

Prayers and Blessings at Home

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 2018



Scripture Readings

Job 7:1–4, 6–7

Psalm 147:1–2, 3–4, 5–6
(see 3a)

1 Corinthians 9:16–19, 22–23

Mark 1:29–39

Prayer before the Bible

Living God,
your holy words, spoken long ago to people
far away,
are spoken to us, here and now.
As we listen, fill our hearts with reverence
and our minds with curiosity.
Bring us back to your Word day after day,
in times of joy and sorrow,
in light and darkness,
for “your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105).
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ritual

One of the Seven Sacraments of the Church is the Anointing of the Sick. It is a sacrament that only the ordained may carry out. A person who is ill does not need to wait until imminent death to receive an anointing, he or she may receive one before surgery or before the condition becomes serious.

Conversation Questions

- ☉ How well do I balance time for God, family, friends, and myself?
- ☉ How has each of us preached the Good News? What acts of healing and teaching have we done for others?

Living the Liturgy at Home

This week, make a list of the ways each of you preaches how much God loves us not by words, but by actions and attitudes. Post your list on the fridge or in another prominent place and encourage each other to continue to preach the Good News by the ways you live.

Prayers and Blessings at Home

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 11, 2018



Scripture Readings

Leviticus 13:1–2, 44–46

Psalm 32:1–2, 5, 11

1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1

Mark 1:40–45

Prayer before the Bible

Living God,
your holy words, spoken long ago to people
far away,
are spoken to us, here and now.
As we listen, fill our hearts with reverence
and our minds with curiosity.
Bring us back to your Word day after day,
in times of joy and sorrow,
in light and darkness,
for “your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105).
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ritual

This week, at family prayers, begin with a moment of silence to allow everyone to settle quietly. Then, offer prayers for family and friends who are ill. If possible, call out each person by name. Conclude with a prayer such as the “Our Father.”

Conversation Questions

- ☉ What prayer of yours was answered in a way you did not expect? What did you discover about faith and about how God answered your request?
- ☉ Who are the people in your life who seem to be, like the leper in today’s Gospel, on the outside looking in? How can you help them?

Living the Liturgy at Home

Learn more about St. Damien of Molokai, who cared for those who had leprosy. Read more about him on a website on the saints or find a video about his life. Talk with your child about how St. Damien’s actions, inspired by Christ, gave relief to people who were suffering.

Prayers and Blessings at Home

First Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2018



Lectionary Readings

Genesis 9:8–15

Psalm 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9
(see 10)

1 Peter 3:18–22

Mark 1:12–15

Prayer before the Crucifix

Lord Jesus Christ,
as we look at the crucifix,
we remember your suffering,
we ponder your sacrifice,
we see your love.

May this image of your suffering
make us patient with our own burdens.

May this reminder of your sacrifice
help us to give ourselves for others.

May this image of your love
make us more loving people.

You live and reign with the Father and the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Ritual

Lent is a good time to celebrate the
Sacrament of Reconciliation. Together each
night, examine the course of your day
silently. Use the Ten Commandments as a
basis and reflect on your thoughts, what you
said, and what you did that either honored
them or broke them. For those in your family
who are able to participate in the sacrament,
make time to do so every week if possible.

Conversation Questions

☉ What is the greatest temptation I have ever
faced? How did God help me overcome it?

☉ What are some ways this Lenten season
that you can spiritually “go into the desert”
with Jesus?

Living the Liturgy at Home

Enrich your Lenten Scripture experience by
viewing artwork on the Sunday Gospel and
reflecting on the commentary. This week, view a
video on Christ’s temptation in the desert which
uses the *Temptation of Christ*, a twelfth-century
mosaic from the Basilica of St. Mark in Venice,
Italy (www.loyolapress.com/arts-and-faith-week-1-of-lent-cycle-b.htm). Talk about how temptation
is a part of life, just as it was for Jesus when he
was on earth. In what ways can we walk (and
stay on) the path of the Lord this Lent?

Prayers and Blessings at Home

Second Sunday of Lent

February 25, 2018



Scripture Readings

Genesis 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13,
15–18

Psalms 116:10, 15, 16–17, 18–19
(116:9)

Romans 8:31b–34

Mark 9:2–10

Prayer before the Crucifix

Lord Jesus Christ,
as we look at the crucifix,
we remember your suffering,
we ponder your sacrifice,
we see your love.
May this image of your suffering
make us patient with our own burdens.
May this reminder of your sacrifice
help us to give ourselves for others.
May this image of your love
make us more loving people.
You live and reign with the Father and the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Ritual

The Penitential Rite is said at the beginning of Mass. We recall our tendency to commit sin and acknowledge to ourselves and the community that we are asking for forgiveness. Try incorporating the words of the assembly during family prayers this week:

*I confess to almighty God,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned through my own fault,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done,
and in what I have failed to do;
and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin,
all the angels and saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord, our God.*

Conversation Questions

- ☉ How can we *transfigure*, today, our personal and family life and the life of the community?
- ☉ How are our Lenten resolutions progressing?

Living the Liturgy at Home

Plan to pray the Stations of the Cross at least one time this Lent. Check your parish bulletin for times. (If your parish youth group will be performing the Living Stations, attend with your child.)