

# WEEK 6

**It is now the sixth week of Lent.**

What a journey it has been so far! How do you feel about your journey? A lot may have happened in the past weeks, but one thing is true: the Lord is still journeying with you. So let us go forth, and continue to ponder on the wonders of our Lord as He made love incarnate through the paschal mystery of His Son, Jesus.

**APRIL 6, 2025**

Gospel Reading: John 8:1-11

*Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you, Go [and] from now on do not sin any more." (John 8:11)*

## **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:**

Living like Jesus entails great compassion towards others. It takes extensive amount of mercy and humility to see how Jesus sees us in eyes full of love, but only in His grace that our hearts become able to be merciful and humble.

It is a challenge encompassed in every aspect of our lives, may it be simply as a son or daughter in our homes, or a striving servant in the community. A challenge of not being quick to judge or condemn our families in times of misinterpretations and misunderstandings, the same way of not condemning our fellow servants during failed expectations.

But this Lenten Season, Jesus strongly invites us again to forgive and stay firm on forgiving. Remembering that as we live out our faith, our senses can be tempted to see only the imperfections caused by the sin and shortcomings of others, but God's grace certainly moves us to open our eyes in the lens of compassion. Not to forget what has been done unto us, but to remember that we all fall and become tainted by the temptation of irrational judgement only to be shown mercy by a God that forgives us everyday.

# WEEK 5

## REFLECTION QUESTION:

Do we consciously decide to forgive ourselves and other people just as Jesus definitely chooses to forgive us?

## PRAYER:

My compassionate Lord, may you forgive those who have trespassed against us and, through Your grace, move our hearts towards true humility, compassion, and forgiveness. Amen.



# WEEK 6

**APRIL 7, 2025**

Gospel Reading: John 8:12-20

*Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)*

## **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:**

In this journey of Lent, which we revisit every year, we always think of the question of why Jesus had to endure such intense suffering, and why even in His humanity and divinity, He was not free from the pain and suffering the world offers. Perhaps it is because, through the Gospel, we can understand that God's wisdom transcends our human comprehension. Jesus' divinity entails many things that may seem to be to His advantage but are actually more for our benefit.

Sometimes, when I come home late, I have to walk because there is no public transportation available. This has become a growing fear for me—walking on dark streets with no light posts. I always look for paths where there is light, so I can feel safe and secure. I believe this isn't just my personal experience but could be yours as well. I hope we see Jesus' light in a similar way: we go where there is light to know that we are safe and secure. This is how Jesus, as the light of our path, works.

The light Jesus offers us is something that unveils and illuminates the beauty within us. It will also reveal the beauty of the world without compromising our values, and our security. And it will allow us to see Jesus more clearly, guiding us on how to live—happily and holy.

## **REFLECTION QUESTION:**

What are your struggles from letting Jesus be a light on your path?

# WEEK 6

## PRAYER:

Jesus, the light of the world, teach us to have a heart that surrenders to your will. Help us see that you are in control and lead us on a path away from darkness, so that we may always be with you. Amen.



# WEEK 6

**APRIL 8, 2025**

Gospel Reading: John 8:21-30

*The one who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, because I always do what is pleasing to him. (John 8:29)*

## 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:

To know is to love, and to love is to know. Today's Gospel resonates deeply with me as it reveals Jesus' divine identity. It reminds me of the transformative experience I had during my youth camp, particularly in the second session titled "Who is Jesus Christ?" That session truly strengthened and deepened my relationship with Jesus, helping me understand that He is always with us, never distant, and that we are never alone on our spiritual journey. During this Lenten season, Jesus continually invites us to deepen our personal relationship with Him. It's an invitation to love Him more deeply, to trust Him fully, to live a life that pleases Him, and to strengthen our faith, even amidst life's challenges.

## REFLECTION QUESTION:

How can we open our hearts more to Jesus and make our relationship with Him deeper and more real?

## PRAYER:

Lord, grant us the grace to open our hearts fully to You, that in every moment of our lives, we may nurture a deeper relationship with You, trusting in Your constant presence and seeking to live in a way that brings You joy and glory. Amen.

# WEEK 6

**APRIL 9, 2025**

Gospel Reading: John 8: 31-42

*Jesus said to those Jews who believed in him, "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*  
(John 8:31)

## **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:**

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of the importance of abiding in His words to find true freedom, leading the crowd to ask Him why they will be set free, when in fact, they have never been enslaved to anyone. The people in the Gospel seem to believe that they do not need to be saved, which is a sad reality I have somehow thought of too. Over the past months, I have faced a challenging season where I felt judged and misunderstood as if I couldn't do anything right. My frustration led to isolation, and I found myself growing resentful toward those who had hurt me.

Reflecting on these experiences, I realize that maybe it is not just a matter of being misunderstood. Maybe there were things I wasn't willing to see about myself, much like the people in the Gospel. I wonder if, like them, I was too proud to accept the possibility that I might have been wrong, or that I might need a change of heart.

The truth that Jesus offers is transformative, but it often requires humility to accept that we too need saving. Just as Jesus emphasizes in the Gospel, true discipleship involves both understanding and following His teachings, allowing us to embrace the freedom He generously provides. In doing so, we open our hearts to real change, ultimately bringing us closer to Him and one another.

## **REFLECTION QUESTION:**

In what areas of my life might I be resisting the truth that could set me free, just as those in the Gospel did?



# WEEK 6

## PRAYER:

Lord, grant me the humility to acknowledge my weaknesses and the courage to embrace Your truth, that I may experience the freedom and love You offer. Amen.

# WEEK 6

**APRIL 10, 2025**

Gospel Reading: John 8:51-59

*Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, before Abraham came to be, I AM."  
(John 8:58)*

## **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:**

Jesus reveals that He is God. And yet, the people couldn't recognize Him. Instead of believing, they picked up stones to throw at Him.

I often fail to acknowledge who Jesus is in my life. I say I have surrendered everything to Him, but deep down, I know I still cling to my own conditions and expectations. I offer my prayers, but with a checklist. I say, "Your will be done," but in my heart, I hope it still aligns with my own desires. I trust Him but only if the path is clear, the outcome makes sense, and the timing feels right. I call Him Lord, yet I continue to wrestle for control, afraid of what it really means to let go.

And still, Jesus never changes. His faithfulness doesn't depend on how much or how little I trust Him. He remains the great I AM, all-knowing, and always faithful.

## **REFLECTION QUESTION:**

In what aspects of my life am I still holding on to control instead of fully trusting the great I AM?

## **PRAYER:**

Lord, help me to let go of my conditions and surrender completely to Your faithful and unchanging will. Amen.



# WEEK 6

**APRIL 11, 2025**

Gospel Reading: John 10: 31-42

*Jesus replied, "I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these are you going to stone me?" (John 10:32)*

## **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:**

In the gospel, Jesus establishes His good works and refutes those that attempt to falsely accuse Him. As a young person, this passage is highly personal to me, particularly in times when I felt misunderstood or unjustly condemned, like the time I was bullied in high school. It hurts to be labeled as the villain when you have done nothing wrong, and I know a lot of people can identify with this feeling of being misjudged or unjustly accused.

This scripture challenges me to reflect on my own responses to criticism and adversity. It inspires me to rise above negativity and continue to do good, just as Jesus did. During this Lenten season, I'm reminded that living out my faith means standing firm in my values and treating others with love and compassion, even when it's difficult. Jesus faced similar trials, being accused and scorned despite His goodness.

In summary, just like Jesus suffered and hurt from other people's judgments, we too often suffer and might feel the burden of blame that is not ours. However, in our times of struggle, we can draw strength from His example. This Lent, let us love Jesus and recall that it's never too late to turn to Him, ask for forgiveness, and try to reflect His love in our lives.

## **REFLECTION QUESTION:**

How can I improve on imitating Jesus' unshakeable commitment to goodness despite unjust accusations and misunderstandings?

## **PRAYER:**

Lord Jesus, give me strength to endure in love and compassion, following your example in the midst of tribulation. Amen.

# WEEK 6

**APRIL 12, 2025**

Gospel Reading: John 11:45-56

*They looked for Jesus and said to one another as they were in the temple area, "What do you think? That he will not come to the feast?" (John 11:56)*

## **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:**

Last year, during the season of Lent, I was discerning the call to become the Area Servant of Laguna. I can still vividly recall the fear I felt, knowing the vastness of the mission that awaited me. My mind was overwhelmed with a flood of emotions—anticipation laced with fear, fear of the unknown, fear of disappointments, feelings of unworthiness, and the constant weight of trials and uncertainties. Then, during a homily, a priest's words ignited something in my heart. He said, "Jesus knew everything He would face when He entered the temple, and yet He went, all for the sake of love."

Do we think Jesus will not come? Let me assure you, He will. Jesus embraced His mission with a deep conviction of love for us, no matter how difficult or frightening it may have been. As we approach the Holy Week, let us cast all our burdens, fears, and anxieties upon the Lord, inviting Him to enter our hearts. And just as He did, may we also answer our call with unwavering conviction, rooted in the love of Christ.

## **REFLECTION QUESTION:**

How am I called to show courage by offering my presence in the face of trials and afflictions?

## **PRAYER:**

Lord, amidst the chaos of the world, be the peace that embraces our wandering hearts. Amen.