



**SCRIPTURE
of the DAY**

Zephaniah 2: 3, 3: 12-13
Psalm 145: 6-10
1 Corinthians 1: 26-31
Matthew 5: 1-12



Zephaniah's vision is one of inclusivity built on shared virtues. And we see the fulfilment of this in the Beatitudes. Jesus fills the vision of the prophet, and gives us much insights on how we can help build an inclusive Church centred on Christ:

Blessed the Church poor in Spirit – As Church we realise our complete dependence on God. Emptying ourselves before Him, ready to receive His grace in everything, especially in the building and strengthening of relationship between all members, the Body of Christ.

Blessed the Church who Mourns – We hide not our wounds, but open ourselves to vulnerability and brokenness before the Lord who heals through the Sacraments, primarily the Eucharist and Reconciliation. We, in turn, become the source of comfort to a wounded world.

Blessed the Church who is Meek – We seek influences through service, and exercise power with gentle strength for meekness is strength in control.

Blessed the Church who hungers and thirsts for Righteousness – We are never to be satisfied with a superficial faith or complacency but instead strive with a holy passion, seeking God's justice in all circumstances that demands it.

Blessed the Merciful Church – The Church is a sanctuary of grace and mercy is the name. A merciful Church creates a culture of second chances, where souls are won over for Christ.

Blessed the Church Pure in Heart – A church who seeks to worship God in Spirit and in Truth. Away with hypocrisy, private agendas and divided loyalties. God is made visible when the Church is One.

Blessed the Church who is a Peacemaker – A church courageously seeking to reconcile and unite, building bridges of peace and unity, resembling the Prince of Peace.

Blessed the Church who is persecuted – Where it is an honour to share in the suffering of Christ, and standing tall in the face of persecution because she is faithful to the Gospel.

Blessed, therefore the **Church of the Beatitudes**. May we truly be the visible expression of God's grace in the Body of Christ, the Church. ✚

The parish community that gathers in the celebration of the Eucharist is a privileged place of relationships, welcome, discernment and mission.

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NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | 4th Sunday In Ordinary Time | 1 February 2026

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS A SYNODAL AND PROPHETIC CHURCH

A People for Missionary Discipleship

MONTHLY FOCUS: **CHURCH: Fostering Inclusivity**

Church of the Beatitudes

The Beatitudes in the gospel give us the impetus to move forward as Church, our focus for February. We shall unpack the readings to help us connect to them. Prophet Zephaniah sets the stage by describing the kind of remnant God wants to gather. It is a community characterised by those who are just and humble as they seek to obey God's law.

