



Archdiocese of New Orleans

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To the Clergy, Religious and Laity of the Archdiocese of New Orleans

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Pope Francis has named the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time as **Sunday of the Word of God**. It is to be an annual observance in order to help us grow in a deeper appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures.

When we gather on Sunday or for any Mass, God speaks his word to us through the Scriptures. Our desire is to open our ears and our hearts to listen attentively. May I suggest that we could more effectively do this by reading the Sunday Scriptures before Mass in order to prepare our hearts to receive his word.

As we reflect on the importance of the Word of God in our lives, it would be an opportunity to give some consideration to joining a Bible study group, reading a few verses of Scripture every day or reading a book explaining the Scriptures.

God speaks to us in many ways, but in a very unique way, through the Scriptures. By praying the Scriptures, we will know of God's personal love for us and his call to be disciples of Jesus.

Wishing you God's blessings, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond
Archbishop of New Orleans

GMA/jm

Please read on the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time at all Masses.