

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 priests and bishops 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 are you spreading the Gospel message in your actions without words, as Jesus heals in the Gospel today?
- ☉ Would people know that you and your family are Catholic Christians by the way you assist others in kindness and love?
- ☉ If you didn't use words, how would you communicate your care and concern for others?

Living the Liturgy at Home

Find out who needs prayers for healing at church or at your child's school and then gather your family to decide what action you could take to assist them. Is there an organized way to get meals to the family? Could your family write a prayer, pray it, and then write it onto a card to send to that person? Take action!

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 (7)

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

In today’s Gospel, Jesus healed a man from leprosy, giving glory to God. We need to make sure that we do a good job in our daily work so that all of our actions give glory to God. Tackle a cleaning project today as a family. Work hard and discuss how working hard and doing a good job brings glory to God.

Conversation Questions

☉ The man with leprosy had faith that Jesus could heal him. How do you think the man felt once he was healed?

☉ Through Jesus, even when we do something wrong, we can be forgiven. Why is it important to try to do better and not do things that are wrong, even though we know we can just be forgiven later?

Living the Liturgy at Home

This Sunday’s Gospel tells us of a time when Jesus went against social norms to help someone who was rejected and unloved by others. Talk to your child about the teasing, bullying, and rejection that might go on at his or her school. Has your child ever been the victim of bullying or teasing? Has he or she ever joined in on bullying or teasing of a classmate? Are there any children in your child’s school who are always picked on by the others? What can or does your child do on their behalf? Emphasize that, as Catholic Christians, we are called to treat everyone with kindness, even when it makes us unpopular. Strategize together about some things your child might do to combat bullying and teasing.

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

If you have a prayer table at home, prepare it to reflect the season. Drape a dark violet cloth over it and place a crucifix, Bible, and purple candle. Gather as a family every day to encourage each other in your Lenten resolutions of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Conversation Questions

☉ What leads you to temptation? How can we help each other in our temptations?

☉ What can we give up or do differently in order to grow closer to God during Lent?

Living the Liturgy at Home

Discuss ways your family can intentionally pray more often during the season of Lent. Suggested ways could be to gather at church for Stations of the Cross, for the praying of the Rosary, for a First Friday Mass, or for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Consult your parish bulletin or website for ideas on how to pray within a community setting.

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

In this second week of Lent, pray for catechumens. If there are people in your parish preparing for entrance into the Church on Easter, include their names in your daily prayer. These people are known as the elect, people chosen by God.

Conversation Questions

- ☉ How is our family taking the time to listen to the Word of God this Lent?
- ☉ Do we need to be shown something in order for us to be impressed enough to believe it? How do images help us to know something?

Living the Liturgy at Home

Last week, your family discussed ways to intentionally pray more often during the season of Lent. Choose one of these ways and act upon it this week. Consult your parish bulletin or website for time and location. If you chose an off-site prayer experience, make arrangements to attend. Explore a different devotion every week.