

Sunday Readings Reflections **7/24/2016**

Reading 1 [Genesis 18:20-32](#)

Could the author of Genesis have come up with a better story to show the power of prayer and just how merciful God is? Here we see Abraham pleading with God, praying a beautiful prayer for mercy. Abraham's prayer shows us how close he was to God. It also shows that God always listens to our prayers. God's mercy is so great!

Reading 2 [Colossians 2:12-14](#)

When you were baptized, you were freed from sin and given new life through water and the Holy Spirit. It is this new life of grace that Paul speaks of today. He reminds Christians that Jesus has canceled the "debt" of our sins by his death on the cross. Our new life is not just something for later, after we die. It begins now!

Gospel [Luke 11:1-13](#)

What a wonderful scene Luke paints for us today! The disciples watch Jesus at prayer. They see how much prayer means to him. One of them gets up the nerve to ask, "Lord, will you teach us to pray?" And Jesus responds by sharing the Lord's Prayer with them. (This is a shorter version than the one we pray from Matthew 6:9-13.) Then Jesus completes his lesson prayer by telling two parables. The first urges us to persist in prayer. The second reminds us that we do not always pray for the right things. God knows best how our prayers should be answered

©2015 Sadlier Religion. All Rights Reserved. Used with Permission. www.sadlierreligion.com