

# Lectio Divina



## Lectio Divina for the Seventh Week of Easter

*We begin our prayer:*

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

May your Spirit, O Lord, we pray,  
imbue us powerfully with spiritual gifts,  
that he may give us a mind pleasing to you  
and graciously conform us to your will.  
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 of the Seventh Week of Easter)

### Reading (*Lectio*)

*Read the following Scripture two or three times.*  
John 17:11b-19

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying:  
“Holy Father, keep them in your name that you  
have given me, so that they may be one just as we  
are one. When I was with them I protected them in  
your name that you gave me, and I guarded them,  
and none of them was lost except the son of  
destruction, in order that the Scripture might be  
fulfilled. But now I am coming to you. I speak this  
in the world so that they may share my joy  
completely. I gave them your word, and the world  
hated them, because they do not belong to the world  
any more than I belong to the world. I do not ask  
that you take them out of the world but that you

keep them from the evil one. They do not belong to  
the world any more than I belong to the world.  
Consecrate them in the truth. Your word is truth.  
As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into  
the world. And I consecrate myself for them, so that  
they also may be consecrated in truth.”

### 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*)

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



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## Contemplation (*Contemplatio*)

*Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:*

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

*I guarded them, and none of them was lost.* When have I felt lost and abandoned? Who in my community requires my care and attention?

*I do not ask that you take them out of the world.* How am I called to share Gospel values in the secular world? What can I do to help make my community and the world a more just and loving place?

*Consecrate them in the truth.* How do I make sure that I speak the truth in charity? How do I uphold the truth in a world that doubts its existence?

*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;  
and all my being, bless his holy name.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so surpassing is his kindness toward those  
who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he put our transgressions from us.

The LORD has established his throne in heaven,  
and his kingdom rules over all.  
Bless the LORD, all you his angels,  
you mighty in strength, who do his bidding.

(From Psalm 103)

## Living the Word This Week

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

Look for ways to become involved in your diocese's efforts to bring inactive Catholics back to the practice of their faith.

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