



**Archdiocese of St. Louis
Office of Sacred Worship
Lectio Divina**

Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

**Lectionary: 536: Rv 2:8-11/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/see Te Deum/Jn
15:18-21**

Read the following passage four times.

- The first reading, simply read the scripture and pause for a minute.
Listen to the passage with the ear of the heart. Don't get distracted by intellectual types of questions about the passage. Just listen to what the passage is saying to you, right now.
- The second reading, look for a key word or phrase that draws your attention.
Notice if any phrase, sentence or word stands out and gently begin to repeat it to yourself, allowing it to touch you deeply. No elaboration. In a group setting, you can share that word/phrase or simply pass.
- The third reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "*Where does the content of this reading touch my life today?*"
Notice what thoughts, feelings, and reflections arise within you. Let the words resound in your heart. What might God be asking of you through the scripture? In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.
- The fourth reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "*I believe that God wants me to today/this week.*"
Notice any prayerful response that arises within you, for example a small prayer of gratitude or praise. In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.

First Reading

Rv 2:8-11

"To the angel of the church in Smyrna, write this: "The first and the last, who once died but came to life, says this: "I know your tribulation and poverty, but you are rich. I know the slander of those who claim to be Jews and are not, but rather are members of the assembly of Satan. Do not be afraid of anything that you are going to suffer. Indeed, the devil will throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will face an ordeal for ten days. Remain faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. "Whoever has ears ought to hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The victor shall not be harmed by the second death."



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Responsorial Psalm

Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17

R. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Be my rock of refuge, a stronghold to save me. For you are my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me.

R. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Into your hands I commend my spirit; you will redeem me, LORD, God of truth. You hate those who serve worthless idols, but I trust in the LORD. I will rejoice and be glad in your mercy.

R. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Rescue me from my enemies, from the hands of my pursuers. Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your mercy.

R. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.



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Alleluia

see Te Deum

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Jn 15:18-21

Jesus said to his disciples:

"If the world hates you, realize that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, the world would love its own; but because you do not belong to the world, and I have chosen you out of the world, the world hates you. Remember the word I spoke to you, 'No slave is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. And they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know the one who sent me.