

“God Manifested in the Youth of Jesus”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Isaiah 6:1. Revelation 19:6; Psalm 100:1-5**

I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and | lifted up,*
 And the train of His robe filled the | temple.
 And I heard the voice of a great multitude, | saying,*
 “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omni- | potent reigns!
 Make a joyful shout to the Lord, | all you lands!*
 Serve the Lord with | gladness;
 Know that the Lord, | He is God;*
 it is He who has made us, and not | we ourselves;
 enter into His gates with thanks- | giving,*
 and into His | courts with praise.
 For the Lord is good; His mercy is ever- | lasting,*
 and His truth endures to all gener- | ations.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Ephesians 6:4**
 “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the fear and instruction of the Lord.”

7 READ THE SCRIPTURE AND DEVOTION (OTHER SIDE OF THE PAGE)

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
 Lord, we implore You, give ear to our prayers and lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You now live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK **O Jesus, King of Glory** TLH 130
 Martin Behm



1. O Jesus, King of Glory,
 Both David's Lord and Son!
 Thy realm endures forever,
 In heaven is fixed Thy throne.
 Help that in earth's dominions,
 Throughout from pole to pole,
 Thy reign may spread salvation
 To each benighted soul.

6. And bid Thy Word within me
 Shine as the fairest star;
 Keep sin and all false doctrine
 Forever from me far.
 Help me confess Thee truly
 And with Thy Christendom
 Here own Thee King and Savior
 And in the world to come.

1 BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:
 In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

2 SAY THE APOSTLES' CREED
 I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth.
 And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our
 Lord, who was conceived by the Holy
 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
 under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died
 and was buried. He descended into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the
 dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at
 the right hand of God, the Father
 Almighty. From thence He will come to
 judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
 Christian church, the communion of
 saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
 resurrection of the body, and the life
 everlasting. Amen.

3 PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER
 Our Father, who art in
 heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth as it
 is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily
 bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those who
 trespass against us;
 and lead us not into
 temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom and
 the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.

4 PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

Morning. I thank You, my
 heavenly Father, through Jesus
 Christ, Your dear Son, that You
 have kept me this night from all
 harm and danger; and I pray that
 You would keep me this day also
 from sin and every evil, that all my
 doings and life may please You.
 For into Your hands I commend
 myself, my body and soul, and all
 things. Let Your holy angel be with
 me, that the evil foe may have no
 power over me. Amen.

Evening. I thank you, my
 heavenly Father, through Jesus
 Christ, Your dear Son, that You
 have graciously kept me this day;
 and I pray that You would forgive
 me all my sins where I have done
 wrong, and graciously keep me this
 night. For into Your hands, I
 commend myself, my body and
 soul, and all things. Let Your holy
 angel be with me, that the evil foe
 may have no power over me. Amen.

Around the Word Devotions + the week of January 13-19, 2019

THEME OF THE WEEK: God Manifested in the Youth of Jesus

Jesus submitted to the Law for our righteousness. He came fully into our flesh, our world, the order of God, and the life of a Christian for us. Those who wish to bear His Name (Christian) must, of course, be disciples who are not above their teacher. In this week's readings we see in particular how the family is arranged in God's order. Parents in general and fathers in particular have the duty to raise their children in the faith. Children honor and obey their parents. This is the purpose of this very devotion series, that families imitate our Lord in gathering Around the Word. God grant this in every home!

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 3:13-17—The Baptism of our Lord

The Sonship of the Christ is declared by the Father at His Baptism. This was not because God was adopting Jesus, as He does for us in ours; rather, it is to show that the whole Trinity—Father, Son, and Spirit—are present in Holy Baptism, working together for our salvation. What is said of Jesus may be said of all who receive His gift of Holy Baptism. Indeed, what Jesus undergoes is never for His own sake but always for ours—just as the voice from heaven is for our sake. *It is fitting* for Jesus to *fulfill all righteousness* for us. *Father, grant that I may listen to Your Word & believe Your promises to me. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:41-52—The Boy Jesus in the Temple

We learn from Jesus the proper way to use the Catechism: *He was sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.* The child is to ask the questions; the head of the household is to know and teach what the Scriptures say. They are then able to respond themselves. When Jesus responded, the teachers were *amazed at His understanding.* Jesus, in His humiliation, learned the Scriptures from His teachers; what child (or what parent), then, thinks they have learned everything already? *Father, give our family amazement at Your Word when we teach it and learn it. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:1-5—Renewed Minds, Ordered Bodies, and Divine "Non-conformity"

The *mind renewed* in God's Word and the catechism knows how to *test and discern* what is *good and acceptable and perfect.* We do not find God's will in ourselves; we find it expressed in the Scriptures. It is from them that we learn what true worship and good works are, namely, *to present our bodies as living sacrifices.* Fathers teach; wives and children learn; the whole family is edified. The home and the Church are very much alike in this regard. It is an order that the world does not know or promote. Discernment sticks to God's Word anyway. *Lord, conform me to Your Word in mind and body. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1-3—Anointed

Christ is Greek; Messiah is Hebrew; Anointed is English. Christ does not mean "Savior," as most people think. That is what the name "Jesus" means. Jesus is "the Anointed One," "the Christ." This title is important because it shows that Jesus has an office, with duties that must be done. In particular, He *proclaims the year of the Lord's favor*, that is, God's grace through His *fulfillment of all righteousness.* We call people "messiahs" in hopes that they live up to the title. God, not us, appointed Jesus. He will live up to His Names. *Lord, anoint me with righteousness and gladness to be Your Christian. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:13-16—Grow Down

Jesus (who was a child) loves children. That is a fine posture to imitate. But Jesus wants us also to imitate the faith of a child. Yes, infants and children have faith! They trust in God from the womb and the breast; they believe in Jesus and God wants none of them to be harmed. Faith is not a matter of personal strength and willpower; it is a matter of depending on the One who promises because He is faithful and will surely do it. That is how we enter and receive the Kingdom—as an inheritance, whether young or old. *Lord, remove all hindrances from us that we may abide in Your blessing. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:1-4—The Head of the Household

We know the 4th commandment means children honor and obey; it also implies that the parents guard, teach, and are worthy of honor and obedience. The most important task teaching—not only spelling and shoe-tying, but *the fear and instruction of the Lord.* What we often address to parents is addressed specifically to fathers by God's Word. The father, so long as there is one, is the head of the household by God's order. And notice for what purpose this is true: not provoking children (or wives) to anger, but to *bring up* and to *teach* the family. *Give us fathers after Your own heart, Heavenly Father! Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 13—Where May I Lodge My Complaint?

Will you forget me forever, Lord? How long? These are words of lament. Many people have taught us that we should not question or complain to God. The Psalms teach differently. It is a godly thing to bring prayers of sorrow and even frustration before God. Most everyone enjoys complaining—to everyone but the person whom it concerns. God is the One Who can do something about our struggles, especially those deep in body, soul, and mind. Bring your complaint to Him. And add to it faith: *Lord, hear my complaint, strengthen my trust in Your mercy, and restore the joy of Your salvation. Amen.*

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