Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina for the Solemnity of Pentecost

We begin our prayer: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that your Church may always remain that holy people,

formed as one by the unity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

which manifests to the world the Sacrament of your holiness and unity and leads it to the perfection of your charity. Through Christ our Lord.

(Collect after the First Reading, Extended Vigil of Pentecost)

Reading (Lectio)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.

John 14:15-16, 23b-26

Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always.

"Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.

"I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you."

Meditation (*Meditatio*)

After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

If practicing <u>lectio divina</u> as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.

Prayer (Oratio)

Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.



Contemplation (*Contemplatio*)

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

If you love me, you will keep my commandments. How can I express my love for God more intensely? How can I show love for my neighbors, especially those most easily forgotten?

We will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Do I make room in my life for God to take up his dwelling? How often do I rest in the presence of God?

The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. What teachings of the Church would I like to learn more about? How diligent am I about continuing my formation in faith?

After a period of silent reflection and/or discussion, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Closing Prayer:

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!
How manifold are your works, O LORD!
the earth is full of your creatures;

May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD be glad in his works!
Pleasing to him be my theme;
I will be glad in the LORD.

If you take away their breath, they perish and return to their dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created.

and you renew the face of the earth.

(From Psalm 104)

Living the Word This Week

How can I make my life a gift for others in charity?

Pray for those received into the Church this Easter and for all who have received the gift of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation. Ask your pastor about how you can become a sponsor.

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