

Prayer Gathering for Seventh Week of Easter

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

OPENING PRAYER

**God of All Knowing,
You created us in your image, placing the whole world in our care.
Humble us as we realize all there is for us yet to understand
and fill us with the courage to stay consecrated to the truth, no matter the cost.
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

READING

MOMENT FOR SILENCE

GOSPEL PASSAGE

SHARING QUESTIONS

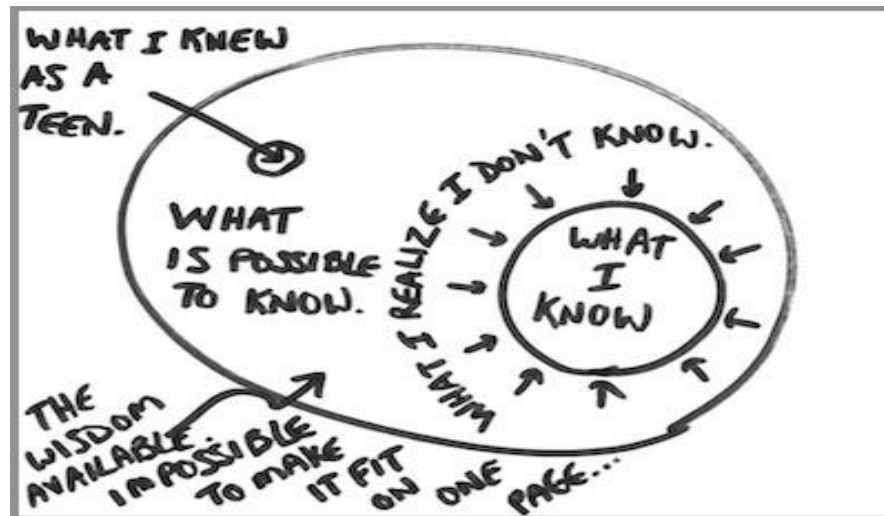
“Consecrate them in the truth. Your word is truth.”

**How do you know when something is true?
How do you differentiate between truths, half-truths and falsehoods?**

“For it is written in the Book of Psalms: ‘May another take his office.’”

The 11 had to face that Judas was gone and was not coming back. When have you had to accept a truth that you wished were not true? How did you do it?

POSTED RECENTLY



DISCUSSION

“I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth.”

**With our human limitations, it's impossible for us to know all truth.
What is a truth that you have only fairly recently come to learn?
Why didn't you know it earlier?**

“I do not ask that you take them out of the world but that you keep them from the evil one.”

Do you perceive God “keeping” or “shielding” you from evil? How so?

LITANY

Though we would rather things be different...	Consecrate us in the truth.
Though our power here has limits...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When we'd rather fudge the numbers...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When we'd like to cover up what we don't know...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When we start believing we don't need God...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When appearances can mislead...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When we tell ourselves <i>just this time, it's OK...</i>	Consecrate us in the truth.
When we know that no one's looking...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When anger makes us want to strike first...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When fear makes us think that might makes right...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When we think revenge will bring us peace...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When we could take more than our share...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When this moment trumps our future...	Consecrate us in the truth.
When credit comes our way, undeserved...	Consecrate us in the truth.

OUR FATHER

[OPTIONAL] PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

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

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

I embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.

CLOSING PRAYER

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

READING 1

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter stood up (and) said,

*“My brothers,
the Scripture had to be fulfilled
which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand
through the mouth of David, concerning Judas,
who was the guide for those who arrested Jesus.
He was numbered among us
and was allotted a share in this ministry.
For it is written in the Book of Psalms:
“May another take his office.”*

So they proposed two, Judas called Barsabbas,
who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.

Then they prayed,

*“You, Lord, who know the hearts of all,
show which one of these two you have chosen
to take the place in this apostolic ministry
from which Judas turned away to go to his own place.”*

Then they gave lots to them, and the lot fell upon Matthias,
and he was counted with the eleven apostles.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

READING 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying:

*“Holy Father, keep them in your name
that you have given me,
so that they may be one just as we are one.*

*When I was with them
I protected them in your name that you gave me,
and I guarded them, and none of them was lost
except the son of destruction,
in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled.*

*But now I am coming to you.
I speak this in the world
so that they may share my joy completely...*

*I do not ask that you take them out of the world
but that you keep them from the evil one.
They do not belong to the world
any more than I belong to the world.*

Consecrate them in the truth. Your word is truth.

*As you sent me into the world,
so I sent them into the world.
And I consecrate myself for them,
so that they also may be consecrated in truth.”*

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ

John, chapter 17