



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

Saint Maximillian Mary Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

Lectionary: 620A: Wis 3:1-9/1 Jn 3:14-18/Ps 116:10-11, 12-13, 16ac-17/Jn 12:25/Jn 15:12-16

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

Wis 3:1-9

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. For if to others, indeed, they seem punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. In the time of their judgment they shall shine and dart about as sparks through stubble; They shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the LORD shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with the elect.

Or

1 Jn 3:14-18

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him. The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If someone who has worldly means sees a brother in need and refuses him compassion, how can the love of God remain in him? Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.



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Responsorial Psalm

Ps 116:10-11, 12-13, 16ac-17

R. Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

I kept faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted!" I said in my alarm, "All men are liars!"

R. Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

How can I repay the LORD for all the great good done for me? I will raise the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

R. Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

LORD, I am your servant, you have loosed my bonds. I will offer a sacrifice of praise and call on the name of the LORD.

R. Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.



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Alleluia

Jn 12:25

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

If you hate your life in this world, you will preserve it to life eternal.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Jn 15:12-16

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.