



Lectio Divina

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

We begin our prayer:

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

O God, who teach us that you abide
in hearts that are just and true,
grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a
dwelling pleasing to you.
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 the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Reading (*Lectio*)

(Mark 1:40-45)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning the him sternly, he dismissed him at once.

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them."

The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

Meditation (*Meditatio*)

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

- What word or phrase stood out to you the most when reading this passage?
- Identify a moment in the passage that comforted you.
- Highlight a passage that challenged you.

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



Contemplation (*Contemplatio*)

Read the scripture passage again, followed by this reflection:

How does this passage connect to experiences in my daily life?

If you wish, you can make me clean. Do I have faith that Jesus can heal me, in small ways and in large? What is one area of struggle that I can ask the Lord to purify within myself?

Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." Do I recognize the compassion that the Lord has for me? How have I witnessed his compassion through events, persons, and daily inspirations in my life?

The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. Do I reveal to others the mercy and kindness of the Lord? How can I glorify the Lord more through my testimony of his acts of kindness to me?

Prayer (*Oratio*)

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

After all have had a chance to make their prayer, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Closing Prayer:

Blessed is he whose fault is taken away,
whose sin is covered.
Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt,
in whose spirit there is no guile.
Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
my guilt I covered not.
I said, "I confess my faults to the LORD,"
and you took away the guilt of my sin.
Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you just;
exult, all you upright of heart.

(Psalm 31:1-2, 5, 11)