Lord gave them to drink from the Rock that followed them. St. Paul says, “that Rock was Christ” (1 Corinthians 10:4). At the conclusion of this great feast, Jesus declares, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” John tells us that when Jesus spoke these words, He was speaking about the gift of the Holy Spirit who would be poured out on the day of Pentecost and in the age to follow wherever His Gospel was preached. “To come to Jesus” involves chiefly the hearing of His Word through which the Spirit is given and by which we are restored from the ravages of sin and made alive.