

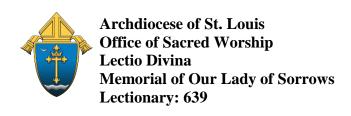
- ➤ The first reading, simple read the scripture and pause for a minute. Listen to the passage with the ear of the heart. Don't get distracted by intellectual types of questions about the passage. Just listen to what the passage is saying to you, right now.
- The second reading, look for a key word or phrase that draws your attention. Notice if any phrase, sentence or word stands out and gently begin to repeat it to yourself, allowing it to touch you deeply. No elaboration. In a group setting, you can share that word/phrase or simply pass.
- ➤ The third reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "Where does the content of this reading touch my life today?"

 Notice what thoughts, feelings, and reflections arise within you. Let the words resound in your heart. What might God be asking of you through the scripture? In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.
- The fourth reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "I believe that God wants me to today/this week."

 Notice any prayerful response that arises within you, for example a small prayer of gratitude or praise. In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.

First Reading 1 Tm 4:12-16

Beloved: Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity. Until I arrive, attend to the reading, exhortation, and teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was conferred on you through the prophetic word with the imposition of hands by the presbyterate. Be diligent in these matters; be absorbed in them, so that your progress may be evident to everyone. Attend to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in both tasks, for by doing so you will save both yourself and those who listen to you.



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Responsorial Psalm

Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10

R. (2) How great are the works of the Lord!

The works of his hands are faithful and just; sure are all his precepts, Reliable forever and ever, wrought in truth and equity.

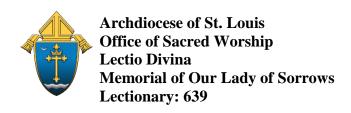
R. How great are the works of the Lord!

He has sent deliverance to his people; he has ratified his covenant forever; holy and awesome is his name.

R. How great are the works of the Lord!

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; prudent are all who live by it. His praise endures forever.

R. How great are the works of the Lord!



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Responsorial Psalm

Ps 116:12-13, 17-18

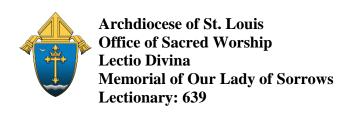
R. To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.

How shall I make a return to the LORD for all the good he has done for me? The cup of salvation I will take up, and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

R. To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.

To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD. My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all of his people.

R. To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.



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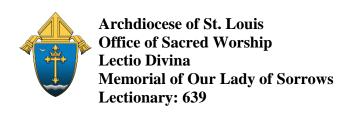
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Second Reading 1 Cor 10:14-22

My beloved ones, avoid idolatry. I am speaking as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I am saying. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one Body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

Look at Israel according to the flesh; are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar? So what am I saying? That meat sacrificed to idols is anything? Or that an idol is anything? No, I mean that what they sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to become participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and also the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and of the table of demons. Or are we provoking the Lord to jealous anger? Are we stronger than him?



Sequence (Optional) - Stabat Mater At the cross her station keeping, Stood the mournful Mother weeping,

Close to Jesus to the last.

Through her heart, his sorrow sharing, All his bitter anguish bearing, Now at length the sword had passed.

Oh, how sad and sore distressed Was that Mother highly blessed Of the sole begotten One!

Christ above in torment hangs, She beneath beholds the pangs Of her dying, glorious Son.

Is there one who would not weep, 'Whelmed in miseries so deep, Christ's dear Mother to behold?

Can the human heart refrain From partaking in her pain, In that mother's pain untold?

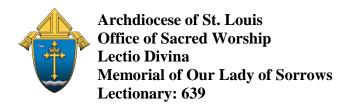
Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled, She beheld her tender Child, All with bloody scourges rent.

For the sins of his own nation Saw him hang in desolation Till his spirit forth he sent.

O sweet Mother! font of love, Touch my spirit from above, Make my heart with yours accord.

Make me feel as you have felt; Make my soul to glow and melt With the love of Christ, my Lord.

Holy Mother, pierce me through, In my heart each wound renew Of my Savior crucified.



Let me share with you his pain, Who for all our sins was slain, Who for me in torments died.

Let me mingle tears with you, Mourning him who mourned for me, All the days that I may live.

By the cross with you to stay, There with you to weep and pray, Is all I ask of you to give.

Virgin of all virgins blest! Listen to my fond request: Let me share your grief divine.

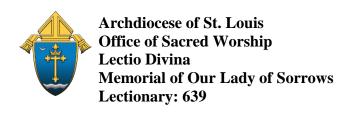
Let me to my latest breath, In my body bear the death Of that dying Son of yours.

Wounded with his every wound, Steep my soul till it has swooned In his very Blood away.

Be to me, O Virgin, nigh, Lest in flames I burn and die, In his awful judgment day.

Christ, when you shall call me hence, Be your Mother my defense, Be your cross my victory.

While my body here decays, May my soul your goodness praise, Safe in heaven eternally. Amen. (Alleluia)



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Gospel Jn 19:25-27

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

Or Lk 2:33-35

Jesus' father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted and you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."