

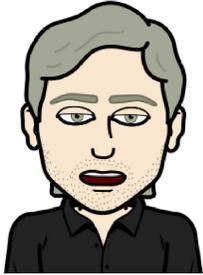
Lectio Divina (“Divine Reading”) originated in the monasteries but it’s a practice that can benefit all Catholics. I’d suggest looking up the daily Mass readings and prayerfully reading at least the Gospel. If you are ambitious, begin with the beginning of the New Testament and read for one half hour. After reading a small section of Scripture, ask yourself the following questions:



1. *Lectio* (Reading) - what does the biblical text say in itself?
2. *Meditatio* (Meditation) - what does the biblical text say to us?
3. *Oratio* (Prayer) - what do we say to the Lord in response to his word?
4. *Contemplatio* (Contemplation) - what conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of us?

N.B. I was told that YouTube sensation Father Chad Ripperger recommends that Catholics try to spend one half hour prayerfully doing Lectio Divinia, especially if you suffer from an addiction.

## Not Cool.



Saint Peter’s Parish was founded nearly 200 years ago by Irish immigrants. For many years we were known as the “Irish” parish of Poughkeepsie. For those of you who don’t know, England became Protestant permanently under Queen Elizabeth who ruled from 1558-1603. During her reign approximately 130 Catholic priests were executed. Many of them were hung, drawn and quartered. Lay Catholics lost their lives too. England tried to impose Protestantism on the Irish. In theory, all you had to do was kiss the ring, go to Anglican services (Church of England). Then, you would enjoy the rights and benefits of an Englishman. The Irish, overwhelming, refused to do it.

Listed below are some of the laws the Irish had to live under. Don’t drink the modern Kool-aid that all religions are the same. They are not. Our ancestors would rather die, starve or emigrate than buy that malarky.

Some of the laws included:

- Exclusion of Catholics from holding public office
- No Catholic could vote or be elected to office.
- A ban was imposed upon Catholics from owning land.
- Catholics could not lease land for longer than thirty one years and rent was equal to two thirds of the yearly value of the land.
- Catholics were not allowed to hold arms or be a member of the armed forces.
- If a Catholic landholder died, his estate could not be passed to the eldest son unless that son was a Protestant. Otherwise, it was to be shared by all the surviving sons.
- A ban was imposed upon the intermarriage between Catholics and Protestants.
- Catholics could not be an orphan’s guardian.
- Catholics were barred from living in many provincial towns.
- Catholic clergy were to be registered and were required to take an oath of loyalty, but friars, monks, hierarchy and Jesuits were to be exiled
- Places of worship could not have a steeple or display a cross.
- Catholics and dissenters were required to pay tithes to the Anglican Church of Ireland which was the Established Church.
- Catholics could not establish schools or send their children abroad for education.