

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the week of the Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024 through May 12, 2024*

Catechesis Notes for the Week— The Seventh and Eighth Commandments — By the Seventh Commandment, “You shall not steal,” God desires to protect His gifts of property and that we help and serve our neighbor in the preservation of what belongs to him. Jesus fulfilled the Seventh Commandment by using all of His property in loving service to us without counting the cost. By the Eighth Commandment, “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.” God desires to protect His gifts of a good name and reputation and that we help our neighbor preserve his honor. The Eighth Commandment forbids gossip even though the words that we speak might be true. By gossip we do not cover our neighbor’s sins but hurt and harm his reputation, which God has not given us to do. Jesus’ catechesis on the Eighth Commandment in the Sermon on the Mount teaches us that He is the fulfiller of this commandment. He blesses those who curse Him. He prays for those who persecute Him. By His Words He bestows upon us the Good Name of God covering our sin with His mercy that we might confess Him with our tongue in words of blessing and prayer on behalf of our neighbor. Jesus’ love in fulfillment of the Law is seen in the cross where He prays for His enemies and preaches the Gospel to the penitent thief. Christ fulfilled the Law for us in His loving sacrifice upon the cross. His love takes shape in us as we learn to live by faith in His forgiveness and mercy.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

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

Verses of the week: Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Psalm 98 and/or the appointed daily psalms as listed below

Prayer on the Psalm: Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	78	80	82, 84	85	88	89	91	92
Evening	79	81	83	86	87	90	93	94

The Catechism: The Seventh through Tenth Commandments

<i>What is the Seventh Commandment?</i> You shall not steal.	Preschool +
<i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.	First Grade +
<i>What is the Eighth Commandment?</i> You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.	Preschool +
<i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.	First Grade +
<i>What is the Ninth Commandment?</i> You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.	Preschool +
<i>What is the Tenth Commandment?</i> You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.	Preschool +

Readings for the Week of the Sixth Sunday of Easter

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	Love One Another—John 15:9-17	Num. 3:1-16, 29-48	Luke 14:25-15:10
Monday	The Bread from Heaven—Exodus 16:1-35	Num. 8:5-26	Luke 15:11-32
Tuesday	The Water from the Rock—Exodus 17:1-7	Num. 9:1-23	Luke 16:1-18
Wednesday	The First Battle—Exodus 17:8-16	Num. 10:11-36	Luke 16:19-31
Thursday	Jesus Eats Breakfast by the Sea of Tiberias—John 21:1-14	Num. 11:1-23, 31-35	Luke 17:1-19
Friday	Jesus Restores Peter—John 21:15-25	Num. 11:24-29; 12:1-16	Luke 17:20-37
Saturday	Catch Up on Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	Num. 13:1-3, 17-33	Luke 18:1-17

Prayers: Collect for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Victory in Christ

Collect for the week of the Sixth Sunday of Easter:

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work, for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacraments of Christ’s body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God’s Word on the Lord’s Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts.*

In our Prayers at Victory in Christ this Week

Healing

Lori Rohloff, Peggy Wahlstedt, Theresa Rohloff, Cindy Witherspoon, Cliff Johnson, Joseph Menendez, Darin Mitchell, Liz Lovato, Melissa Rodgers, Connie Smith, Ella Littlefield, Tommy Rodhe, Gordon Munson, Kenneth Biehle, Henry Ostermann, Dante Pellegrino, Collene Pellegrino, Bobbie Sherrod, Jenny Jones, Eugene Kroeger

Strength

Angel Menendez, and the Martin, Courtney, Bradshaw, Herbel, and Menendez families

Our Shut-ins

Emily Snipes, Deena Strang, Coy Warfield

Peace and Comfort

Blessings and Thanksgiving

Expectant Mothers

April Hill, Esther Schielke

Military and Over Seas

Kyle Rohloff

Seminarians

Justin Chester, Dan Hollister, Tanner Sawall, John Schober

Mission / Ministries

Our Academy and the missions we support

Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of Week

“Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain”

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