



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

***Lectio Divina***

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**

*Ex 40:16-21, 34-38*

Moses did exactly as the LORD had commanded him. On the first day of the first month of the second year the Dwelling was erected. It was Moses who erected the Dwelling. He placed its pedestals, set up its boards, put in its bars, and set up its columns. He spread the tent over the Dwelling and put the covering on top of the tent, as the LORD had commanded him. He took the commandments and put them in the ark; he placed poles alongside the ark and set the propitiatory upon it. He brought the ark into the Dwelling and hung the curtain veil, thus screening off the ark of the commandments, as the LORD had commanded him.

Then the cloud covered the meeting tent, and the glory of the LORD filled the Dwelling. Moses could not enter the meeting tent, because the cloud settled down upon it and the glory of the LORD filled the Dwelling. Whenever the cloud rose from the Dwelling, the children of Israel would set out on their journey. But if the cloud did not lift, they would not go forward; only when it lifted did they go forward. In the daytime the cloud of the LORD was seen over the Dwelling; whereas at night, fire was seen in the cloud by the whole house of Israel in all the stages of their journey.

\* \* \*

***Lectio Divina***

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.



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

- 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.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11*

**R. (2) How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, mighty God!**

My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the LORD. My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

**R. How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, mighty God!**

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest in which she puts her young— Your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God!

**R. How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, mighty God!**

Blessed they who dwell in your house! Continually they praise you. Blessed the men whose strength you are! They go from strength to strength.

**R. How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, mighty God!**

I had rather one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I had rather lie at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**R. How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, mighty God!**

\* \* \*

***Lectio Divina***

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?*”



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

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.

**Alleluia**

*Jn 8:12*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel**

*Jn 11:19-27*

Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother [Lazarus, who had died]. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.” Martha said to him, “I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and anyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”

**Gospel**

*Lk 10:38-42*

Jesus entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak. Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me.” The Lord said to her in reply, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her.”



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

**FOCUS:** Jesus invites us to spend time with him that he may save us and change our lives for the best.

The Church honors Saint Martha today. She was a close friend of Jesus, and focused on serving him when he visited with her and her sister, Mary. Jesus taught Martha that she should not worry so but should spend more time with him (cf. Lk 10:38-42). We, too, are invited to spend time with Christ, and let him fill us with hope and peace.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

In the reading from Leviticus, we hear about the instructions God gives to Moses pertaining to the observance of the Holy Days. In the Gospel, Jesus tells Martha that her brother, Lazarus, will rise from the dead. Martha understands this in terms of resurrection. Jesus tells her that he is the Resurrection, and those who believe in him will live forever.