

Sirach
26, 1-4, 13-16

Selection B8

A Reading from the Book of Sirach.

Blessed the husband of a good wife,

Twice-lengthened are his days;

A worthy wife brings joy to her husband,
peaceful and full is his life.

A good wife is a generous gift,

bestowed upon him who fears the Lord;

Be he rich or poor, his heart is content,
And a smile is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delights her husband,

her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;

A gift from the Lord is her governed speech,
and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.

Choicest of blessings is a modest wife,
priceless her chaste soul.

A holy and decent woman adds grace upon grace;

Indeed, no price is worthy of her temperate soul.

Like the sun rising in the Lord's heavens,

the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

The Word of the Lord.