

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of Palmarum (Palm / Passion Sunday) (Holy Week)

April 13th through April 19th, 2025

Catechesis Notes for the Week—The Office of Husband—This week's section of the Table of Duties directs us to what God's Word says concerning the Office of Husband. When the Apostle Peter directs, "Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers." He is reminding husbands that their wives have been given an office by God that places them in a subordinate position to them. It would be very easy for the husband, corrupted by the sinful flesh as he is, to take advantage of his headship and the wife's position of subordination to him. He is to "be considerate" of the position that God gave her and be husband to her in selfless love. Although they are not both in the same office, they are, nevertheless, equal "heirs of the gracious gift of life" in Christ Jesus. If he does not believe that then his prayers, which include the ministration of his office as a husband, will be "hindered." The essential disposition of the husband to the wife is contained in the passage from Colossians: "Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them." Here the husband's office is depicted as the office of Christ to His bride the Church, as it is also in Ephesians 5. Christ loves His bride by laying down His life for her and covering her sins with His blood. He is never harsh with her who is "bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh, but nourishes and cares for her as His own body." The office of husband finds its identity in Christ, the Church's Bridegroom.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or use as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Theme: The Lord Comes to the Cross in Grace.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Apostles' Creed

Verse: Romans 8:38-39

I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalms 118:19-29 (antiphon v. 26)—Pray the Psalm Daily

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord God, almighty, it pleased You that through the rejection of Your Son You should bring about the salvation of all who have rejected You. This marvelous work of Jesus' suffering and death is Your doing and it is precious in our sight for it means that all of life and salvation, peace and contentment, come from Your Son alone, whose atoning sacrifice is our righteousness. Save us now, O Lord, from all our sins and from every false reliance upon ourselves. Teach us to confess: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; You are my God; I will extol you, for Your steadfast love endures forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Catechism: The Table of Duties—To Husbands

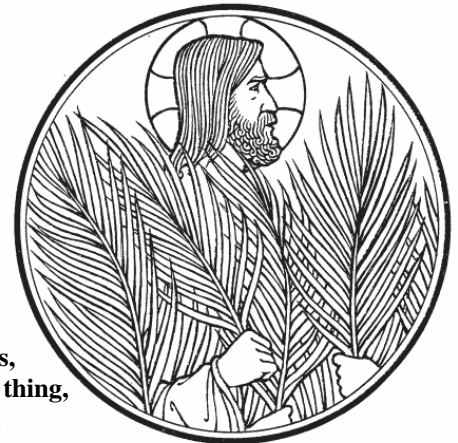
What does God's Word say to husbands?

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

First Grade+
1 Peter 3:7

Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

First Grade +
Colossians 3:19



Prayer for Husbands: O Lord Jesus, by Your Word and Spirit, fashion the men of Your Church into husbands made in Your image, who love their wives and sacrifice themselves for them, even as You gave Yourself for us, Your bride the Church. Teach them to respect their wives and to treat them with tenderness, compassion, and lovingkindness. Deliver them from all pride and arrogance so that they do not take advantage of their wives but honor them as joint heirs of the gracious gift of life. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Readings for the week of Palmarum

Day	First Reading	Second Reading
Monday	St. Matthew Passion—Matthew 26:1—27:66	Hebrews 9:11-15
Tuesday	St. Mark Passion—Mark 14:1—15:47	1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Wednesday	St. Luke Passion—Luke 22:1—23:56	Psalm 78:31-39
Thursday	Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet—John 13:1-15, 34-35	1 Cor. 11:23-32
Friday	St. John Passion: John 18:1—19:42	Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Saturday	Holy Saturday —Matthew 27:57-66	1 Peter 3:17-22

Prayers: Collects for the Week; Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for Palm Sunday / Sunday of the Passion:

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Holy Monday:

Almighty God, grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be restored through the passion and intercession of Your only-begotten Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Holy Tuesday:

Almighty and everlasting God, grant us by Your grace so to pass through this holy time of our Lord's Passion that we may obtain the forgiveness of our sins; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Holy Wednesday:

Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Holy Thursday:

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of your Passion. Grant, that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Holy Friday:

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Holy Saturday:

O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection. Preserve in us the spirit of adoption which You have given so that, made alive in body and soul, we may serve You purely; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

In Our Prayers this Week (See Bulletin)

Lord's Prayer and Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" (st. 1, 4, 6, 7)

LSB #450

Looking forward to the Week of Easter

April 20th 2025

Hymns: 457, 458, 470, 466, 729, 637, 566, 532, 464

Job 19:23-27, 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, Mark 16:1-8

Christ's Resurrection Means That We Will One Day Be Raised

"Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed" (1 Cor. 5:7). By the shed blood of Christ, the Lamb of God, eternal death has passed over us. Now we pass with Christ through death into life everlasting. For Christ the crucified One is risen! The stone has been rolled away from the tomb, revealing that the tomb could not hold Him (Mark 16:1-8). Now our Redeemer lives eternally to save us from sin and Satan and the grave, and we can live in the sure hope of our own bodily resurrection with Christ. "After my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God" (Job 19:26). Feasting on the living Christ, who is our meat and drink indeed, we boldly say: "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? ...But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:54-55, 57).