

Lectio Divina

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| > Read and re-read, out loud and slowly the Gospel | > Pray - Thanksgiving - Repentance - Petition |
| > Meditate on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life | > Action - Attitude (Call to change / to act / to do) |
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December 30th 2018 Sunday Feast of the Holy Family - Year C - Luke 2:41 - 52

This week's gospel is both an ordinary and extraordinary family story. When Jesus goes missing and causes panic with his parents. I am sure most of us have experienced this panic - one minute can feel like an hour. Jesus' parents did not understand what he meant by 'my father's affairs'. Mary as always stored up 'all these things' in her heart, accepting the mysterious workings of God. Jesus comes back into the family fold to continue living under his parents' direction. Mary notes her child is growing, changing, preparing to fulfil his mission. This is the beginning of her painful journey and necessary process of letting him go.

How do we react when we feel we have lost our children? As parents do we see the God-given dignity of each one of our children? Do we help them on their journey rather than dictate it?

Prayer:

Lord we thank you for the gift of our children and all young people who keep us alert by their energy and life.

Forgive us for the times when we try to put our rules and regulations on our children without listening to their point of view and coming to a better understanding of that frequently asked question, why?

Help us Lord to be like Mary always standing by her son. We ask her to place her mantle around all the members of our families on this wonderful feast of The Holy Family.

