



**Archdiocese of St. Louis**  
**Office of Sacred Worship**  
**Lectio Divina**  
**Wednesday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time Year II**  
**Lectionary: 343**

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***Lectio Divina***

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.

**Reading**

*James 4:13-17*

Beloved: Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we shall go into such and such a town, spend a year there doing business, and make a profit"—you have no idea what your life will be like tomorrow. You are a puff of smoke that appears briefly and then disappears. Instead you should say, "If the Lord wills it, we shall live to do this or that." But now you are boasting in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So for one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, it is a sin.

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**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11*

**R. (Matthew 5:3) Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

Hear this, all you peoples; hearken, all who dwell in the world, Of lowly birth or high degree, rich and poor alike.

**R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

Why should I fear in evil days when my wicked ensnarers ring me round? They trust in their wealth; the abundance of their riches is their boast.

**R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

Yet in no way can a man redeem himself, or pay his own ransom to God; Too high is the price to redeem one's life; he would never have enough to remain alive always and not see destruction.

**R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

For he can see that wise men die, and likewise the senseless and the stupid pass away, leaving to others their wealth.

**R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

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**Alleluia**

*Jn 14:6*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

I am the way and the truth and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father except through me.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel**

*Mk 9:38-40*

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us."