



Archdiocese of St. Louis
Office of Sacred Worship
Lectio Divina
Saint Paulinus of Nola, Bishop

Lectionary: 584: 2 Cor 8:9-15/Ps 40:2 nd 4ab, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mt 5:3/Lk 12:32-34

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

2 Cor 8:9-15

For you know the gracious act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that for your sake he became poor although he was rich, so that by his poverty you might become rich. And I am giving counsel in this matter, for it is appropriate for you who began not only to act but to act willingly last year: complete it now, so that your eager willingness may be matched by your completion of it out of what you have. For if the eagerness is there, it is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have; not that others should have relief while you are burdened, but that as a matter of equality your surplus at the present time should supply their needs, so that their surplus may also supply your needs, that there may be equality. As it is written: "Whoever had much did not have more, and whoever had little did not have less."



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Responsorial Psalm

Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10

R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

I wait for the LORD; who bends down to me and hears my cry, And puts a new song in my mouth, a hymn to our God.

R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

Sacrifice and offering you do not want; you opened my ears. Holocaust and sin-offering you do not request; so I said, "See; I come"

R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

"In the scroll written upon me. I delight to do your will, my God; your law is in my inner being!"

R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

When I sing of your righteousness in a great assembly, See, I do not restrain my lips; as you, LORD, know.

R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

I do not conceal your righteousness within my heart; I speak of your loyalty and your salvation. I do not hide your mercy or faithfulness from a great assembly.

R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.



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Alleluia

Mt 5:3

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Lk 12:32-34

Jesus said to his disciples:

Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your belongings and give alms. Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven that no thief can reach nor moth destroy. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.