

Congregation in Prayer Jan 3, 2016

When we refer to Jesus as the wisdom of God it is not an empty platitude. Paul writes rather expressively on how Jesus and in particular His crucifixion are the depths of God's wisdom. And Solomon, the wisest man ever, draws His wisdom from the pre-incarnate Christ as he writes his proverbs and reflections in Ecclesiastes. So it is remarkable when we read in Luke that Jesus grew in wisdom. [1 Kings 3:4-15; Eph 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52]

The Order of Meditation and Prayer for Daily Use

(Pray and confess out loud as much of the Order of Meditation as possible)

Theme for the Week: Jesus fount of all wisdom

Invocation (Spoken while making the sign of the cross to remember your baptism)

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

Apostle's Creed

Learn by Heart Verse (Practice saying this verse word for word, out loud, throughout the day)

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

From the Catechism (Read together and discuss briefly)

Sixth Petition <i>And lead us not into temptation.</i>	Pre-K+
What does this mean? <i>God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.</i>	Second Grade+

Daily Readings

Monday	The Boy Jesus in the Temple - Luke 2:40-52
Tuesday	Circumcision, Purification, and Presentation - Luke 2:21-24
Wednesday	Simeon and Anna Receive the Christchild - Luke 2:25-40
Thursday	The Epiphany of Our Lord - Matthew 2:1-12
Friday	The Flight into Egypt - Matthew 2:13-15
Saturday	Looking Ahead

Daily Themes for Prayer: First Sunday of the month:

Sunday: Pray that the joy of the Resurrection would be seen in us; that the fruits of faith, nourished by the Word and Sacraments, would be evident in us and among us.

Monday: Pray for faith to live in the promises of your Baptism; for your calling and daily work; pray for your family members by name. Pray for those you know who are not yet believers in Jesus or who are unchurched that they would come to know and respond to the Savior's love for them.

Tuesday: Pray for deliverance in the face of temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those caught in cycle of sinful behavior.

Wed: Pray for marriage and family: that husbands and wives, parents and children live in harmony according to the Word of God; for families devastated by divorce; for parents who must raise children alone.

Thursday: Pray for Christ's Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for the faithful and fruitful use of Word and Sacrament among us.

Friday: Pray for the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and the sharing of the Good News of His death and Resurrection in our neighborhoods and throughout the whole world. Pray for the sick and dying. Pray that you would have compassion for them and their families going through difficult days.

Saturday: Pray for faithfulness to the end for His people; 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 gifts of Word and Sacrament.

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Lord's Prayer

Going with God's Blessing

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Looking Ahead (Take a look at the readings for next Sunday)

Ex 13:1-3a, 11-15

Col 3:12-17

Luke 2:22-40