



Prayer Leader's Guide

Guide #37 - THE PRODIGAL SON

We use *The New Catholic Picture Bible*

by Father Lawrence Lovasik

Today's Bible Story is on Page 177

**Be sure to have a copy of the Holy Hour program*

EXPOSITION

- *Please stand. When Father/Deacon opens the tabernacle, we will kneel and sing together **O Saving Victim**, found on the first page of our program.*

GREET JESUS

- *Jesus, we are very happy to be here to make our visit with You. Thank You for always being here for us in the tabernacle and now being exposed on the altar in the beautiful monstrance. (long pause)*

OPENING PRAYERS

- *Jesus, we begin our time with You by calling upon our Holy Guardian Angel and all the many - myriads and myriads of Holy Angels here with us right now. We ask the Holy Angels to help us adore You. (pause) Together we pray: **Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule and to guide. Amen.***
- *We also call upon the mighty Prince of the Heavenly Host, Saint Michael. We ask Saint Michael to protect our visit with You by helping us banish all distractions. Jesus, we want to keep our mind and our heart only on You. Together we pray: **Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen. (long pause)***
- *Jesus, we know that Your Sacred Heart is on fire with love for each one of us. (pause) There on the altar, Your Sacred Heart is beating with love for us as You continually pour out Your love upon us. (long pause) Jesus, we know that our beautiful Blessed Mother Mary loves You more than anyone who ever lived. We want her to help us love You more and more. We want our hearts to be on fire with love for You, just like Mother Mary. (pause) Jesus, just as You entrusted Yourself to Mother Mary at Your Incarnation - when You, God, became Man - we also want to entrust ourselves to her as we now pray the Prayer to Our Blessed Mother together: **My Queen and my Mother, I give myself entirely to you; and to show my devotion to you, I consecrate to you this day my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my whole being without reserve. Therefore, good Mother, as I am your own, keep me, guard me as your child. Amen. (pause)***

**OPENING
PRAYERS**
continued

- *Finally, Jesus, with all the love in our hearts, we offer You our 100,000 Heartbeats Prayer. Together we pray: Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, truly present on the altar in the little white Host, I love You! I love You with all my heart and I know You love me with all Your Heart. Jesus, my heart beats around 100,000 times a day. I want each one of my heartbeats to say: Jesus, I love You! Jesus, I love You! Jesus, I love You!*
(very long pause)

**BIBLE
STORY**

- *Jesus, we will now prepare our hearts to offer You our Rosary decade. We do this by reading a Bible story. I invite the boys and girls to now sit and take out their Bibles. (pause) We open up to page 177. (pause) Let's take a look at the picture. (pause)*
- *There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, "Father, give me my share of the property." And when the father had given him his share, the young man went to a distant country and spent the money foolishly. And when he had spent all he had, there was a severe famine in that country, and he became hungry. So, he got a job as a keeper of pigs. For food he had to be satisfied with what was left over after the pigs had finished eating. When he came to his right mind, he said to himself, "How many of my father's servants have enough to eat and to spare, and here I am dying of hunger. I will go back to my father, and say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you, and am no longer worthy to be called your son. Let me be a hired servant in your house.'" So he started homeward. But while he was still a long way off, the father saw him. He ran to meet him, and kissed him and held him tightly. "Father, I have done wrong in the sight of God, and of you!" cried the boy; "I am not worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Bring out the best clothes and put them on him, and put a ring on his finger, and shoes on his feet, and let us feast and be glad today, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found!" And they had a great feast. But the elder son had been out in the field all the while, and now he came near to the house. (pause) "How many years have I obeyed you," said the elder son to his father, "and you never even gave me a young goat to eat with my friends. But now that this rascal comes back after wasting all your money, you give a grand feast for him!" "Son," said his father, "you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. Let us be happy and rejoice, for your brother was dead, and has come to life; he was lost, and is found." (long pause)*

ROSARY DECADE

- *Boys and girls, it's time to offer our Rosary decade. Please take out your Rosary and kneel.*
- *Find the Crucifix on the end of your Rosary beads. Let's give the Crucifix a kiss. (*Kiss the Crucifix*)*
- *Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the Cross for us.*
- *We make the Sign of the Cross together: **In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***
- *Now let's find the fifth decade on our Rosary beads.*
- *Jesus, with all the love in our hearts, we offer You the fifth Sorrowful Mystery, Your Crucifixion. When You died on the Cross, You shed Your Precious Blood to wash away our sins. We ask for the grace to admit when we are wrong and to say that we are sorry. Please let us never be afraid to go to the Sacrament of Confession; the Sacrament of Your mercy and forgiveness. (*Pause*)*
- *Boys and girls, I'll say the first part of the prayer, you say the second. (*Pause*)*
- *(Prayer leader) **Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. They will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.***
- *(Boys and girls) **Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.***
- *(Prayer leader) **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.***
- *(Boys and girls) **Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen. (2 times)***
- *Jesus, we now come to our very last Hail Mary. We pause and call this one our Golden Hail Mary. Our Golden Hail Mary is when we tell You our own special intentions. If it is important to us then it is important to You because You don't want us to be worried about anything. Jesus, we will now tell You from our hearts what we need You to help us with. (*very long pause*) Jesus, we know that You are going to answer each of our prayers in the very best way. Sometimes we might not think it is best but You know all things from the beginning to the very end so we trust that You are always working things out for our very best.*
- *Boys and girls, together we pray: **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.***
- *Boys and girls, let's bow our heads down low. Our body shows what is in our hearts and that is adoration for God. (*pause*) We adore God who is truly before us on the altar. (*Very long pause of adoration silence*) Together we pray: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***
- *Let's come back up and look at Jesus on the altar. (*Pause*) We will now pray the prayer that our beautiful Blessed Mother taught the three children at Fatima. She asked us to pray this prayer at the end of every Rosary decade.*

**ROSARY
DECADE**
continued

- *Jesus, we know this must be very important since You sent our beautiful Mother Mary from Heaven to teach us this prayer.*
- *Boys and girls, let's hold out our hand toward Jesus on the altar and offer Him this very special prayer. Together we pray: **O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy. Amen.***
- *Now let's find the Crucifix again at the end of our Rosary beads and give the Crucifix one more kiss. (**Kiss the Crucifix**) Together we make the Sign of the Cross: **In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***
- *Boys and girls, have a seat.*

**QUIET
PRAYER
TIME**

- *Jesus, now it is time for Quiet Prayer Time. Quiet Prayer Time is a time of silence. We can sit or kneel and just enjoy being in Your Presence. We can quietly talk with You Heart-to-heart. We can look at the Bible story again or any of the stories in our Bible and slowly read it with You. If we brought a journal, we can use our gifts and talents to write a special poem or a song for You. We can draw a beautiful picture for You as our gift. Jesus, there are many wonderful ways that we can quietly pray during our Quiet Prayer Time with You now.*

**BENEDICTION
PREPARATION**

- *Jesus, in just a moment we will have Benediction. When Father/Deacon holds You up high, You will bless us, pouring graces upon us, and through us to our families, to our country and the whole world. We open up our hearts to all You want to give us today.*

BENEDICTION

- *Take out your program now and kneel. Together we will sing the Benediction Hymn "Down in Adoration Falling." (**follow the order of Benediction in the program**)*

**CLOSING
HYMN**

- *(**After Father/Deacon closes the tabernacle**) Please stand. We will sing our closing hymn "Holy God We Praise Thy Name."*
- *(**After the hymn**) Thank you for coming. We hope to see you at our next Guided Eucharistic Holy Hour on _____ . (**Any other announcements**)*

