



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

**Saturday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time Year I**

**Lectionary: 352: Sir 51:12 cd-20/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/See Col 3:16a, 17c/Mk 11:27-33**

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**

*Sir 51:12 cd-20*

I thank the LORD and I praise him; I bless the name of the LORD. When I was young and innocent, I sought wisdom openly in my prayer I prayed for her before the temple, and I will seek her until the end, and she flourished as a grape soon ripe. My heart delighted in her, my feet kept to the level path because from earliest youth I was familiar with her. In the short time I paid heed, I met with great instruction. Since in this way I have profited, I will give my teacher grateful praise. I became resolutely devoted to her—the good I persistently strove for. My soul was tormented in seeking her, my hand opened her gate and I came to know her secrets. I directed my soul to her, and in cleanness I attained to her.



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**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11*

**R. (9ab) The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.

**R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart. The command of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eye.

**R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just.

**R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

They are more precious than gold, than a heap of purest gold; Sweeter also than syrup or honey from the comb.

**R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**



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**Alleluia**

*See Col 3:16a, 17c*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Let the word of Christ dwell in your richly; giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel**

*Mk 11:27-33*

Jesus and his disciples returned once more to Jerusalem. As he was walking in the temple area, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders approached him and said to him, "By what authority are you doing these things? Or who gave you this authority to do them?" Jesus said to them, "I shall ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. Was John's baptism of heavenly or of human origin? Answer me." They discussed this among themselves and said, "If we say, 'Of heavenly origin,' he will say, 'Then why did you not believe him?' But shall we say, 'Of human origin?'"— They feared the crowd, for they all thought John really was a prophet. So they said to Jesus in reply, "We do not know." Then Jesus said to them, "Neither shall I tell you by what authority I do these things."