

Lectio Divina

with **Cardinal Thomas Collins**



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

65 Bond Street, Toronto ON

Music by the Cathedral Vespers Choir: 6:45 p.m.

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.

February 2, 2020
Naomi and Ruth
Ruth 1:1-22



SUNDAY VESPERS – THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

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. Alleluia.

HYMN

1. When Mary brought her treasure
Unto the holy place,
No eye of man could measure
The joy upon her face.
He was but six weeks old,
Her plaything and her pleasure,
Her silver and her gold.
2. Then Simeon, on him gazing
With wonder and with love,
His aged voice up-raising
Gave thanks to God above:
“Now welcome sweet release!
For I, my savior praising,
May die at last in peace.”
3. And she, all sorrow scorning,
Rejoiced in Jesus’ fame.
The child her arms adorning
Shone softly like a flame
That burns the long night through,
And keeps from dusk till morning
Its vigil clear and true.
4. As by the sun in splendor
The flags of night are furled,
So darkness shall surrender
To Christ who lights the world:
To Christ the star of day,
Who once was small and tender,
A candle’s gentle ray.

PSALMODY C = CANTOR A = ALL

Ant. 1 The Holy Spirit had **revealed** to Simeon that he would not see death until he had **seen** the Lord.

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) The Holy Spirit had **revealed** to Simeon that he would not see death until he had **seen** the Lord.

Ant. 2 As the law prescribed, they offered to the **Lord** a pair of turtledoves or **two** young pigeons.

Psalm 112

C: Out of the depths I cry to you, O **Lord**,
Lord, **hear** my voice!
O let your ears be **attentive**
to the voice **of** my pleading.

A: Because with the Lord there is **mercy**
and fullness **of** redemption,
Israel indeed he will **redeem**
from all **its** iniquity.

A: If you, O Lord, should mark our **guilt**,
Lord, who **would** survive?
But with you is found **forgiveness**:
for this **we** revere you.

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.

C: My soul is waiting for the **Lord**,
I count **on** his word.
My soul is longing for the **Lord**
more than watch**man** for daybreak.
Let the watchman count on **daybreak**
and Israel **on** the Lord.

Ant. 2 (repeated by all) As the law prescribed, they offered to the **Lord** a pair of turtledoves or **two** young pigeons.

Ant. 3 All the people, whom **you** have made, will come and worship before **you**, Lord.

Canticle: Colossians 1: 12-20

C: Let us give thanks **to** the Father
for having made you worthy
to share the lot of the **saints**
in light.

C: It is he who is head of the **body**, the church!
he who is **the** beginning,
the first-born **of** the dead,
so that primacy may be **his** in everything.

A: He rescued us
from the **power** of darkness
and brought us
into the kingdom of his **beloved** Son.
Through him we **have** redemption,
the forgiveness **of** our sins.

A: It pleased God to make absolute fullness
reside in him
and, by means of him, to reconcile everything
in his person,
both on earth and **in** the heavens,
making peace through the blood **of** his cross.

C: He is the image of the **invisible** God,
the first-born **of** all creatures.
In him everything in heaven and on earth **was**
created,
things visible **and** invisible.

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.

A: All were **created** through him;
all were **created** for him.
He is before all **else** that is.
In him everything **continues** in being.

Ant. 3 (repeated by all) All the people, whom **you** have made, will come and worship before **you**, Lord.

READING – *Hebrews 4:15-16*

We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who was tempted in every way that we are, yet never sinned. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and favor and to find help in time of need.

RESPONSORY

The Lord has made known his saving power.

R/ The Lord has made known his saving power.

Which he has prepared in the sight of every people.

R/ His saving power.

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

R/ The Lord has made known his saving power.

CANTICLE OF MARY

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm.
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things.
And the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel
as he promised to our forefathers Abraham, and his seed forever.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Cardinal: Today our Savior was presented in the temple. Let us adore him as we say:
Lord, may our eyes see your saving power.

R/ Lord, may our eyes see your saving power.

Reader: Christ Jesus, you are the light that enlightens all nations, shine upon those who do not know you, that they may come to believe in you, the one, true God. **R/ Lord, may our eyes see your saving power.**

Reader: You are the redeemer and glory of your people Israel, may your Church proclaim your salvation to the ends of the earth. **R/ Lord, may our eyes see your saving power.**

Reader: Jesus, desire of the nations, Simeon, the just man, rejoiced at your coming, lead all men to recognize that you still come to them. **R/ Lord, may our eyes see your saving power.**

Reader: Lord, when you were presented in the temple, Simeon foretold that a sword of sorrow would pierce your mother's heart, strengthen us to accept the sufferings we endure for the sake of your name. **R/ Lord, may our eyes see your saving power.**

Reader: Christ Jesus, joy of all the saints, Simeon longed to see you before he died, and his prayer was answered, hear our plea for all the dead who still yearn to see you face to face.
R/ Lord, may our eyes see your saving power.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Cardinal: Let us pray with confidence in the words that Jesus taught us.
Our Father...

CLOSING PRAYER

Cardinal: All-powerful Father,
Christ your Son became man for us
and was presented in the temple.
May he free our hearts from sin
and bring us into your presence.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit
one God, for ever and ever.

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

Salve, Regina, Mater misericordiæ, vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus exsules filii Hevæ,
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes in hac lacrimarum valle.
Eia, ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte;
Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui, nobis post hoc exsilium ostende.
O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo Maria.

Ruth 1: 1-22

In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. The name of the man was Elim'elech and the name of his wife Na'omi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chil'ion; they were Eph'rathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elim'elech, the husband of Na'omi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years; and both Mahlon and Chil'ion died, so that the woman was bereft of her two sons and her husband.

Then she started with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had visited his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she was, with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. But Na'omi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find a home, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Na'omi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the Lord has gone forth against me." Then they lifted up their voices and wept again; and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Entreat me not to leave you or to return from following you; for where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God; where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if even death parts me from you." And when Na'omi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them; and the women said, "Is this Na'omi?" She said to them, "Do not call me Na'omi, call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. I went away full, and the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Na'omi, when the Lord has afflicted me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?"

So Na'omi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.

Dates for 2019-2020 Lectio Divina Series

March 1, 2020

The Call of Samuel

I Samuel 3:1-21

April 5, 2020

David, Bathsheba, and Uriah

II Samuel 11:1-27

May 3, 2020

Elijah

I Kings 19:1-18


June 7, 2020

Jonah's Mission to Nineveh

Jonah 3 and 4



CAN'T ATTEND IN PERSON?

- Watch the livestream at www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live
- Join us via web conferencing at a local parish!  Details at www.archtoronto.org/lectio
- 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



Archdiocese
of Toronto