



WEEK 4

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Hey there! It's week four of Lent!

How have you been journeying through this season? Have you had any realizations in the past weeks? How is your prayer life so far? Regardless, Jesus is still inviting you to come closer to Him and realize that He has so much in store for you during this season.

MARCH 23, 2025

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:1-9

He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.'
(Luke 13:8-9)

ST. AUGUSTINE PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen.

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

I often struggle with moving on, moving forward, and embracing change. I find it difficult to process things, always feeling like I'm not ready. But the reality is, I will never truly know if I am ready or not. Jesus' call to repentance reminds me that I cannot keep waiting for the "perfect time" to change, if I keep delaying, I risk becoming like the barren fig tree, constantly given opportunities yet failing to grow.

Still, I see how patient God has been with me, just like the gardener who asks for more time to care for the fig tree. This year, He has filled me with hope—hope for new beginnings, hope to dream again, and hope to see the beauty of life. Even when I feel stuck or uncertain, He continues to nurture me, reminding me that I can grow if I allow Him to work in my life.

I pray for the courage to trust God's timing and to bear fruit that honors Him.

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REFLECTION QUESTION:

What is God calling me to repent from, and how can I respond with a sincere heart?

PRAYER:

Lord, give me the grace to truly repent, and to bear fruit that glorifies You. Amen.

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MARCH 24, 2025

Gospel Reading: Luke 4, 24-30

They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong. But he passed through the midst of them and went away
(Luke 4:29)

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GOSPEL REFLECTION:

We often base our faith on what we see and feel. There have been moments in my life when it was so hard for me to hold on to God's plan for me. I would look at other people and think, "They already know what they want. They have big dreams, while I feel like I'm being left behind."

I questioned Him for a long time, asking, "Why do You answer their prayers but not mine?" I was so busy looking at God's plans for other people's lives that I forgot He had a plan for me too. I kept searching for what I saw in them but couldn't see in myself, not realizing that my heart was closed. But that was the moment when He was simply testing me.

"How long will you believe? How long will you hold on to your faith?" I didn't realize that God was preparing me for a dream—one that He had already answered and placed right in front of me. But I was too focused on looking at others instead of looking at Him.

Jesus told us the truth; the choice is ours whether to accept it or not. This challenges us to see how strong our faith truly is. Indeed, hope does not disappoint, because true hope can only be found in Him.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

In what ways can you respond to others with compassion and understanding, instead of holding onto bitterness?

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PRAYER:

Lord, help us to be open to your message, even when it challenges our expectations or the expectations of those around us. Grant us the humility to recognize our own limitations and the courage to embrace your truth, no matter when it comes from. Amen.

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MARCH 25, 2025

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God." (Luke 1:30)

ST. AUGUSTINE PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

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GOSPEL REFLECTION:

When God calls, He equips and provides. His call for us is an invitation to true joy and fulfillment.

This year, God called me to serve Him and His people in Visayas. There were questions and worries as I approached this year, but God assured me that He will never leave or forsake me. During the first leg of this year's mission, I found myself being overwhelmed with joy and fulfillment for the experiences I encountered through the people.

God turned all the questions into abundance, and all the worries into peace. He stays true to His promise that He will never leave my side.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How is God showing His divine presence and providence in my life these days?

PRAYER:

Lord, teach me to stay and be confident in Your will and presence. Amen.

WEEK 4

MARCH 26, 2025

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:17-19

"but whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of Heaven". (Matthew 5:19b)

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GOSPEL REFLECTION:

I once thought greatness meant wearing medals and being admired by many. In elementary and early high school, I pursued leadership roles and worked relentlessly to be the top student—believing that success and recognition defined true greatness.

But everything changed when I encountered the Lord. I realized that true greatness is found in holiness—in obeying God’s commandments and guiding others to do the same. Now, I strive to follow His path. It’s not always easy; I stumble and fall. But I will never lose hope. With my eyes fixed on Heaven, I will keep walking, knowing that Jesus is waiting for me.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

In what areas do I struggle to obey God’s commandments, and how can I seek His strength to overcome them?

PRAYER:

Lord, I ask for your grace to follow your commandments wholeheartedly and lead others toward you. Help me in this path to Holiness. Amen.

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MARCH 27, 2025

Gospel Reading: Luke 11:14-23

“Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.” (Matthew 11:23)

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GOSPEL REFLECTION:

In the Gospel, Jesus warns us of the dangers of division, saying, "A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand."

Lent provides a special opportunity for us to reflect on areas of division in our lives that needs to be heal and to be restore. Division weakens our bond with God and with one another. When sin, pride, or selfishness drive a wedge between us and God, our spiritual lives suffer. Similarly, when division takes root in our communities, it becomes more difficult to support each other in faith. This is why Jesus calls us to remain united with Him and to foster peace and harmony by seeking forgiveness and reconciliation with those around us. Thus, this reminds us the importance of unity, both in our relationship with God and within the community of believers.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

Reflect on the areas where division has weakened your relationship with God or others?

PRAYER:

Lord, teach us to seek unity with You and others as we listen to Your voice and follow Your ways with trust. Amen.

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MARCH 28, 2025

Gospel Reading: Mark 12:28-34

“And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” (Mark 12:33)

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GOSPEL REFLECTION:

The Gospel reminds me that love is the greatest commandment—love for God and love for others. Jesus teaches that loving God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength should be my top priority in life. This challenges me to put God first in my decisions, relationships, and daily actions.

True love for God is not just about words or rituals but about trusting Him and living according to His will. The second commandment, to love my neighbor as myself, pushes me to be kind, patient, and forgiving, even when it is difficult. During Lent, this passage encourages me to reflect on my faith and let go of selfishness and distractions. It reminds me to focus on prayer, acts of service, and sacrifice as a way of deepening my love for God. Loving my neighbor means treating others with respect and compassion, regardless of our differences. Jesus’ words inspire me to be more selfless and to live with a heart full of love. This Gospel reminds me that true faith is shown not just in worship but in how I love God and others every day.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How can I fully love God and my neighbor in my daily life, specially during this Lenten Season?

PRAYER:

Lord, help me to love You with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to show that love through my actions toward others; guide me in living out Your greatest commandment each day. Amen.

WEEK 4

MARCH 29, 2025

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:9-14

But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.'
(Luke 18:13)

ST. AUGUSTINE PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

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GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Before, I often judged people when they made mistakes. It seems so easy to talk about other people, but when they see the mistakes I made, I am often in denial or reluctant to accept the truth. This made me to be cold-hearted and had a heart full of hatred. I realized I wasn't giving enough time to the Lord, and when I did, I had a change of heart.

Most often, we see the mistakes of others and forget to see our own. When we are too focused on the mistakes of other people, it is easy to look at our own imperfections. This only hinders us to be fully connected to God in the sense that God is unable to grant us grace when we don't give grace and mercy to others.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

Am I struggling seeing my own faults and mistakes?

PRAYER:

Lord God, today, may I only see You so that Your light might make my own darkness appear so that I may only ask Your mercy, and give that same mercy to others as well. Amen.