



Jesus gives meaning and purpose to the vision of Isaiah by telling us that we are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. He declares our identity in Him. The light we shine through him cannot be hidden, it must be as visible as a city on a mountain. The good that we do as Isaiah prophesies is how this light shines. And what is the ultimate intent of all these? It is to glorify the Father in heaven.

In striving to foster inclusivity and strengthen relationships, how do these readings challenge us?

SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Isaiah 58: 7-10
Psalm 111: 4-9
1 Corinthians 2: 1-5
Matthew 5: 13-16



A church that is truly 'salt' works to preserve the dignity of every human person, ensuring no one is forgotten. The members have each other's back. **A church that is truly 'light' does not hide its lamp under the bushel, does not consist only of inward-looking parishioners, but is a church with a missionary outlook** engaging in the works envisioned by Isaiah in the first reading. In short, being a member of the Church is to be a person who joins forces to build bridges of solidarity. These then with every member, build the Body of Christ in a shared mission of love.

St Paul adds to the vitality of how to build the Body of Christ. That each member of the body comes, proclaiming the mystery of Christ, not with sublimity of words or wisdom. That we must resolved to know nothing while with each other, except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

That it is truly with a demonstration of Spirit and power, that our faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

It is the love of God that binds us. It is his light that makes us visible. When we commit ourselves to build His Body, it is a journey of inclusivity and relationship building. A just man is light in darkness to the upright. Every member of the Body counts. ✚

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Responding to the new needs of mission requires opening up to new forms of pastoral action that take into account the mobility of people and the space in which their life unfolds.

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NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | 5th Sunday In Ordinary Time | 8 February 2026

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND AWARENESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS A SYNODAL AND PROPHETIC CHURCH

A People for Missionary Discipleship

MONTHLY FOCUS:
CHURCH:
Fostering Inclusivity



The Just Man is A Light In Darkness To The Upright

Today, the readings speak specifically to every individual, and to us as Church. A just man is light in darkness to the upright when his life is attuned to the heart of Jesus. The Psalmist sums it all, about this just man. Someone who lives according to the path of blessedness of the Beatitudes, the sermon Jesus gives on the Mount that we reflected on last week.