

FEBRUARY 21, 2016  
SECOND SUNDAY  
IN LENT

taking+  
faith  
home

*God protect us in troubled times.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 13:31-35	Jesus' sorrow over Jerusalem
Monday	Zechariah 8:1-8,14-23	The Lord is jealous for Zion
Tuesday	Hosea 11:1-11	God's love for Israel
Wednesday	Jeremiah 31:1-14	The Lord will rebuild Israel
Thursday	Romans 11:25-32	All Israel will be saved
Friday	Revelation 21:1-27	The new Jerusalem
Saturday	Psalms 105:1-12,47-48	God remembers his covenant
Sunday	Luke 13:1-9	Parable of the fig tree

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

In times of trouble, you will protect me. You will hide me in your tent and keep me safe on top of a mighty rock. **Psalm 27:5 (CEV)**

#### **SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:**

##### **A Prayer for the Week:**

O God, during our times of joy and gladness as well as during times of pain and sadness, keep us firmly in the grip of your eternal care. Amen.

##### **Mealtime Prayer:**

All things below, all things above, are gifts of your amazing love. Thanks be to you, O God. Amen.

##### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God gather you into loving arms. May God hear your prayers for help and answer you with kindness. Amen.



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### CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- Psalm 27 is a song of trust for times of fear. Talk about a time you were scared. How does faith in Jesus who journeys to Jerusalem and the cross make a difference in our lives when we are scared?
- Jesus longed to gather the people of Jerusalem to himself like a mother hen gathers her chicks. What does this tell us about the kind of God we have in Jesus?
- Have you ever felt Jesus "gather" you close to him? When and how?

### DEVOTIONS



Read Psalm 27 during the week. Each time you read it, think about what words or themes from the psalm seem important that day. Make those words and themes into a time of prayer.

### SERVICE



Everyone experiences times of trouble and fear. Be ready to reach out to someone facing a difficult time. Listen to that person with care, write a card of support, offer a prayer and /or read Psalm 27 with him or her.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Lent is a time to emphasize the Christian practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Your home observance of Lent can be enhanced by the use of symbols to focus on these practices. Consider using the following symbols in the coming weeks:

- **Cross or Crucifix:** Put it in a prominent place as a powerful way to reflect on God's love
- **Bowl of water:** As a reminder of baptism, mark yourself or another person with the sign of the cross
- **Bowl of Sand or Dirt:** Reminds us of Jesus' forty days of temptation, prayer, and fasting in the desert
- **Bible:** Read from the Bible each day
- **Jar:** Place coins and bills in the jar to be given to a charity of your choice
- **Empty Dish:** Consider simple meals and other forms of fasting during Lent



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)