The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

*for Propers Rorate Coeli (Fourth Sunday in Advent) December 18, 2022*

*Pray and confess aloud 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.*

Catechesis Notes for the week – Psalm 25 – Psalm 25 fists the Seventh Petition of Lord’s Prayer: “but deliver us from evil.” God’s deliverance is not always instantaneous. There is often waiting involved. As we wait we confess our sins: “Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions” and “Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.” Like the psalmist, we appear to God for mercy: “Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old” and “Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.” We join in the psalmist’s confidence knowing that God will overcome those afflicting us, the old evil foe, and his evil.

***Invocation*** -In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Apostle’s Creed***

**Verse:** Matthew 7:7-8 – Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

**Psalm of the Week: Psalm 25**

**Year I – Old Testament Stories: Year 1**

**Bible Readings for the Week**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sunday | **Rorate Coeli – John 1:19-28** |
| Monday | The Nativity of St. John the Baptist – Luke 1:57-80 |
| Tuesday | The Nativity of Our Lord – Luke 2:1-7 |
| Wednesday | **Advent Midweek: St. Thomas, Apostle –**  **Revelation 22:13-21** |
| Thursday | The Birth of Christ Is Announced to Shepherds –  Luke 2:8-14 |
| Friday | The Shepherds Visit Bethlehem – Luke 2:15-20 |
| Saturday | Christmas Eve Midnight Gospel – Luke 2:1-14 (15-20) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Catechism: Seventh Petition and Conclusion of the Lord’s Prayer** | **Grades** |
| *The Seventh Petition*  But deliver us from evil. | K+ |
| *What does this mean?*  We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven. | 2nd+ |
| *The Conclusion*  For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen | K+ |
| *What does this mean?*  This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.” | 3rd+ |