



## *Lectio Divina* for the Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

*We begin our prayer:*

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

Almighty ever-living God,  
grant that we may always conform our will to yours  
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.  
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, Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

### **Reading (*Lectio*)**

*Read the following Scripture two or three times.*  
Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." He replied, "What do you wish me to do for you?" They answered him, "Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other at your left."

Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" They said to him, "We can." Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been

prepared." When the ten heard this, they became indignant at James and John. Jesus summoned them and said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

### **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 again, followed by this reflection:*

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

*"What do you wish me to do for you?"* What do I need to ask the Lord for today? What gifts has the Lord given me today?

*"Can you drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"* What challenges have I faced because of my faith? How can I support those who suffer for their faith?

*Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all.* How am I serving those in need? How can I become more attentive to the needs of others?

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

## Closing Prayer:

Upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear  
him,  
upon those who hope for his kindness,  
To deliver them from death  
and preserve them in spite of famine.

Our soul waits for the LORD,  
who is our help and our shield.  
May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us  
who have put our hope in you.

(From Psalm 33)

## Living the Word This Week

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

Spend some time this week researching how Christians are persecuted in various places around the world and take some action (e.g., donation, prayer, writing to government officials) to offer your support.

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