

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Luke 9:28-43	Jesus is transfigured
Monday	Ezekiel 1:1 - 2:2	Ezekiel sees the Lord's glory
Tuesday	Luke 10:21-24	Hidden things revealed
Wednesday	Matthew 6:1-6,16-21	Giving, praying and fasting
Thursday	Zechariah 7:4-10	Justice, mercy and compassion
Friday	Joel 2:1-2,12-18	A call to repentance
Saturday	Psalms 51:1-17	Have mercy on me, O God
Sunday	Luke 4:1-13	The temptation of Jesus

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Scripture Verse for the Week:

A voice came from the cloud. It said, "This is my Son, and I have chosen him. Listen to him." - Luke 9:35 (NIRV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Father in Heaven, give me ears to listen to your Son and a faith that looks to him alone. Amen. (Luke 9:35-36)

For Throughout the Day:

Holy Spirit, please work in me, so that I become more and more like Jesus. Amen. (2 Cor. 3:18)

A Blessing to Share:

May God the Father open your ears to listen to Jesus, and may God's Spirit make you more and more like Christ. Amen. (Luke 9:35; 2 Cor. 3:18)

Mealtime Refrain:

Jesus is the Son of God: **Let us listen to him.**

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, shine on our home. Grow us in body and soul, so that we become your lights in the world. Amen.

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SCRIPTURE

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Name someone or something you enjoy listening to.
- Why is important to listen to others? What is the difference between hearing and listening?
- God the Father tells us to listen to his Son, Jesus (read Luke 9:34-35). What does it mean to listen to Jesus?

Devotional Practices:

This coming Wednesday (Feb. 17) is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. The association of the day with ashes goes back to the 6th century. For centuries, Christians have received ashes on the head as a reminder of mortality and a sign of sorrow for sin.

If you are unable to attend a worship service on Wednesday, have a brief time of observance in your home. Prepare in advance a small bowl of ashes to use.

Bible Readings: Genesis 3:19, Mark 1:15.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, as we enter the season of Lent today, we confess our need for a Savior. Prepare our hearts and minds throughout this season so that we may grow in serving others, showing thanks for how your Son has served us. Amen.

Leader: Let us now mark one another with ashes as a sign of sorrow for our sin, and our trust in Jesus to save us.

Household members take turns in making the sign of the cross with ashes on one another's foreheads, saying these words: "Dust you are, and to dust you shall return. Repent and look to Jesus your Savior."

Bible Reading: Psalm 103:13-14,17

Service:

As a household, consider giving up a treat food or activity for the season of Lent. Each week put into a tin the amount of money saved through this sacrifice. Decide on a charitable cause to donate the money to at the end of Lent.

Rituals and Traditions:

The day before Ash Wednesday is called Shrove Tuesday. The name 'shrove' comes from the practice of being "shriven" – going to church to confess your sins and receive absolution – before the start of Lent. Shrove Tuesday is also sometimes called Pancake Tuesday or Fat Tuesday, because households used up their remaining eggs and fats before Lent by making pancakes on this day.

Observe Shrove Tuesday with either a pancake breakfast or dinner. As you eat, talk about what Jesus gave up for our sake, and what you might wish to give up for Lent in spiritual preparation for Holy Week.

FOUR KEYS FOR THE HOME

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