

## Congregation in Prayer May 8, 2016

40 days after His Resurrection, our Lord ascended into heaven. The disciples who witnessed both His Resurrection and Ascension were sent into Jerusalem to wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit. In the power of the Spirit, God's people go forth to be witnesses in Jesus' name. [Acts 11:1-11; Eph 1:15-23; Lk 24:44-53]

### 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:** Our Ascended Lord

**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)

Psalm 90: 1-2 Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

**From the Catechism** (Read together and discuss briefly)

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| <b>To Parents</b><br><br>Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. Eph. 6:4  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade |
| <b>To Children</b><br><br>Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and your mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—"that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Eph. 6:1-3 | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade |

### **Daily Bible Readings**

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| Monday    | Matthias Is Chosen to Fill Judas's Office—Acts 1:12-26 |
| Tuesday   | Jesus Is the Way to the Father—John 14:1-14            |
| Wednesday | The Father Will Give the Spirit of Truth—John 14:15-24 |
| Thursday  | Jesus Goes to the Father—John 14:23-31                 |
| Friday    | The Comforter in Persecution—John 15:26—16:4           |

**Daily Themes for Prayer:**

Sunday: Pray for those who help lead us in worship: our Pastors, our Elders, our organists. Pray that God's people are actively engaged as they worship. Pray for those who serve in our military and for our chaplains as they proclaim the Gospel.

Monday: Pray for the unemployed and underemployed; pray for the homeless in our community; pray for the ministries of DayBreak and MorningStar in our community; pray for the ministry of Feed My Starving Children.

Tuesday: Pray for our CrossRoad Life Recovery ministry and its leaders. Pray that this important ministry would continue to expand among us and through us. Pray that it might impact other congregations and communities around the country.

Wed: Pray for the ministries of our congregation: Braille, CrossRoad Life Recovery, DayBreak, Operation Christmas Child, Quilters, Sunny Hill, Spiritual Vitamins. Pray that new ministries might be developed among us that will impact lives through our serving.

Thursday: Pray also for ministries in our community: Guardian Angel Home, Joliet Area Hospice, Lambs Fold, Living Alternatives, Stepping Stones, Trinity Services.

Friday: Pray for our communities and neighborhoods; for our words of witness and acts of mercy to our neighbors.

Saturday: Pray that people would see the need to come to worship this weekend. Pray that we would be a welcoming, non-judgmental community of faith for them as they come.

**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)

Acts 2:1-15

Gen 11:1-9

Jn 14:23-31