

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Our journey continues in 2024, with our scriptural exploration of the theme, “Stepping out with Soul.” Here in the Diocese of El Camino Real, our Congregations, Committees and Governing Bodies engage in Lectio Divina as part of a shared practice throughout the year. We connect with each other through common reading and reflection.

If you haven’t participated in this type of study before, I would encourage you to join this time. Conversation that centers around scripture focuses our work together and strengthens our commitment to follow Jesus. Being on pilgrimage together, with scripture as our focus, equips us for the journey and holds us accountable to each other for our mutual well-being and the growth of God’s work in the Diocese.

Our theme for this year, “Stepping out with Soul,” is an extension of our pilgrimage journey. When we look at scripture through the lens of what it means to take this step in this way, we find countless examples of people who have engaged soulfully with their own spiritual and practical journeys. We allow ourselves to become open and surprised by connections that we find and lively contributions of others with whom we share the conversation.

The Diocesan Staff and I have compiled a list of readings for your use in Lectio Divina. Beyond the initial questions of “What word, phrase or image strikes you in the reading,” there are other questions that may be posed—and of course, you should ask your own. Here are some possible ways to approach the readings:

- ❖ *In what ways do you see “stepping out with soul” in the reading?*
- ❖ *What invitation is God extending to you through this text?*
- ❖ *Where does your life, your work, your ministry intersect with the text?*

It is my prayer that this journey through scripture will inform, encourage, and sustain our work this year. May the blessing of these offerings strengthen you and lead you to a place of new reflection, new understandings, and a renewed joy in our shared journey.

Faithfully,

+Lucinda and the Diocesan Staff

Lectio Divina 2024
Stepping out with Soul

Month	Reading	Description
January	Matthew 14:22-33	Peter walks on water
February	Genesis 21:14-21	Hagar goes to the desert
March	John 3:1-8	Nicodemus
April	Job 42:1-6	Job gets his answer
May	2 Samuel 6:16-19	David dances
June	John 1:29-34	John and Jesus
July	Joshua 6:1-7	Joshua and Jericho
August	1 Kings 17:8-16	Elijah and the widow
September	John 2:1-11	Wedding at Cana
October	Exodus 2:1-10	Moses in the bulrushes
November	Esther 5:1-8	Esther and the King
December	Luke 1:46-56	Mary's Song