

Lectio Divina

with **Cardinal Thomas Collins**



**Join us on Sundays at
St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica**

65 Bond Street, Toronto ON

Vespers (evening prayer): 7 p.m.

Lectio Divina: 7:30 to 8:15 p.m.



Archdiocese
of Toronto



Lectio Divina ("divine, or sacred, reading") is a 2,000-year-old spiritual tradition among Christians, in which they attentively and prayerfully read the word of God. We seek to be humbly attentive to God's Holy Word, to savour it, and to let it enter into our heart as much as our heads, so that it may transform us. Lectio Divina is intended to draw us closer to God, and to transform our attitudes and behaviour.

THEME FOR 2019-2020:

Men & Women of the Old Testament

We learn about God from the stories of how people encounter God, and make him present in their life. During Lectio Divina this year, we will prayerfully meditate on passages about men and women in the Old Testament who illustrate the human condition, with its temptations to sin, and its opportunity for the grace of repentance and salvation.

April 5, 2020
David, Bathsheba, and Uriah
II Samuel 11:1-27



VESPERS – PASSION SUNDAY

INTRODUCTION

Cardinal: God, + come to my assistance.

All: Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

HYMN

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|--|---|
| 1. When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride. | 3. See from his head, his hands, his feet
What grief and love flow mingling down;
Did e'er such Love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown? |
| 2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
The vain delights that charm me most:
I sacrifice them to his blood. | 4. Were all the realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all. |

PSALMODY C = CANTOR A = ALL

Ant. 1 Christ was scourged and treated with contempt, but God's right hand has raised him up.

Psalm 110:1-5, 7

C: The Lord's revelation to my Master:
"Sit **on** my right:
your foes I will put be-**neath** your feet."

A: The Lord will wield from Zion
your scep-**ter** of power:
rule in the midst of **all** your foes.

C: A prince from the day of your birth
on the **holy** mountains;
from the womb before the dawn **I** begot you.

A: The Lord has sworn an oath he will not
change.
"You are a **priest** for ever,
a priest like Melchize-**dek** of old."

C: The Master standing at **your** right hand
will shatter kings in the day of **his** great wrath.

A: He shall drink from the stream **by** the wayside
and therefore he shall lift **up** his head.

C: Glory to the Father and **to** the Son
and to the **Holy** Spirit,

A: as it was in **the** beginning,
is now and will be fore-**ver**. Amen.

Ant. 1 (repeated by all) Christ was scourged and treated with contempt, but God's right hand has raised him up.

Ant. 2 The blood of Christ washes away our sins and makes us worthy to serve the living God.

Psalm 115

C: Not to us, Lord, not to **us**,
but to your name **give** the glory

A: for the sake of your love and your **truth**,
lest the heathen say: “Where **is** their God?”

C: But our God is in the **heavens**;
he does what-**ever** he wills.

A: Their idols are silver and **gold**,
the work of **human** hands.

C: They have mouths by they cannot **speak**;
they have eyes but they **can-not** see;

A: they have ears but they cannot **hear**;
they have nostrils but they **can-not** smell

C: With their hands they cannot **feel**;
with their feet they **can-not** walk.

A: No sound comes from their **throats**.
Their makers will come to be like them
and so will all who **trust** in them.

C: Sons of Israel, trust in the **Lord**;
he is their help **and** their shield.

A: Sons of Aaron, trust in the **Lord**;
he is their help **and** their shield.

C: You who fear him, trust in the **Lord**;
he is their help **and** their shield.

A: He remembers us, and he will **bless us**;
he will bless the sons of Israel.
He will bless the **sons** of Aaron.

C: The Lord will bless those who **fear** him,
the little no less **than** the great:

A: to you may the Lord grant **increase**,
to you and **all** your children.

C: May you be blessed by the **Lord**,
the maker of hea-**ven** and earth.

A: The heavens belong to the **Lord**
but the earth he has **giv-en** to men.

C: The dead shall not praise the **Lord**,
nor those who go down in-**to** the silence.

A: But we who live bless the **Lord**
now and fore-**ver**. Amen.

C: Glory to the Father and **to** the Son
and to the **Holy** Spirit,

A: as it was in **the** beginning,
is now and will be fore-**ver**. Amen.

Ant. 2(repeated by all) The blood of Christ washes away our sins and makes us worthy to serve the living God.

Ant. 3 Christ bore our sins in his own body on the cross so that we might die to sin and be alive to all that is good.

Canticle: 1 Peter 2:21-24

C: Christ suffered for you,
and left you **an** example
to have you follow **in** his footsteps.

A: He did no wrong;
no deceit was found **in** his mouth.
When he was insulted,
he re-**turned** no insult.

C: When he was made to suffer,
he did not **counter** with threats.
Instead he delivered himself up
to the One who **judges** justly.

A: In his own body
he brought your sins **to** the cross,
so that all of us, dead to sin,
could live in accord **with** God’s will.

C: By his wounds **you** were healed.

C: Glory to the Father and **to** the Son
and to the **Holy** Spirit,

A: as it was in **the** beginning,
is now and will be fore-**ver**. Amen.

Ant. 3(repeated by all) Christ bore our sins in his own body on the cross so that we might die to sin and be alive to all that is good.

READING – Acts 13:26-30

My brothers, it was to us that this message of salvation was sent forth. The inhabitants of Jerusalem and their rulers failed to recognize him, and in condemning him they fulfilled the words of the prophets, which we read sabbath after sabbath. Even though they found no charge against him which deserved death, they begged Pilate to have him executed. Once they had thus brought about all that had been written of him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. Yet God raised him from the dead.

RESPONSORY

We worship you, O Christ, and we praise you.

R/ We worship you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

R/ We praise you.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R/ We worship you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Ant. It is written: I will strike the shepherd and his flock will be scattered. But when I have risen, I will go before you into Galilee. There you shall see me, says the Lord.

CANTICLE OF MARY

My + soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Ant. (repeated by all) It is written: I will strike the shepherd and his flock will be scattered. But when I have risen, I will go before you into Galilee. There you shall see me, says the Lord.

INTERCESSIONS

Cardinal: The Savior of mankind by dying destroyed death and by rising again restored life. Let us humbly ask him: Sanctify your people, redeemed by your blood.

R/ Sanctify your people, redeemed by your blood.

Reader: Redeemer of the world, give us a greater share of your passion through a deeper spirit of repentance, so that we may share the glory of your resurrection. **R/ Sanctify your people, redeemed by your blood.**

Reader: May your Mother, comfort of the afflicted, protect us, may we console others as you console us. **R/ Sanctify your people, redeemed by your blood.**

Reader: Look with love on those who suffer because of our indifference, come to their aid, and turn our uncaring hearts to works of justice and charity. **R/ Sanctify your people, redeemed by your blood.**

Reader: You humbled yourself by being obedient even to accepting death, death on a cross, give all who serve you the gifts of obedience and patient endurance. **R/ Sanctify your people, redeemed by your blood.**

Reader: Transform the bodies of the dead to be like your own in glory, and bring us at last into their fellowship. **R/ Sanctify your people, redeemed by your blood.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Cardinal: Remember us Lord, when you come into your kingdom and teach us how to pray:
Our Father...

CLOSING PRAYER

Cardinal: Almighty and ever-living God,
who as an example of humility for the human race to follow
caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross,
graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering
and so merit a share in his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

PONTIFICAL BLESSING

Cardinal: The Lord be with you.

R/ And with your spirit.

Cardinal: Blessed be the Name of the Lord

R/ Now and forever

Cardinal: Our help is in the Name of the Lord

R/ Who made heaven and earth

Cardinal: And may Almighty God bless you...

SALVE REGINA

Ave, Regina caelorum,
ave, Domina angelorum,
salve, radix, salve, porta,
ex qua mundo lux est orta.

Gaude, Virgo gloriosa
super omnes speciosa;
vale, o valde decora,
et pro nobis Christum exora.

David, Bathsheba and Uriah

II Samuel 11:1-27

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go forth to battle, David sent Jo'ab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking upon the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful. And David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is not this Bathshe'ba, the daughter of Eli'am, the wife of Uri'ah the Hittite?" So David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Then she returned to her house. And the woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am with child."

So David sent word to Jo'ab, "Send me Uri'ah the Hittite." And Jo'ab sent Uri'ah to David. When Uri'ah came to him, David asked how Jo'ab was doing, and how the people fared, and how the war prospered. Then David said to Uri'ah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." And Uri'ah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uri'ah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, "Uri'ah did not go down to his house," David said to Uri'ah, "Have you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?" Uri'ah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah dwell in booths; and my lord Jo'ab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing." Then David said to Uri'ah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will let you depart." So Uri'ah remained in Jerusalem that day, and the next. And David invited him, and he ate in his presence and drank, so that he made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

In the morning David wrote a letter to Jo'ab, and sent it by the hand of Uri'ah. In the letter he wrote, "Set Uri'ah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down, and die." And as Jo'ab was besieging the city, he assigned Uri'ah to the place where he knew there were valiant men. And the men of the city came out and fought with Jo'ab; and some of the servants of David among the people fell. Uri'ah the Hittite was slain also. Then Jo'ab sent and told David all the news about the fighting; and he instructed the messenger, "When you have finished telling all the news about the fighting to the king, then, if the king's anger rises, and if he says to you, 'Why did you go so near the city to fight? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall? Who killed Abim'elech the son of Jerub'besheth? Did not a woman cast an upper millstone upon him from the wall, so that he died at Thebez? Why did you go so near the wall?' then you shall say, 'Your servant Uri'ah the Hittite is dead also.'"

So the messenger went, and came and told David all that Jo'ab had sent him to tell. The messenger said to David, "The men gained an advantage over us, and came out against us in the field; but we drove them back to the entrance of the gate. Then the archers shot at your servants from the wall; some of the king's servants are dead; and your servant Uri'ah the Hittite is dead also." David said to the messenger, "Thus shall you say to Jo'ab, 'Do not let this matter trouble you, for the sword devours now one and now another; strengthen your attack upon the city, and overthrow it.' And encourage him."

When the wife of Uri'ah heard that Uri'ah her husband was dead, she made lamentation for her husband. And when the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.



Dates for 2019-2020 Lectio Divina Series

May 3, 2020

Elijah

I Kings 19:1-18

June 7, 2020

Jonah's Mission to Nineveh

Jonah 3 and 4

- Watch the livestream at www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live
- Tune in to Salt + Light TV! See broadcast schedule at www.saltandlighttv.org/lectiodivina
- Catch up on past reflections and learn more about Lectio Divina at www.archtoronto.org/lectio
- For links to suggested resources and to learn more about the Archdiocese of Toronto's response to COVID-19, please visit: archtoronto.org/covid19



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