

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	Mark 6:14-29	The death of John the Baptist
Monday	Luke 7:24-35	Jesus speaks of John
Tuesday	Matthew 17:10-23	John the Baptist and Elijah
Wednesday	Mark 13:9-13	Stand firm to the end
Thursday	Acts 21:27-39	Paul arrested
Friday	Acts 23:12-35	Plot to kill Paul
Saturday	Psalms 142	Prayer for deliverance
Sunday	Mark 6:30-34,53-56	Jesus teaches and heals

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	Mark 6:14-29	The death of John the Baptist
Monday	Luke 7:24-35	Jesus speaks of John
Tuesday	Matthew 17:10-23	John the Baptist and Elijah
Wednesday	Mark 13:9-13	Stand firm to the end
Thursday	Acts 21:27-39	Paul arrested
Friday	Acts 23:12-35	Plot to kill Paul
Saturday	Psalms 142	Prayer for deliverance
Sunday	Mark 6:30-34,53-56	Jesus teaches and heals

Scripture Verse for the Week:

We have been set free because of what Christ has done. Through his blood our sins have been forgiven. We have been set free because God's grace is so rich. – Ephesians 1:7 (NIRV)

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

Prayer for this Week:

Heavenly Father, thank you for choosing to save me. Continue to give me the Holy Spirit, so that the way I live praises you. Amen. (Ephesians 1:4-6,12)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord God, please help me to stand up for what is right, even if it means that I will suffer. Amen. (Mark 6:17-18)

A Blessing to Share:

May the Lord, who has chosen you as his own, give you all his blessings through Jesus. Amen.

Mealtime Refrain:

Let us listen to what our Lord God says:
He promises peace to those who are faithful. (Psalm 85:8)

Mealtime Prayer:

Receive our thanks for night and day, for food and shelter, rest and play. Lord, be our guest and with us stay. Amen.



Scripture Verse for the Week:

We have been set free because of what Christ has done. Through his blood our sins have been forgiven. We have been set free because God's grace is so rich. – Ephesians 1:7 (NIRV)

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

Prayer for this Week:

Heavenly Father, thank you for choosing to save me. Continue to give me the Holy Spirit, so that the way I live praises you. Amen. (Ephesians 1:4-6,12)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord God, please help me to stand up for what is right, even if it means that I will suffer. Amen. (Mark 6:17-18)

A Blessing to Share:

May the Lord, who has chosen you as his own, give you all his blessings through Jesus. Amen.

Mealtime Refrain:

Let us listen to what our Lord God says:
He promises peace to those who are faithful. (Psalm 85:8)

Mealtime Prayer:

Receive our thanks for night and day, for food and shelter, rest and play. Lord, be our guest and with us stay. Amen.



Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you were especially chosen for something. How did this make you feel?
- The apostle Paul tells us that God had decided to make you his child even before the world was made (Ephesians 1:4). What does this mean to you?

Devotional Practices:

Place a small bowl of water on your table. Each morning or evening this week, invite each household member to make the sign of the cross on someone else's forehead in remembrance of their baptism – the day they were sealed with the cross of Christ, given the Holy Spirit, and made part of God's "forever family". Join in saying the following prayer:

Dear God, thank you for loving us and choosing us to be part of your "forever family". Help us to reflect your love in all we say and do today. Amen.

Service:

The Gospel reading for Sunday tells how John the Baptist was put in prison and later killed. Pray this week for people who are unjustly imprisoned. Visit the website of Amnesty International to learn more about situations of injustice across the world (www.amnesty.org). Find out how you can personally support the work of Amnesty International through letter writing or with a donation.

Rituals and Traditions:

Look together at the birth announcements in your local newspaper. Birth announcements usually identify the parents of the child and give some details about the child's birth.

Ephesians 1:3-5,13-14 is our spiritual birth announcement. It says that we belong to God as his adopted children, and that he has given us his Holy Spirit as a sign of his ownership. He decided to do this long before we were even born!

Work together to write personalized "spiritual birth announcements" that declare your membership in God's family. Decorate these and put them up around your home.

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you were especially chosen for something. How did this make you feel?
- The apostle Paul tells us that God had decided to make you his child even before the world was made (Ephesians 1:4). What does this mean to you?

Devotional Practices:

Place a small bowl of water on your table. Each morning or evening this week, invite each household member to make the sign of the cross on someone else's forehead in remembrance of their baptism – the day they were sealed with the cross of Christ, given the Holy Spirit, and made part of God's "forever family". Join in saying the following prayer:

Dear God, thank you for loving us and choosing us to be part of your "forever family". Help us to reflect your love in all we say and do today. Amen.

Service:

The Gospel reading for Sunday tells how John the Baptist was put in prison and later killed. Pray this week for people who are unjustly imprisoned. Visit the website of Amnesty International to learn more about situations of injustice across the world (www.amnesty.org). Find out how you can personally support the work of Amnesty International through letter writing or with a donation.

Rituals and Traditions:

Look together at the birth announcements in your local newspaper. Birth announcements usually identify the parents of the child and give some details about the child's birth.

Ephesians 1:3-5,13-14 is our spiritual birth announcement. It says that we belong to God as his adopted children, and that he has given us his Holy Spirit as a sign of his ownership. He decided to do this long before we were even born!

Work together to write personalized "spiritual birth announcements" that declare your membership in God's family. Decorate these and put them up around your home.