

## Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Prayer to the Sacred Heart:

### Lord Jesus,

Let my heart never rest until it finds You, who are its Center, its Love, and its Happiness. By the wound in Your heart pardon the sins that I have committed whether out of malice or out of evil desires. Place my weak heart in your own Divine Heart, continually under Your protection and guidance, so that I may persevere in doing good and in fleeing evil until my last breath. Amen.

#### Lectio Divina: The Spirit's Anointing and Our Mission (Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21)

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we gather today to prayerfully reflect on the opening verses of Luke's Gospel and Jesus's profound proclamation in the synagogue at Nazareth (Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21). These passages illuminate the origins of our faith and the mission to which we are all called as disciples of the Lord. Let us open our hearts to the guiding light of the Holy Spirit.

#### Meditation (Reading and Reflection):

Read Luke 1:1-4 and Luke 4:14-21 slowly and with reverence. Listen attentively to the words that stir your soul. What message is the Holy Spirit speaking to you through these sacred verses?

Invite these questions to rest in your heart:

- Luke diligently researched and compiled his Gospel, seeking accuracy and truth. How does his dedication inspire you in your own journey of faith and understanding of the sacred Scriptures?
- Jesus returns to Galilee "in the power of the Spirit." How does the Holy Spirit empower you to live as a faithful witness to Christ?
- Jesus reads from the prophet Isaiah, proclaiming "glad tidings to the poor,"
   "liberty to captives," and "recovery of sight to the blind." How do these
   words resonate within you? Who are the "poor," "captives," and "blind" in
   your life and in the world today who yearn for God's mercy and healing
   touch?
- Jesus declares that this Scripture "is fulfilled in your hearing." How is this Scripture fulfilled in your own life? How are you called to participate in fulfilling it for others, bringing Christ's light to those who dwell in darkness?

#### **Contemplation:**

- Choose a word or phrase from the passages that particularly touched your heart (e.g., "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me," "glad tidings," "fulfilled").
- Enter into a sacred silence, holding this word or phrase gently in your heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to illuminate its deeper meaning for you.
- Imagine yourself present in the synagogue in Nazareth, listening to Jesus read from the scroll of Isaiah. What do you see, hear, and feel in this holy space? How does His presence affect you?



As the words of Scripture echo in your heart, you might find yourself drawn to these paths of prayer and action:

- Lift your heart to God in prayer, seeking a greater awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence and guidance in your life.
- Ask our Blessed Mother Mary to intercede for you, that you may receive the grace to live out your baptismal call to share the Good News and bring Christ's love to the world.
- Offer a prayer for the courage to be a voice for the voiceless, a beacon of hope for those in need, and a true disciple of Christ in all that you do.
- Imagine the many ways you can be a bearer of "glad tidings" to the poor and marginalized in your community. This might involve volunteering at a local soup kitchen, donating to a charity, or simply offering a listening ear and a compassionate heart to someone in need.
- Take some time for quiet reflection, pondering the areas of your own life where you feel "captive" or "blind." How can you seek healing and freedom through Christ and His Church?
- Share the message of this Lectio Divina with someone else. Discuss how you can both live out Christ's mission in your daily lives, supporting one another on your journey of faith.

#### A Moment of Grace:

The Gospel of Luke reminds us that the Good News of Jesus Christ is a gift offered to all people. May we be inspired by the Holy Spirit to share this message of hope and salvation with the world, drawing all souls to the loving embrace of our Savior. Amen.



## Our Shared Lectio Divina Journey

Three volunteers will lend their voices to the Sacred Text, inviting us into three profound encounters with the Word. After each reading, we will pause for a moment of sacred silence, allowing the words to penetrate our souls.

- Following the first reading, we will share a word or phrase that ignited our hearts. This simple act of sharing weaves a tapestry of spiritual perspectives, enriching our individual journeys.
- After the second reading, we will delve into the depths of meaning, reflecting on how the chosen word or phrase resonates with our personal experiences. This deeper contemplation allows us to connect the divine message to our lives in a tangible way.
- Finally, after the third reading, we will consider the divine invitation before us. This call to action might be a whisper of guidance, a nudge towards transformation, or a spark of divine inspiration. Let us share our insights with open hearts, fostering a sense of spiritual community and shared purpose.

# **+ Lectio Divina + A Journey to the Father's House**Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke 1,1-4.4,14-21.

Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received.

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all.

He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and went according to his custom into the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."

Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him. He said to them, "Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

New Revised Standard Version (Catholic Edition)

## As We Depart

Gracious God, thank you for the gift of your Word and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in our reflection today. As we ponder Luke's Gospel and Jesus's proclamation, open our hearts to the power of your Spirit. May we be bearers of "glad tidings," proclaim liberty, and bring sight to the blind. Grant us the courage to live out our baptismal promises and share your love with all. May the words of Scripture we have heard bear fruit in our lives, leading us to greater love for you and our neighbor.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Last Saturdays of the Month sacredheartknights.ca/COR COR@sacredheartknights.ca



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. Fill us with the Holy Spirit, as Jesus was filled, that we may boldly proclaim the Good News of "glad tidings" and freedom for the captives. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who seek to ruin souls. Amen.



Lord Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit, you proclaimed good news and freedom. Fill us with that same Spirit, that we may hear your words and live them courageously. Help us bring your love and healing to the world. Amen.

