



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

**Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church**

**Lectionary: 672: Sir 39:6-11/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 30-31/Mk 1:17/Mt 16:13-19**

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**

*Sir 39:6-11*

If it pleases the Lord Almighty, he will be filled with the spirit of understanding; He will pour forth his words of wisdom and in prayer give praise to the Lord. He will direct his knowledge and his counsel, as he meditates upon God's mysteries. He will show the wisdom of what he has learned and glory in the Law of the Lord's covenant. Many will praise his understanding; his name can never be blotted out; Unfading will be his memory, through all generations his name will live; Peoples will speak of his wisdom, and the assembly will declare his praise. While he lives he is one out of a thousand, and when he dies he leaves a good name.



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**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 30-31*

***R. The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom.***

Trust in the LORD and do good that you may dwell in the land and live secure. Find your delight in the LORD who will give you your heart's desire.

***R. The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom.***

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will act. And make your righteousness shine like the dawn, your justice like noonday.

***R. The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom.***

The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom; his tongue speaks what is right. God's teaching is in his heart; his steps do not falter.

***R. The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom.***



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**Alleluia**

*Mk 1:17*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel**

*Mt 16:13-19*

When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."