

Lectio Divina



Lectio Divina for February 12, 2025 Wednesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time National Marriage Week

We begin our prayer:

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

O God, Creator of all things,
who in the beginning made man and woman
that they might form the marriage bond,
bless and strengthen the union of your servants,
that they may show forth an ever more perfect image
of the union of Christ with his Church.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

(Collect, On Anniversaries of Marriage)

Reading (*Lectio*)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.
2:4b-9, 15-17

At the time when the LORD God made the earth and the heavens — while as yet there was no field shrub on earth and no grass of the field had sprouted, for the LORD God had sent no rain upon the earth and there was no man to till the soil, but a stream was welling up out of the earth and was watering all the surface of the ground — the LORD God formed

man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being.

Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and he placed there the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made various trees grow that were delightful to look at and good for food, with the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The LORD God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it. The LORD God gave man this order: “You are free to eat from any of the trees of the garden except the tree of knowledge of good and evil. From that tree you shall not eat; the moment you eat from it you are surely doomed to die.”

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?



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If practicing lectio divina 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?

As yet there was no field shrub on earth and no grass of the field had sprouted. When has my spiritual life felt barren? What resources do I have to strengthen my spiritual life?

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. When have I felt God's closeness most profoundly? When has God lifted me up in times of difficulty?

You are free to eat from any of the trees of the garden except the tree of knowledge of good and evil. What helps me to discern good from evil? What steps can I take to grow in my knowledge of my faith?

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

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!
You are clothed with majesty and glory,
robed in light as with a cloak.

All creatures look to you
to give them food in due time.
When you give it to them, they gather it;
when you open your hand, they
are filled with good things.

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.

Living the Word This Week

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

Commit to taking an adult faith formation class together or choose a spiritual book to read together.

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Closing Prayer: