

PRAYING THROUGH THE LENTEN GOSPELS

1st Sunday of Lent - Temptation of Jesus



ICEBREAKER QUESTION:

How will you be spending Lent this year?
Will you be giving something up or adding something to your daily life?

Gospel - Luke 4:1-13

In Sunday's Gospel, we encounter Jesus in the desert, fighting Satan and the powers of evil.

1 Filled with the holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert 2 for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." 4 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" 5 Then he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a single instant. 6 The devil said to him, "I shall give to you all this power and their glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I may give it to whomever I wish. 7 All this will be yours, if you worship me." 8 Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: 'You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve.'" 9 Then he led him to Jerusalem, made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,' 11 and: 'With their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" 12 Jesus said to him in reply, "It also says, 'You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.'" 13 When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.

Prayer Experience — Diving Deeper

Ask someone to read the Gospel aloud. Next, divide into four groups, read the Scripture passages, and discuss the group questions. Finally, reconvene and share your insights with the whole group. Set aside at 30-40 minutes for this prayer experience, dedicating half of the time to explore the other Scripture passages and the remaining time for group sharing.

GROUP 1: THE THREE TYPES OF TEMPTATION—Read 1 John 2:15-17.

1. What are the three categories of temptations that St. John describes?
2. How do you think these temptations align with the temptations faced by Jesus in the desert?

GROUP 2: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF 40—Jesus fasts for 40 days. Where have you seen the number 40 before in Scripture (hints: Genesis 7:12, Exodus 34:27-28, Deuteronomy 8:2-3, and 1 Kings 19:7-9)?

1. After reading these stories, what do you think the number 40 represents?
2. How do these stories relate to the temptation of Jesus? What is the purpose of His fasting?

GROUP 3: SCRIPTURE QUOTED BY JESUS—Jesus says multiple times, “it is written” or “it is said.” What Scripture is He referencing when He is saying this (hints: Deuteronomy 8:2-3 and Deuteronomy 6:13-16)? In Sunday’s Gospel, the devil also quotes Scripture in verses 10-11, which is from today’s Psalm 91:11-16.

1. How is the devil misrepresenting what this Scripture is actually saying?
2. Why do you think the devil chose to stop before verse 13?

GROUP 4: RELATING TO THE GARDEN—Read through Genesis 3:1-7.

1. How do the three temptations faced by Jesus relate to the temptations faced by Eve in the Garden?
2. How does Jesus overcome the temptations where Adam and Eve failed? What does this say about Jesus (hint: Romans 5:12-19)?

Additional Gospel Questions (if time permits)

Read through the Temptation of Jesus from Luke’s Gospel 4:1-13 one more time.

1. Reflecting on Jesus’ 40 day fast, what practices can you implement during Lent to protect yourself against worldly temptations, renew your focus on God, and prepare you for Easter? Will this change what you already had planned for Lent?
2. Jesus rebuked the devil’s temptations by quoting Scripture, showing the power of God’s Word as a shield. Have you ever turned to Scripture for strength in times of personal temptation? Which verses or stories have helped you overcome challenges?
3. The devil twisted Scripture by selectively quoting and omitting context. Have you ever experienced or witnessed a time where a distorted interpretation of Scripture led you or someone else away from God’s truth? How can you safeguard against this?
4. In what ways are the temptations Jesus faced in the desert—such as hunger, the desire for power and glory, and obedience to God’s will—similar to the temptations you experience? How are they different?

Weekly Challenge — Resisting Temptation

Your Weekly Challenge is a chance, throughout the coming week, to reflect and pray about what you learned today, allowing God to speak to you through Scripture, prayer, conversations, nature, or even what we encounter in media. St. Ignatius of Loyola teaches us that “God is in all things.” Stay open and curious as to how He wants to reveal Himself to you.

Revisit what these Scripture passages have to say about this week’s theme, **Resisting Temptation** (hints: Luke 4:1 and 1 John 5:15,17). Then, throughout the week, pray and ponder:

1. How can I resist worldly temptation and focus on God instead?
2. How can the concept of being “not of this world” help me resist temptation?



PRAYING THROUGH THE LENTEN GOSPELS

2nd Sunday of Lent - Transfiguration



ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS:

Share about your experience with last week's challenge, Resisting Temptation. What from last Sunday's Mass is still resonating with you? Were you able to connect with your prayer partner?

Gospel - Luke 9:28-36

We hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but with the benefit of hindsight, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection while preparing to remember His Passion and death.

28 About eight days after he said this, he took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. **29** While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. **30** And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, **31** who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. **32** Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. **33** As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. **34** While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. **35** Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." **36** After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

Prayer Experience — Ignatian Contemplation

First, ask someone to read the Gospel aloud. Then for our prayer experience, we will use Ignatian Contemplation. In Ignatian Contemplation, we enter into prayer in a profound way by contemplating the life of Christ as we engage our senses and place ourselves in the Gospel scenes. By encountering Jesus in this way, we are drawn to more deeply know and follow Him.

—continued

Prayer Experience – Continued

Set aside at least approximately 30-40 minutes for this prayer experience. The first half of the time, you will listen to the audio file which immerses us in the Transfiguration as told in Luke 9, as well as Matthew 27 and Mark 9. Note the audio is 22 minutes long; if you'd like to listen to a shorter 13-minute version, play the audio from 6:28-19:28. Once you have listened to the audio, use the remaining time to share with a partner, or the small group, or both, using the reflection questions below:

1. Have you experienced this type of prayer before? What was it like for you today?
2. Where or who were you in the scene? How do you think God might be calling you?

To experience this prayer practice on your own, scan the QR codes.



IC Audio



How-To

Additional Gospel Questions (if time permits)

Read through the Transfiguration Gospel from Luke 9:28-36 one more time.

1. What happens in the Scripture instead of tent building? What directions does God give?
2. What do you think God wants for this situation? How does that compare with what Peter wants?
3. What helps you listen to God? What can hinder you from hearing God?
4. In the book *The Three Ordinary Voices of God*, Matthew Kelly tells us that God speaks to us through our needs, our talents, and our desires. If you've read the book, please share what resonated with you. If not, what do you think about this concept?

Weekly Challenge – Listen to God

Your Weekly Challenge is a chance, throughout the coming week, to reflect and pray about what you learned today, allowing God to speak to you through Scripture, prayer, conversations, nature, or even what we encounter in media. St. Ignatius of Loyola teaches us that “God is in all things.” Stay open and curious as to how God wants to reveal Himself to you.

Listen to God is the theme for this week's challenge. Revisit what today's Scripture passage has to say about this (hint: Luke 9:35). Then, throughout the week, pray and ponder:

1. What does it mean to me to personally listen to Jesus?
2. What is one tangible way I can listen to Jesus more this week?



PRAYING THROUGH THE LENTEN GOSPELS

3rd Sunday of Lent - Repent, Parable of Fig Tree



ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS

Share about your experience with last week's weekly challenge, Listening to God. What from last Sunday's Mass is still resonating with you? Were you able to connect with your prayer partner?

Sunday's Gospel includes a call to repentance and the parable of the barren fig tree. The parable leaves us with a choice—to accept the invitation to change and bear fruit or remain as we are.

Gospel - Luke 13:1-9

1 At that time some people who were present there told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. 2 He said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? 3 By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! 4 Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? 5 By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" 6 And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, 7 he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. [So] cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?' 8 He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; 9 it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.'"

Prayer Experience — Praying in Color

First, ask someone to read the Gospel aloud. Then for our prayer experience, we will use Praying in Color. Praying in Color is the intersection of prayer and doodling. It is active, meditative, and playful. It is more about the process than the finished product, so have fun with it. No skill is required!

—continued

Prayer Experience – Continued

Set aside at least approximately 30-40 minutes for this prayer experience, allowing time for praying and sharing. For purposes of this guide, your small group leader will lead you through a process that combines Lectio Divina and Praying in Color. Once you've completed your Praying in Color, use the remaining time to share with a partner, or the small group, or both, using the reflection questions below:

1. Have you experienced this type of prayer before? What was it like for you today?
2. Share your Praying in Color—what was the word or phrase that came to you? What about feelings or emotions? Did you receive an invitation from God to an inward movement or outward action?

To experience this prayer practice on your own, scan the QR code.



Additional Gospel Questions (if time permits)

Read through the Repent, Parable of the Fig Tree Gospel from Luke 13:1-9 one more time.

1. What appears to be Jesus' primary concern in this Scripture passage?
2. What does the parable say about God's attitude toward freedom?
3. Who or what in your life nourishes you spiritually? What fruit can you see from this nourishment?

Weekly Challenge – Bearing Fruit in Faith

Your Weekly Challenge is a chance, throughout the coming week, to reflect and pray about what you learned today, allowing God to speak to you through Scripture, prayer, conversations, nature, or even what we encounter in media. St. Ignatius of Loyola teaches us that "God is in all things." Stay open and curious as to how He wants to reveal Himself to you.

Bearing fruit in faith is the theme for this week's challenge. Revisit what today's Scripture passage has to say about this week's theme (hint: Luke 13:8). Then, throughout the week, pray and ponder:

1. What does it mean for me personally to "bear fruit?"
2. What in my life impedes my ability to draw nutrients and "bear fruit?" What practical steps can I take to eliminate these impediments?



PRAYING THROUGH THE LENTEN GOSPELS

4th Sunday of Lent - The Prodigal Son



ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS

Share about your experience with last week's weekly challenge, Bearing Fruit in Faith. What from last Sunday's Mass is still resonating with you? Were you able to connect with your prayer partner?

Gospel - Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

This Gospel is commonly called the parable of the Prodigal Son. However, this title overlooks the true focus, which is on the father and his acts of mercy and love for both sons.

1 The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to him, 2 but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." 3 So to them he addressed this parable: 11 Then he said, "A man had two sons, 12 and the younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. 13 After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. 14 When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. 15 So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. 16 And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. 17 Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. 18 I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' 20 So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. 21 His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' 22 But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, 24 because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began. 25 Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. 26 He called one of the servants and asked what this

might mean. **27** The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' **28** He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. **29** He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. **30** But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' **31** He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. **32** But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"

Prayer Experience — Visio Divina

First, ask someone to read the Gospel aloud. For our prayer experience, we will use Visio Divina. Visio Divina is Latin for "divine seeing." It is a way of praying with **images** to listen to God's Word. Similar to Lectio Divina, we can practice this form of prayer in four steps.

Set aside at least approximately 30-40 minutes for this prayer experience, allowing time for praying and sharing. Your small group leader will lead you through this prayer. To experience this prayer practice on your own, scan the QR code. Once you've completed your Visio, use the remaining time to share with a partner or the small group, or both, using the reflection questions below:



1. Have you experienced this type of prayer before? What was it like for you today?
2. What aspects of the image were you drawn to? Where were you in the scene? How did you engage your senses? How do you think God might be calling you?

Additional Gospel questions (if time permits):

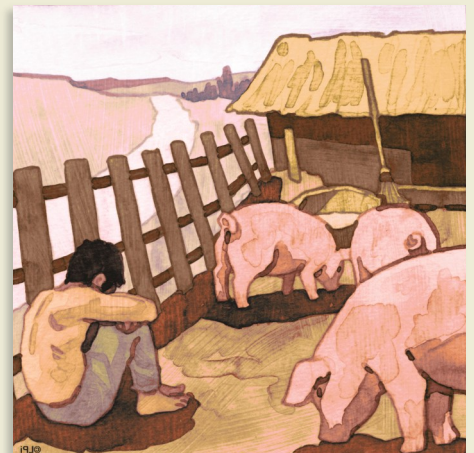
1. In this parable, how do you see the father respond to the needs of both of his sons?
2. Who do you identify with most in this parable? Please explain.

Weekly Challenge — Joy of Reconciliation

Your Weekly Challenge is a chance, throughout the coming week, to reflect and pray about what you learned today, allowing God to speak to you through Scripture, prayer, conversations, nature, or even what we encounter in media. St. Ignatius of Loyola teaches us that "God is in all things." Stay open and curious as to how He wants to reveal Himself to you.

Joy in reconciliation is the theme for this week's challenge. Revisit what today's Scripture passage has to say about this week's theme (hint: Luke 15:20,32). Throughout the week, pray and ponder:

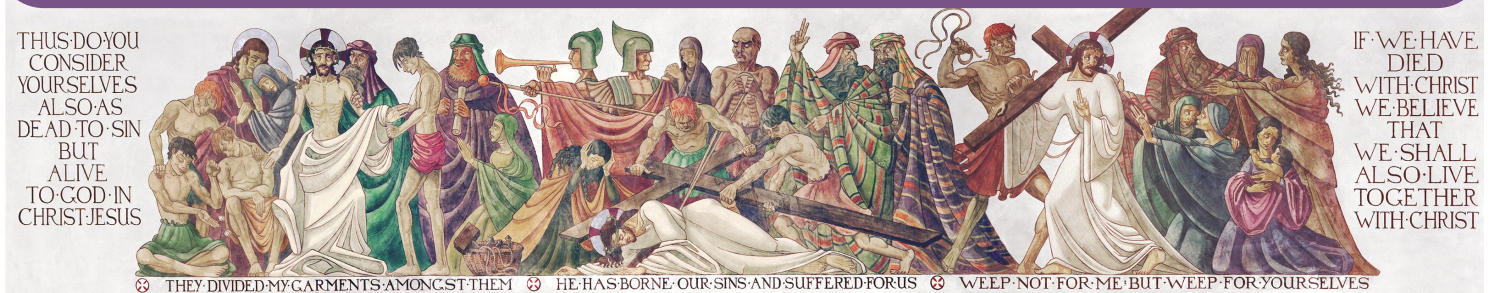
1. Have you experienced the joy of reconciliation with God in your own life (perhaps during Confession)?
2. Have you experienced the joy of reconciliation with others in your own life? In this situation were you more like the Prodigal Son, the Other Son, or the Prodigal Father?





PRAYING THROUGH THE LENTEN GOSPELS

5th Sunday of Lent - Woman Caught in Adultery



ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS

Share about your experience with last week's weekly challenge, Joy in Reconciliation. What from last Sunday's Mass is still resonating with you? Were you able to connect with your prayer partner?

Gospel - John 8:1-11

Today's Gospel highlights the tensions between Jesus and the Jewish leadership. It also presents the paradox of loss and gain—knowing Christ as a “gain” and all else as a “loss.”

1 Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2 But early in the morning he arrived again in the temple area, and all the people started coming to him, and he sat down and taught them. 3 Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and made her stand in the middle. 4 They said to him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. 5 Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?” 6 They said this to test him, so that they could have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. 7 But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” 8 Again he bent down and wrote on the ground. 9 And in response, they went away one by one, beginning with the elders. So he was left alone with the woman before him. 10 Then Jesus straightened up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” 11 She replied, “No one, sir.” Then Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you. Go, [and] from now on do not sin any more.”]

Prayer Experience — Ignatian Contemplation

First, ask someone to read the Gospel aloud. For our prayer experience, we will use Ignatian Contemplation. In Ignatian Contemplation, we enter into prayer in a profound way by contemplating the life of Christ as we engage our senses and place ourselves in the Gospel scenes. By encountering Jesus in this way, we are drawn to more deeply know and follow Him.

—continued

Prayer Experience – Continued

Set aside approximately 30-40 minutes for this prayer experience. The first half of the time, you will listen to the audio file which immerses us in the Woman Caught in Adultery story as told in John 8. Note the audio is 22 minutes long; if you'd like to listen to a shorter 16-minute version, play the audio from 6:45-22:45. Once you have listened to the audio, use the remaining time to share with a partner or the small group, or both, using the reflection questions below:

1. Have you experienced this type of prayer before? What was it like for you today?
2. Where or who were you in the scene? How do you think God might be calling you?



IC Audio



How-To

To experience this prayer practice on your own, scan the QR codes.

Additional Gospel Questions (if time permits)

Read through this Gospel from John 8:1-11 one more time.

1. Clearly, the Pharisees took this woman's sin seriously, but what was wrong with their reaction to the woman? Do you think Jesus took this woman's sin seriously? Why or why not?
2. Have you ever been able to "love the sinner, but hate the sin?" Please share.
3. How do you think this woman felt when Jesus uttered His last words to her (v11). How do you see the rest of this woman's life unfolding?

Weekly Challenge – Leave Sin Behind

Your Weekly Challenge is a chance, throughout the coming week, to reflect and pray about what you learned today, allowing God to speak to you through Scripture, prayer, conversations, nature, or even what we encounter in media. St. Ignatius of Loyola teaches us that "God is in all things." Stay open and curious as to how He wants to reveal Himself to you.

Leave sin behind is the theme for this week's challenge. Revisit what today's Scripture passage has to say about this week's theme (hint: John 8:11). Then, throughout the week, pray and ponder:

1. Have you ever struggled to accept God's forgiveness or to forgive yourself? Conversely, how do you receive and accept the mercy Jesus offers?
2. What could true repentance or metanoia—a change of heart or mind—look like in your life? Take one practical step towards this metanoia this week.



PRAYING THROUGH THE LENTEN GOSPELS

6th Sunday of Lent - Palm or Passion Sunday



AFTER THREE DAYS I WILL RISE AGAIN ❖ IS THERE ANY SORROW LIKE UNTO MINE? ❖ FATHER IN THY HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT ❖ MY PEOPLE WHAT HAVE I DONE TO YOU

ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS

Share about your experience with last week's weekly challenge, Leave Sin Behind. What from last Sunday's Mass is still resonating with you? Were you able to connect with your prayer partner?

Gospel - Luke 23:44-49

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear Luke's account of the Last Supper and Christ's passion and death. But in our C2C small group, we'll focus only on His death, a pivotal moment in humanity's salvation from sin.

44 It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon **45** because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. **46** Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last. **47** The centurion who witnessed what had happened glorified God and said, "This man was innocent beyond doubt." **48** When all the people who had gathered for this spectacle saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts; **49** but all his acquaintances stood at a distance, including the women who had followed him from Galilee and saw these events.

Prayer Experience — Loving Arms of the Father

First, ask someone to read the Gospel aloud. Set aside at 20-30 minutes for this prayer experience. For the first half of the time, slowly and silently reflect on the questions below and write down your answers. Once complete, use the remaining time to share with a partner or the small group, or both, at your comfort level.

What would it take to throw yourself into the loving arms of the Father?

1. What fears or hesitations prevent you from giving yourself fully to God like Jesus did on the Cross?
2. If He removed these fears, how would your life change?
3. Bring these fears to God in prayer, asking Him to replace them with His kindness, mercy, and love.

Prayer Experience — Compare and Contrast

Critics often claim that Scripture contradicts itself, pointing to variations in how the Gospel writers record the same events in Jesus' life. While these differences can raise questions, they can also offer valuable insights. Read Jesus' moment of death Scripture passages below.

Matthew 27:50	Mark 15:37	Luke 23:46	John 19:30
But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up His spirit.	Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed His last.	Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit;" and when He had said this He breathed His last.	When Jesus had taken the wine, He said, "It is finished." And bowing His head, He handed over His spirit.

1. What similarities do you see in each of the Gospels accounts? What differences?
2. How do you reconcile those differences when reading Scripture?



In addition to different writers, the Bible also contains differences due to Bible translations. It is said that today, the Bible has been translated into over 3,500 languages. Wow! Scan the QR code for [Bible Gateway](#) and compare different translations. Try comparing Psalm 23:1-3 in a variety of translations. Hint: try these translations—the New American Bible Revised Edition NABRE (Catholic), the Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition RSVCE (Catholic), the Message, and the King James Version.

Weekly Challenge — Trust and Faithfulness

Your Weekly Challenge is a chance, throughout the coming week, to reflect and pray about what you learned today, allowing God to speak to you through Scripture, prayer, conversations, nature, or even what we encounter in media. St. Ignatius of Loyola teaches us that "God is in all things." Stay open and curious as to how He wants to reveal Himself to you.

Trust and faithfulness is the theme for this week's challenge. Revisit what today's Scripture passage has to say about this (hint: Luke 23:46). Then, throughout the week, pray and ponder:

1. Look for signs of complete trust and faithfulness, perhaps with a child, a pet or animal, or another person such as a saint or someone you know personally. How do they act? What can you learn from them?
2. What is one practical step you can take this week to walk in trust and faithfulness with God?



PRAYING THROUGH THE LENTEN GOSPELS

Easter Sunday

HE IS RISEN!

©LPi

ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS

Share about your experience with last week's weekly challenge, Trust and Faithfulness. What from last Sunday's Mass is still resonating with you? Were you able to connect with your prayer partner?

Gospel - Luke 24:1-12

Today's Gospel starts with the women seeking to bury Jesus, but they encounter two men who share the Good News. The women believe and quickly share the Good News with the apostles.

1 But at daybreak on the first day of the week they took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them. 5 They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. They said to them, "Why do you seek the living one among the dead? 6 He is not here, but he has been raised. Remember what he said to you while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners and be crucified, and rise on the third day." 8 And they remembered his words. 9 Then they returned from the tomb and announced all these things to the eleven and to all the others. 10 The women were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James; the others who accompanied them also told this to the apostles, 11 but their story seemed like nonsense and they did not believe them. 12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb, bent down, and saw the burial cloths alone; then he went home amazed at what had happened.

Prayer Experience — You Decide

First, ask someone to read the Gospel aloud. For your prayer experience choose either Ignatian Contemplation (no audio, guided by your small group leader), Praying in Color, or Visio Divina. Scan the QR codes on the next page for more details on each prayer experience. —continued

Prayer Experience — Continued

Set aside 30-40 minutes for this prayer experience, allowing time for both praying and sharing. Once you've completed your prayer experience, use the remaining time to share with a partner, or the small group, or both, using the reflection questions below:

1. What was this prayer experience like for you today?
2. Did you receive an invitation from God, either to an inward movement or outward action?



Contemplation



Praying in Color



Visio Divina

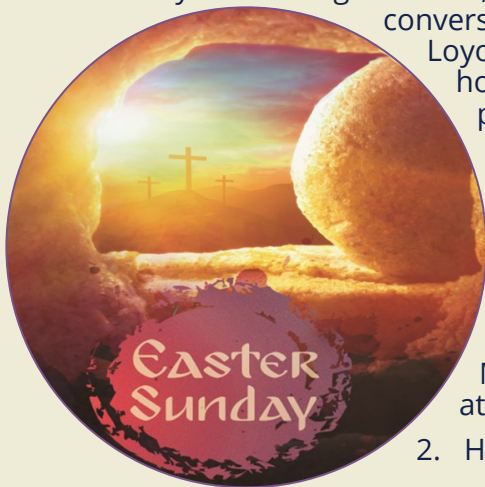
Additional Gospel Questions (if time permits)

Read through this Gospel from *Luke 24:1-12* one more time.

1. What was the women's reaction to the two men who were angels? What do you think your reaction might have been?
2. Share about a time when you've shared the Good News with someone else. What was their reaction? Did they act more like Peter or the apostles in today's Gospel (hint: Luke 24:11-12)?

Weekly Challenge — Encounter the Risen Lord

Your Weekly Challenge is a chance, throughout the Easter Season, to reflect and pray about what you learned today and throughout Lent, allowing God to speak to you through Scripture, prayer, conversations, nature, or even what we encounter in media. St. Ignatius of Loyola teaches us that "God is in all things." Stay open and curious as to how He wants to reveal Himself to you. Continue to reach out to your prayer partners and ask how you can pray for them.



Our parish mission is to make disciples who encounter, love, and serve Jesus, one another, and the world. With this in mind, **encounter the Risen Lord** is the theme for the challenge, for this week and during the entire Easter season.

Pray and ponder:

1. How can you encounter the Risen Lord in a more profound way at Mass and during prayer this Easter Season? What about while you are at work, or the gym, or with others (remember God is in all things)?
2. How can others encounter Jesus, the Risen Lord, through you?