

Divine Savior & Our Lady of the Lakes Fifth Sunday of Easter Prayer and Reflection

Start by the sign of the cross: +

Place yourself before the presence of God by being still.

Fifth Sunday of Easter Readings:

Acts 9:26-31

Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32

1 John 3:18-24

Gospel of John 15:1-8

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/050221.cfm>

You can get the readings from: The Daily Bread Booklet, Missalettes, Bible etc.

Fr. Gideon's Reflection: Staying connected to God

What are some of your bedtime rituals? To some, it's brushing your teeth, maybe reading a chapter of your bedtime book, etc. In my case, one of the last things that I do before closing my eyes is to make sure my phone is connected to power and recharging. The simple reason is that if the phone doesn't have charge (meaning I can't use it) then probably, I will be lost for the day. I have my contacts there, calendar, I use it to navigate my way around, etc. Jesus says this to his disciples, "...whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." For us to thrive as disciples, we must be and remain connected to our source of life, the font of our salvation—Our Lord Jesus Christ.

One way that we remain connected, charged, and strengthened is through the Eucharist. The Eucharist pulls us into deeper communion with God, enabling us to share in the very life of God. Last Sunday and this Sunday, our first communicants are blessed to be part of that union through the Eucharist. It's an exciting time for them and the parish, and we pray and give thanks to God for each one of them. My thanks as well go to their parents and families, and our catechists who have supported and formed them in faith.

Creed: Pray the Creed

Intentions: Offer your personal prayers and those of your family, pray for our first communicants, pray for our Confirmation candidates, pray for those who will be discerning to serve in the pastoral council

Conclude the prayers with a Hail Mary

Pray the Lord's Prayer

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to
be separated from You.

Amen.

Conclude with the sign of the cross: +