

1. Read — Read the verses slowly and prayerfully several times. Write down any words or phrases that seem to stand out:

2. Meditate — Now begin to reflect on the verses and ask God what it means and how he wants to speak to you through the passage. **God what are you saying to me through this?**

3. Pray — Respond from your heart to what God has been saying to you. **What do you want me to know?** Write down your prayer to him or record whatever he says to you.

4. Contemplate — Be quiet before the Lord enjoying His presence.

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**How is God calling you to act in response to what he has shown you?**

**SIGN UP free for  
Link to Liturgy**



[1] Goffine, The Church's Year, pg. 412  
[2] St. Ambrose Comm Gosp St. Luke, V,9  
[3] Fr. Gabriel, Divine Intimacy Vol. III, pg. 22  
[4] J. Escriva, Christ is passing by, 166  
[5] J. Escriva, Christ is passing by, 166  
[6] Fernandez, In Conversation with God, 3, 81.1  
[7] J. Escriva, Christ is passing by, 167

# Quick Connect

**What is the Gospel saying? Luke 7:11-17** — Pg. 1

**What is the Church saying Past and Present?** Pages 1-3

**What is God saying to you through this passage?** Page 4

## **Gospel Reading – Luke 7:11-17 – Roman Missal**

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity for her and said to her, “Do not weep.” He stepped forward and touched the coffin; at this the bearers halted, and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!” The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming, “A great prophet has arisen in our midst,” and “God has visited his people.” This report about him spread through the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.

## **Spiritual Reading – Office of Readings 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

From the beginning of a letter to the Romans by Saint Ignatius of Antioch, bishop and martyr

*I wish you to please God, and not men*

Ignatius, called Theophorus, to the church which has found mercy in the generosity of the Father on high and of Jesus Christ, his only Son; to the church which is loved and enlightened by the Father, who wills all that exists in accordance with the love of Jesus Christ our God; to the Church which rules over the land of the Romans, a church worthy of God, worthy of honor and of praise, worthy to be called blessed, worthy to receive the answer to its prayer, pure, and preeminent in love among Christian communities, observing the law of Christ and bearing the Father's name; I greet this church in the name of Jesus Christ, Son of the Father. To those who were in union, body and soul, with his every command, and filled inalienably with the grace of God, and cleansed wholly from all foreign stain, I wish every blameless joy in Jesus Christ our Lord. Through my prayers I have been granted the favor of seeing you, my holy brothers, face to face, as indeed I have constantly asked. I now hope to embrace you as a prisoner in Christ Jesus, provided that it is God's will for me to be found worthy to the end. For a good start has been made, if only I may gain the grace to secure my prize without hindrance. For I fear that your love may harm me. It is easy for you to do as you wish, but hard for me to attain to God if you should not allow me to be martyred. I wish you to please God and not men—as indeed you are doing. I shall never again have such an opportunity to get to

God, nor will you, if you keep silent, ever have the credit for a greater achievement. If you keep silent about me, I become a word of God; but if you love me in the flesh, I become a meaningless cry. Grant me no more than to be made a sacrifice to God while there is still an altar at hand. Thus you may form a choir of love and sing praise to the Father in Christ Jesus for so graciously summoning the bishop of Syria from the sun's rising to come to the place of its setting. It is a fine thing for me to set with the sun, leaving the world and going to God, that I may rise in him.

### **Do Not Weep – Lesson and Discussion**

*“Do not weep”*

**Why does Jesus tell the woman not to weep?** “He wished to moderate her excessive sorrow, and to teach us that we should not mourn for the loss of our relatives, like the heathens who have no hope of resurrection to eternal life (Thess. 4:12). Resignation to the will of God with prayer and good works, will be of more use to the dead than many tears.”[1]

**What similes can be drawn from the mother?** The mother in this story is like our mother Mary who wept for her Son on the cross. The mother is also like the Church who weeps for us. “May Mother Church weep for you for she intervenes for each of her children as the widowed mother intervened for her only son...And may a multitude of people [the people of the faithful] share in the grief of the good mother”[2].

**Why does Jesus show compassion for the mother?** Father Gabriel writes, “Perhaps the weeping woman made him think of another mother, his own, who would one day see him dying on the cross, and, later, contemplate him risen.”[3] “So He goes up to her and says, ‘Do not weep’ (Luke 7:13). It is like saying, ‘I don’t want to see your crying; I have come on earth to bring joy and peace.’ And then comes the miracle, the sign of the power of Christ who is God. But first came his compassion an evident sign of the tenderness of the heart of Christ the man.”[4]

**Why does Jesus raise the child from the dead?** It was because He was so moved with compassion and pity for the woman who had lost everything that was important to her, her only son. Luke says that Jesus was “moved with compassion”. This could be similar to the compassion he had with Lazarus and moved to tears. “He could have passed by or waited until they called him. But He didn’t. He took the initiative, because He was moved by a widow’s sorrow.”[5]

**What else does this resurrection show us of the child?** The resurrection of the child shows us a couple of things. First, it shows that Jesus is the messiah. He has the power to raise the dead. In the first reading we read of Elijah bringing a child back to life not by his own power, but through prayers to the Father. In the gospel reading Jesus under His own power brings the boy back to life. Many people who saw the miracle

thought he was like Elijah in bringing the dead back to life. This is why they call Jesus a “prophet”. Jesus shows us on more than one occasion He has this power to raise the dead.

The child’s resurrection also shows us that we too will one day be raised from the dead by the power of Jesus Christ. Jesus tells us to not weep too bitterly for those who have died, because He will raise us all up on the last day.

Finally, the miracle of the raising of the boy from death shows us the foreshadowing of Christ’s death and resurrection. When He would be taken out of the city, die, and be buried while His mother wept. It shows that Jesus rose from the dead just as He promised, and has the power to rise all from the dead.

**Where else in Scripture does Jesus raise people from the dead?** We know of two other stories in the Gospels similar to the one we read today. Besides today’s reading: The raising of Jairus’ daughter (Mark 5:35-43), and the raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-44)

**What can we take from this Gospel Reading and apply it to our day and time?** Just as Jesus shows perfect compassion and charity so too must we strive to show love and compassion to *everyone* we meet. “We should ask ourselves in our prayer today whether we know how to love everybody who crosses our path in this life, whether we have a real concern for their misfortunes, a concern that leads us to act in an effective way; thus, when we come to our daily examination of conscience we will find in the course of it that we have many acts of charity and of mercy we can offer to God.”[6] “We should ask Our Lord to give us a good heart, capable of having compassion for other people’s pain. Only with such a heart can we realize that the true balm for the suffering and anguish in this world is love, charity. All other consolations hardly even have a temporary effect and leave behind them bitterness and despair.”[7]