



A weekly reflection by members  
of the Precious Blood Community

**January 14, 2026**

**Fr. Greg Evers, C.P.P.S.**

“Prayer is then not just a formula of words...it is the orientation of our whole body, mind and spirit to God in silence, attention and adoration. All good meditative prayer is a conversion of our entire self to God.” – Thomas Merton



From our readings today, what catches my attention is a line from the first reading, “a revelation of the LORD was uncommon and vision infrequent.” From time to time a parishioner will come to me and tell me they have been struggling recently in their prayer life. They would be praying but they don’t feel like anything happens. They don’t feel peace in their hearts, they don’t feel close to God and they’re not sure what to do from there. In some ways, prayer almost feels fruitless.

I can remember while I was in formation I would see a spiritual director about once a month. During some of our sessions, I would share similar words. I would feel that my prayer life has gone dry, I don’t feel like I’m growing spiritually, etc. My director would remind me though that one of the most important aspects of prayer is that we make the effort to show up. No amount of time that we spend in prayer with God is ever wasted. Even if we don’t feel a sense of peace or closeness with God or whatever feeling we come to expect from prayer, our time is never wasted.

I think Eli’s advice to the young Samuel is helpful for all of us. Sometimes what is asked of us in prayer is to simply show up, be present and listen. We can’t force or compel God to say or do anything. God speaks on God’s own time. On our end, our responsibility is to

show up, to be present and to listen. God continues to work begun within us to fruition whether we are aware of it or not.

*Fr. Greg Evers, C.P.P.S. has been a definitively incorporated member of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood since 2022 and a priest since July 2023. He currently serves as parochial vicar at [St. James the Less Catholic Church](#) in Columbus, Ohio. To learn more about the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, [click here](#).*

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