



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

Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Lectionary: 694: 2 Tm 4:1-5/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Mt 5:16/Mt 5:13-19

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

2 Tm 4:1-5

Beloved:

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching. For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine but, following their own desires and insatiable curiosity, will accumulate teachers and will stop listening to the truth and will be diverted to myths. But you, be self-possessed in all circumstances; put up with hardship; perform the work of an evangelist; fulfill your ministry.



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Responsorial Psalm

Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11

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

Surely, 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. Many shall look on in fear and they shall trust in the LORD.

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 with an inscribed 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 5:16

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Mt 5:13-19

Jesus said to his disciples:

"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven.