

Congregation in Prayer January 8, 2017

As we celebrate the festival Baptism of Our Lord, we take a look at the impact of Baptism in our own lives. We know that it is important for us to be baptized. Today, we want to take a look at the daily rhythm of Baptism that gives it ongoing significance in our life of faith. [Gen 1:1-5; Rom 6:1-11; Mk 1:4-11]

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: Christmas!

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)

Matthew 7:7–8 (ESV) 7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

From the Catechism (Read together and discuss briefly)

<p>The Seventh Petition</p> <p>But deliver us from evil.</p> <p>The Conclusion</p> <p>For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.</p>	<p>Pre-K+</p>
<p>The Meaning of the Seventh Petition</p> <p><i>What does this mean?</i> We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.</p> <p>The Meaning of the Conclusion</p> <p><i>What does this mean?</i> This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”</p>	<p>Third Grade+</p>

Daily Bible Readings

Monday	John the Baptist Prepares the Way of the Lord—Matthew 3:1-12
Tuesday	The Baptism of Our Lord—Matthew 3:13-17
Wednesday	Jacob Flees from Laban—Genesis 31:1-21
Thursday	Laban Pursues Jacob—Genesis 31:22-42
Friday	Laban's Covenant with Jacob—Genesis 31:43-55
Weekend	Looking Ahead

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)

Is. 49:1-7

1 Cor. 1:1-9

John 1:29-42a