

# Advent Reflections

December 13, 2019



St. Lucy's story truly impacted me because of her sacrifice and commitment to her faith and others. Surely we could use more of that today. I struggled with this reading at first glance, for it seemed to be going in many directions. As I read the prayer and readings repeatedly, I continued to be rerouted in my process back to the central themes that it embodied.

Sacrifice, discipline, commitment and abundance.

As a professor, I feel it is my duty to be committed and disciplined enough to teach in ways that incorporate God into my lectures; to remind my students that work and dedication to learning reaps great rewards - as does our commitment to the Lord. This will bring them an abundance of knowledge and maybe closer to God through virtuous actions. *"If you would hearken to my commandments, your prosperity would be like a river."*

In my business ethics course, I teach a theory of "virtuous teaching cycle"; it is a process of teacher and student to share stories of virtuous and ethical acts. Once the student has learned this, they then tell the story to another student who then becomes the teacher. It's a cycle of replanting seeds of virtuous acts that keep getting planted repeatedly with the hope that we have a positive and virtuous impact on those we encounter.

This time of the season it is more important than ever we follow St. Lucy and God in our sacrifice, discipline, and commitment to each other to build our bond "that yields the fruit of the due season" with God and each other.

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**Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**  
**Lectionary: 185**

**Reading 1** [IS 48:17-19](#)

Thus says the LORD, your redeemer,  
the Holy One of Israel:  
I, the LORD, your God,  
teach you what is for your good,  
and lead you on the way you should go.  
If you would hearken to my commandments,  
your prosperity would be like a river,  
and your vindication like the waves of the sea;  
Your descendants would be like the sand,  
and those born of your stock like its grains,  
Their name never cut off  
or blotted out from my presence.

**Responsorial Psalm** [PS 1:1-2, 3, 4 AND 6](#)

**R. (see John 8:12) Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.**

Blessed the man who follows not  
the counsel of the wicked  
Nor walks in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the company of the insolent,  
But delights in the law of the LORD  
and meditates on his law day and night.

**R. Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.**

He is like a tree  
planted near running water,  
That yields its fruit in due season,  
and whose leaves never fade.  
Whatever he does, prospers.

**R. Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.**

Not so the wicked, not so;  
they are like chaff which the wind drives away.  
For the LORD watches over the way of the just,  
but the way of the wicked vanishes.

**R. Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.**

**Alleluia**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Lord will come; go out to meet him!  
He is the prince of peace.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel [MT 11:16-19](#)**

Jesus said to the crowds:

"To what shall I compare this generation?

It is like children who sit in marketplaces and call to one another,

'We played the flute for you, but you did not dance,

we sang a dirge but you did not mourn.'

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they said,

'He is possessed by a demon.'

The Son of Man came eating and drinking and they said,

'Look, he is a glutton and a drunkard,

a friend of tax collectors and sinners.'

But wisdom is vindicated by her works."