

# Lectio Divina



## Lectio Divina for Easter Sunday

*We begin our prayer:*

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

O God, who have united the many nations  
in confessing your name,  
grant that those reborn in the font of Baptism  
may be one in the faith of their hearts  
and the homage of their deeds.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

(Collect, Thursday within the Octave of Easter)

### Reading (*Lectio*)

*Read the following Scripture two or three times.*

John 20:1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the

tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

### 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 lectio divina as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.*

### Prayer (*Oratio*)



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*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?

*Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. What obstacles keep me from recognizing the risen Jesus? How can I remove these obstacles with the help of God's grace?*

*They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first. How often do I judge my faith against someone else's? How can I keep my focus on the goal of my faith: life in Christ?*

*When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb. How can I find the courage to go where God is calling me to go? How can I lead other people to God?*

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

## **Closing Prayer:**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.  
Let the house of Israel say,  
"His mercy endures forever."

with power;  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted.  
I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD."

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
By the LORD has this been done;  
it is wonderful in our eyes.

(From Psalm 118)

## **Living the Word This Week**

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

Pray the Apostles' Creed and renew your baptismal commitment.

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"The right hand of the LORD has struck