

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Week of the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
 September 9 through September 16, 2007

Catechesis Notes for the Week — The Fifth and Sixth Commandments — The Ten Commandments teach us what is good and what God desires to protect and uphold. The Fifth Commandment is given to protect the sanctity and gift of life. The Sixth Commandment is given to protect the sanctity and gift of marriage and sexuality. This week's verse focuses upon the Sixth Commandment and Jesus' catechesis regarding marriage. God made us male and female. The gift of sexuality is to be enjoyed within the sacred union of marriage in which God joins a man and a woman together as "one flesh." This is a great mystery that reflects the image of the One God who is, nevertheless, three persons. The Bible Stories for the week all reflect the Fifth and Sixth Commandments. When a person's faith is right obedience to the commandments follows. When a person's faith is wrong sin against all the commandments is close at hand. Cain murders his brother because his faith was wrong. He was angry at God because he believed that God owed him because of his wonderful offering. He did not believe in God's undeserved love and mercy. The Good Samaritan is a picture of the faith of Jesus. Though the Samaritan was viewed by the Jews as an enemy, still this Samaritan reached out in love to rescue the one who hated him. In the same way our Lord, viewed by us sinners as our enemy, reached out in love and mercy to do all for our salvation. Joseph fled from the enticement of Potiphar's wife, precisely because he believed that to commit adultery with her was to reject God's love and goodness in the gifts he had received in his life. Finally, Jesus shows Himself to be the man of faith in God's Word when He is assaulted by the devil.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Theme: The Lord Has Extended His Mercy to All.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

Verse: Mark 10:6-8a

From the beginning of the creation, God "made them male and female." "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh"; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh.

Psalm 119:9-16 and/or the appointed daily psalms for listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	109	112, 113	115	117, 118	119:1-24	119:49-72	119:89-112	119:137-152
Evening	110, 111	114	116	120, 121	119:25-48	119:73-88	119:113-136	119:153-176

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments—The Fifth and Sixth Commandments

What is the Fifth Commandment? You shall not murder.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.	First Grade +
What is the Sixth Commandment? You shall not commit adultery.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.	Second Grade +

Readings for the Week of Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	The Cleansing of the Ten Lepers—Luke 17:11-19	2 Kgs. 6:1-23	Phil. 1:21–2:11
Monday	Sunday’s Gospel—Luke 17:11-19	2 K. 9:1-13; 10:18-29	Phil. 2:12-30
Tuesday	Cain Murders His Brother Abel—Genesis 4:1-12 (13-15)	2 Chron. 29:1-24	Phil. 3:1-21
Wednesday	The Parable of the Good Samaritan—Luke 10:25-37	2 Chorn. 31:1-21	Phil. 4:1-23
Thursday	Joseph Flees from Adultery—Genesis 39:1-21 (22-23)	2 Chron. 32:1-22	Col. 1:1-23
Friday	Jesus Is Tempted by the Devil—Matthew 4:1-11	2 Chron. 33:1-25	Col. 1:24–2:7
Saturday	Look ahead to Sunday’s readings	2 C 34:1-4, 8-11, 14-33	Col. 2:8-23
Sunday	Look ahead to Sunday’s readings	2 Ch. 35:1-7, 16-25	Col. 3:1-25

Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity:

O Lord, keep Your Church with Your perpetual mercy; and because of our frailty we cannot but fall, keep us ever by Your help from all things hurtful and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.
- Tuesday:** Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.
- Wednesday:** Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday:** Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.
- Friday:** Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.
- Saturday:** Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God’s Word on the Lord’s Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts.

In Our Prayers this Week

Gary Schmidt, son of Chris and Florence, suffering with hypoplastic anemia
 Those suffering with cancer: John LaSage, brother of Steve LaSage;
 Donna Ziegler, sister of Virjean Schmidt; Bill Kallio, good friend of Judy Jones.

Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of Week

“Oh, Blest the House” (st. 1-3)

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Look forward to the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

September 16, 2007

Hymns: 726, 760, 869

1 Kings 17:8-16; Galatians 5:25—6:10; Matthew 6:24-34

“You cannot serve God and mammon” (Matt 6:24–34), for they require two contrary forms of service. Worry is the worship given to the false god of mammon, an unbelieving anxiousness and focus on the things of this world. Faith is the worship of the true God, a confident trust that He is a loving Father who will care for all of our needs in both body and soul. The widow of Zarephath served God, that is, she believed the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah that the bin of flour would not be used up nor would the jar of oil run dry (1 Kings 17:8–16). He who feeds the birds and clothes the flowers will certainly provide for our daily needs. For He has already provided for our eternal needs, clothing us with Christ’s righteousness in Baptism and feeding us His body and blood for our forgiveness. With such confidence we are liberated from worry and freed to do good with our material resources, especially to those who are of the household of faith (Gal 5:25–6:10). — Lutheran Service Book Notes