

# Lectio Divina



## Lectio Divina for the Solemnity of Christmas

*We begin our prayer:*

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

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your  
incarnate Word,  
the light of faith, which illumines our minds,  
may also shine through in our deeds.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

(Collect for Christmas, the Mass at Dawn)

### Reading (*Lectio*)

*Read the following Scripture two or three times.*  
Luke 2:15-20

When the angels went away from them to heaven,  
the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then,  
to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place,  
which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph,  
and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw  
this, they made known the message that had been  
told them about this child. All who heard it were

amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

### Meditation (*Meditatio*)

*After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:*

- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

*If practicing lectio divina as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.*

### Prayer (*Oratio*)

*Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.*



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## Contemplation (*Contemplatio*)

*Read the Scripture passage again, followed by this reflection:*

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

*So they went in haste.* Do I make haste to find opportunities to love and serve? Do I hasten toward God or procrastinate about acts of prayer and charity?

*All who heard it were amazed.* What amazing things has God done in my life? How am I called to witness to God's goodness?

*Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.* What concerns weigh heavily on my heart? What blessings fill my heart with joy?

*After a period of silent reflection and/or discussion, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:*

## Closing Prayer:

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;  
let the many isles be glad.  
The heavens proclaim his justice,  
and all peoples see his glory.  
Light dawns for the just;  
and gladness, for the upright of heart.  
Be glad in the LORD, you just,  
and give thanks to his holy name.

Psalm 97: 1, 6, 11-12

## Living the Word This Week

*How can I make my life a gift for others in charity?*

Make a firm commitment to make prayer a priority in your daily schedule. Set aside a specific time each day to attend Mass, pray the rosary, visit the Blessed Sacrament, read the Bible, etc.

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