



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

Wednesday of the Ninth Week in Ordinary Time Year I

Lectionary: 355: Tb 3:1-11, 16/Ps 25, 2-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 11:25a, 26/Mk 12:18-27

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

Tb 3:1-11, 16

Grief stricken in spirit, Tobit groaned and wept aloud. Then with sobs he began to pray: "You are righteous, O Lord, and all your deeds are just; all your ways are mercy and truth; you are the judge of the world. And now, O Lord, may you be mindful of me, and look with favor upon me. Punish me not for my sins, nor for my inadvertent offenses, nor for those of my fathers.

"They sinned against you, and disobeyed your commandments. So you handed us over to plundering, exile, and death, till we were an object lesson, a byword, a reproach in all the nations among whom you scattered us."

"So you handed us over to plundering, exile, and death, till we were an object lesson, a byword, a reproach in all the nations among whom you scattered us."

"Yes, your judgments are many and true in dealing with me as my sins and those of my father's deserve. For we have not kept your commandments, nor have we trodden the paths of truth before you."

"So now, deal with me as you please, and command my life breathe to be taken from me, that I may go from the face of the earth into dust. It is better for me to die than to live, because I have heard insulting calumnies, and I am overwhelmed with grief.

"Lord, command me to delivered from such anguish; let me go to the everlasting abode; Lord, refuse me not. For it is better for me to die than to endure so much misery in life, and to hear these insults!"

On the same day, at Ecbatana in Media, it so happened that Raguel's daughter Sarah also had to listen to abuse, from one of her father's maid. For she had been married to seven husbands, but the wicked demon



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Asmodeus killed them off before they could have intercourse with her, as it is prescribed for wives. So the maid said to her: “You are the one who strangles your husbands! Look at you! You have already been married seven times, but you have had no joy with any one of your husbands. Why do you beat us? Because your husbands are dead? Then why not join them! May we never see a son or daughter of yours!”

That day she was deeply grieved in spirit. She went in tears to an upstairs room in her father’s house with the intention of hanging herself.

But she reconsidered, saying to herself: “No! People would level this insult against my father: ‘You had only one beloved daughter, but she hanged herself because of ill fortune!’ And thus would I cause my father in his old age to go down to the nether world laden with sorrows. It is far better for me not to hang myself, but to beg the Lord to have me die, so that I need no longer live to hear such insults.”

At that time, then, she spread out her hands, and facing the window, poured out her prayer.

At that very time, the prayer of these two suppliants was heard in the glorious presence of Almighty God. So Raphael was sent to heal them both.



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Responsorial Psalm

Ps 25, 2-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R. (1) To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.

O Lord, my God in you I trust; let me not be put to shame, let not my enemies exult over me. No one who waits for you shall be put to shame; those shall be put to shame who heedlessly break faith.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.

Remember that your compassion, O Lord, and your kindness are from of old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.

Good and upright is the Lord; thus he show sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, he teaches the humble his way.



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Alleluia

Jn 11:25a, 26

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Mk 12:18-27

Some Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus and put this question to him, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us, if someone's brother dies, leaving a wife but no child, his brother must take the wife and raise up descendants for his brother. Now there were seven brothers. The first married a woman and died, leaving no descendants. So the second brother married her and died, leaving no descendants and the third likewise. And the seven left no descendants. Last of all the woman also died. At the resurrection when they arise whose wife will she be? For all seven had been married to her." Jesus said to them, "Are you not misled because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God? When they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but they are like the angels in heaven. As for the dead being raised, have you not read in the Book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God told him, I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? He is not God of the dead but of the living. You are greatly misled."