

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

6th Week of Easter

May 14, 2023, through May 21, 2023

Patristic Quote for the Week —**AUGUSTINE** (354-430AD): How, then, did the apostles love, but in the Holy Spirit? And yet they are commanded to love him and keep his commandments before they have received him and, in fact, in order to receive him. And yet, without having that Spirit, they certainly could not love him and keep his commandments. We are therefore to understand that he who loves already has the Holy Spirit, and by what he has he becomes worthy of a fuller possession, that by having more he may love more. The disciples, therefore, already had that Holy Spirit whom the Lord promised, for without him they could not call him Lord. But they had him not as yet in the way promised by the Lord.... He was yet to be given them in an ampler measure. TRACTATES ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN 74.1–2.¹

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: John 16:33

“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

Psalm 74:1-11 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	93	97	98	99	47	96	92	93
Evening	136	124	66	8	68	50	23	117

Catechism: The Office of the Keys

What do you believe according to these words?

I believe that when called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun., May 14	First Reading, 6th Sunday of Easter—Acts 17:16-31	Numbers 3:1-6, 29-48
Mon., May 15	The Word Became Flesh—John 1:1-28	Numbers 8:5-26
Tues., May 16	Behold, the Lamb of God—John 1:29-42	Numbers 9:1-23
Wed, May 17	Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael—John 1:43-2:12	Numbers 10:11-36
Thurs, May 18	Jesus Cleanses the Temple—John 2:13-25	Numbers 11:1-23, 31-35
Fri., May 19	You Must Be Born Again—John 3:1-21	Numbers 11:24-29, 12:1-16
Sat., May 20	Old Testament Reading, 7 th Sunday of Easter—Ezekiel 36:22-28	Numbers 13:1-3, 17-33
Sun., May 21	First Reading, 7 th Sunday of Easter—Acts 1:12-26	Numbers 14:1-25

¹ Joel C. Elowsky, ed., [John 11–21](#), Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2007), 137.