



*Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents
Whose Children of Any Age Have Died by Any Cause,
No Matter How Long Ago*

**Your Emmaus Ministry
Remote Retreat Guide
September 5, 2020
9:30am EDT
(or a convenient time for you)**

DELIVER US FROM EVIL

"The Devil's greatest evil is convincing us he doesn't exist"

As grieving parents, we have control over what we do with our pain.
We can either spiral downward- -or strive to make some
good come out of our pain.

It is the job of the Devil every day
to make sure that we are spiralling downward.

Recognizing and acknowledging his presence in our lives is the first step to overcoming the clutches of his evil.



Preparation:

Ahead of time, we recommend you find a quiet place in your home where you can immerse yourself in this retreat. Have your child's Emmaus Memorial Candle (or other candle) available along with a lighter or matches.

Take several deep breaths to cleanse your thoughts and open yourself to wherever the Holy Spirit is calling you today several minutes before the retreat is scheduled to begin.

At 9:30am EDT open your email and join other fellow Emmaus Parent Companions in getting away from the rest of the world, at least for a time, to focus on God and on your precious child.

CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER (Light your candle)

We begin... In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen

Lord, you are the Light of the World. *Help us feel your presence in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us the gift of our children. *Help us feel their presence in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us the hope of eternal life. *Help us confirm that hope in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us love. *Help us to know that, as much as we love our children, you love them even more.*

We ask you this through Christ, Our Lord
Amen.

OPENING SONG: [Animas Christi \(Soul of Christ\)](#) by St. Francis de Sales Sunday PM Choir
From all the evil that surrounds me, defend me.

PRAYER OF THOSE MAKING A RETREAT

Loving Spirit of Wisdom,
Guide my thoughts and my memories.

In the light of your love,
May I see what is important for me to remember,
What is important for me to hold to my heart,
And what I need to simply let go of in peace.

I trust you to be my guide,
Even when the path seems unclear to me.

We pray this in the name of Your Son, the Healer,
Our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Thessalonians, Chapter 2: 1-17

We ask you, brothers, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our assembling with him, not to be shaken out of your minds suddenly, or to be alarmed either by a “spirit, or by an oral statement, or by a letter allegedly from us to the effect that the day of the Lord is at hand.

Let no one deceive you in any way. For unless the apostasy comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one doomed to perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god and object of worship, so as to seat himself in the temple of God, claiming that he is a god—

Do you not recall that while I was still with you I told you these things?

And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his time.

For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. But the one who restrains is to do so only for the present, until he is removed from the scene.

And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord [Jesus] will kill with the breath of his mouth and render powerless by the manifestation of his coming,

the one whose coming springs from the power of Satan in every mighty deed and in signs and wonders that lie,

and in every wicked deceit for those who are perishing because they have not accepted the love of truth so that they may be saved.

Therefore, God is sending them a deceiving power so that they may believe the lie, that all who have not believed the truth but have approved wrongdoing may be condemned.

But we ought to give thanks to God for you always, brothers loved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in truth.

To this end he has [also] called you through our gospel to possess the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, brothers, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught, either by an oral statement or by a letter of ours.

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION #1: [The Devil in the Details of Daily Life](#) by William Ornum

"It does not matter how small the sins are, provided that their cumulative effect is to edge the man away from the Light and out into the Nothing. Murder is not better than cards, if cards will do the trick."



Take a moment to pause... breathe... savor what you have received from the Reflection #1.

Clear your mind before focusing on Reflection #2.

REFLECTION #2: [Letter #1, Screwtape Letters](#), Providence College
We are the "Patients;" God is the "Enemy;" and Satan is "Our Father Below"

PRAYER OF ST. MICHAEL

**Saint Michael 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 through the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: [Our Father](#) by St. Francis de Sales Sunday PM Choir

Deliver us from evil.

CLOSING BLESSING

Let us end our time of retreat...united with Brother John Maganzini, OFM and the Franciscan Friars at Saint Anthony Shrine in Boston, MA, by blessing one another.

Raise your right hand and, together, let us pray...

Deliver us from evil, O Lord,

May we remain strong in the face of the Evil One and his kingdom of darkness.

May we confront his kingdom with confidence, love and truth so as to bring forth your Kingdom in its place.

May we be free from the deceit and attacks of the Evil One.

May we repent our sins daily to rob from the Evil One all weapons of his malice.

May we never forget the abundance of your mercy

As we bless each other in solidarity, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

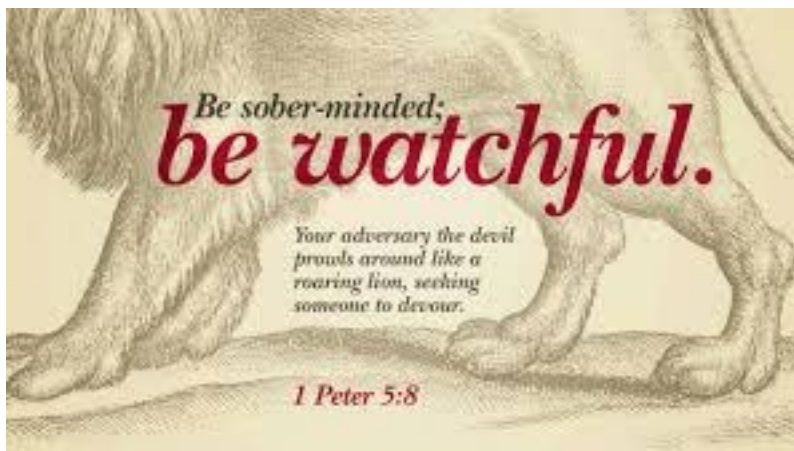


**FOR FURTHER
REFLECTION...**

[Screwtape Letters](#) by C.S. Lewis
The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis is a short, classic masterpiece of religious satire that entertains readers with its sly and ironic portrayal of human life and foibles from the vantage point of Screwtape, a highly placed assistant to "Our Father Below."

At once wildly comic, deadly serious, and strikingly original, C.S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters* is the most engaging account of temptation—and triumph over it—ever written.

[The Demonic Vision That Inspired the Prayer to St. Michael](#) by Philip Kosloski



You will receive a new Emmaus Remote Retreat email next Friday.

Please join your fellow Emmaus Parent Companions again next Saturday at 9:30am EDT

Until then, may God bless you and keep you. Sending many warm, virtual hugs

For past Remote Retreats, see [here](#).

NEW!
FALL. 2020
EMMAUS MINISTRY
FOUR-HOUR VIRTUAL RETREATS!
[See our website for more details.](#)



