



Resources for FCM Ministers

2X2 for FCM

A Simple Examen

First thing in the morning,

- Give thanks to God for all the blessings you will receive today. Anticipate them!
- Ask for the grace to know your faults and failings and for the courage to make different choices during the day. (If nothing comes to mind, ask for light to see yourself more fully.)
- Ask for the grace of direction and guidance for what lies ahead today.
- Move forward with one "resolution" for the day.

In the evening, review your day.

- Observe (visualize) yourself going through your day, hour by hour, without evaluating or judging your behavior.
- Name and "hold" with gratitude each blessing you received during the day for a few seconds.
- Ask for forgiveness for the times you may have missed something important or done something you wish you hadn't.
- Pay attention to how God directed you through the day.
- Resolve to amend your life, naming a particular behavior that bothers you about your day.

AN AFRICAN MODEL OF "LECTIO DIVINA" I USE WITH MY CPE STUDENTS

by Carl R. Yusavitz, D. Min., Supervisor, ACPE

(from the Lumko Missiological Institute of South Africa)

We finish our weekly evening group educational activities with this exercise.

My CPE students rotate facilitation.

A CPE student reads a short passage of Scripture that touched their heart during the week.

- ❖ During the reading, each person names the word or phrase that catches their attention silently in their heart, then shares that word or phrase out loud with the group. Just the word or phrase, no explanation.

Another CPE student reads the same passage of Scripture again, but from a different translation.

- ❖ Each person answers on a piece of paper the question: "How does this bible passage touch my heart today?" Then, each person shares with an "I" statement or statements with the whole group.

The passage is read again from a different (third) translation.

- ❖ Each person answers on a piece of paper the question: "From what I have heard and shared (in this passage of Scripture, in the group, and in my heart), what is my spiritual work this week?"
- ❖ Each person shares what they wrote with an "I" statement or statements with the whole group.

Finally, the group facilitator invites the group to pray for or bless one another out loud. We use "pray for" or "bless" because our CPE students come from different faith traditions with different ways of praying, and the person leading the groups chooses how this is done. For example, he or she may ask each person to pray for or bless the person on their right or across from them - or however he or she decides to direct the prayer time. The prayer or blessing reflects what the person prayed for shared in the group.

The group facilitator invites the group to pray for or bless that person daily until the CPE group meets again in a week.

RESOURCES FOR PREACHING

Association of Catholic Priests (Ireland)

<http://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie/>

- Scroll down for links to site content on right

St. Louis University - Center for Liturgy - The Sunday Website

<http://www.liturgyslu.edu/>

If you use Firefox, the directions on the opening page are wrong. To find the date you want, click on the arrow to the right of the date presented.

Center of Concern - Lectionary Reflections

<https://www.coc.org/resources/lectionary-reflections>

- Prepared by John Bucki, SJ
- Solid resource for social teaching

Creighton University - Daily Reflections

<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/daily.html>

- A variety of staff people take turns commenting on daily readings. Quality is uneven.

Today's Good News - Gospel Commentary (Ireland)

<http://www.goodnews.ie/calendar.php>

- Generally pretty good

Loyola Press, A Jesuit Ministry - Sunday Connection

<https://www.loyolapress.com/sunday-connection.htm>

- Generally pretty good

Catholic Doors

<http://www.catholicdoors.com/homilies/>

- Generally conservative; not very imaginative

Catholic Homilies

http://www.catholicsermons.com/homilies/home_page

- Collection of homily sites, of varying quality
- Not all links work
- Note the varied content on the line under the title

Catholic Links

<http://www.catholiclinks.org/homiliasenglish.htm>

- Collection of 70-80 or more links

Word on Fire

<http://www.wordonfire.org/resources/homily/>

- Audio files of 15-minute homilies by Fr. Robert Barron
- Generally good; tends to be somewhat conservative

Homilies

<https://www.homilies.net/>

- Many links, English and Spanish
- Note links at top to site pages

Catholic Homily Resources

<http://catholichomilyresources.com/>

- I don't know this well, but I think it's pretty good.
- Fr. Cantalamessa is Preacher to the Papal Household. Appointed by JPII, he still serves in that capacity. I sometimes find him to be excellent.

Recommended Reading:

Joy of the Gospel by Pope Francis

Pope Francis: Why he leads the way he leads ...by Chris Lowney

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE. They have a beautiful web site and all their information is there as well as events people can attend, workshops, etc.

<http://www.dancesofuniversalpeace.org/>

By The Power vested in me...

A Guide for Wedding Celebrants/Officiants

by Antoinette Marold, FCM

Available at:

<http://amzn.com/1495368769>