

Lectio Divina for the Solemnity of Christmas

December 25, 2026

We begin our prayer:
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your
incarnate Word,
the light of faith, which illumines our minds,
may also shine through in our 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, Christmas, Mass at Dawn)

Reading (*Lectio*)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.

Luke 2:15-20

When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

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?

So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. Where do I feel the presence of God most strongly? How can I learn to hasten to know and love God?

Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Where do I find space to ponder and to pray? What moments in my life of faith do I reflect on most often?

Just as it had been told to them. Who first told me about God? Who needs me to tell them about God's love for them?

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

Living the Word This Week

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

In the busy-ness of holiday celebrations, find a moment of silence to thank God for the gift of his presence and of his Son.

Closing Prayer

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;
  let the many isles be glad.
The heavens proclaim his justice,
  and all peoples see his glory.

Light dawns for the just;
  and gladness, for the upright of heart.
Be glad in the LORD, you just,
  and give thanks to his holy name.

(From Psalm 97)

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