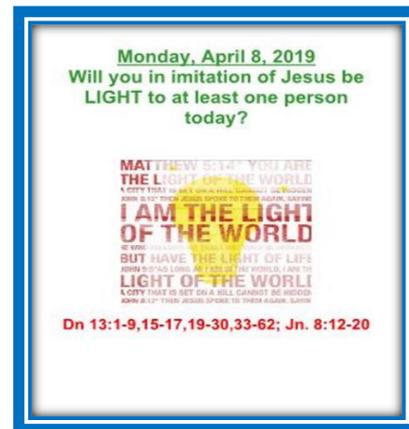
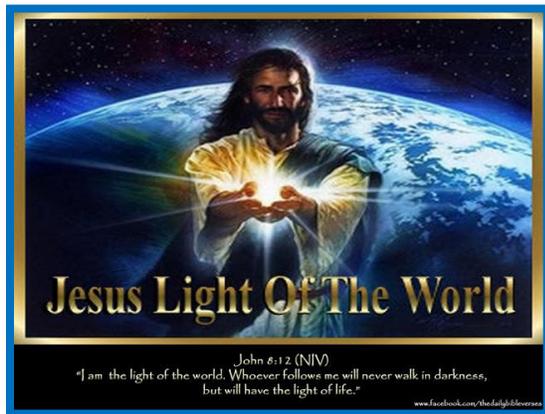


## HOMILY



We are aware that with the growing of the light, there is also an increase of life. Many of us feel more alive not that the days are getting longer. Nature is also beginning to come alive again with the longer days and the increase in light. When Jesus speaks about ‘the light of life’ in today’s gospel reading, we have no difficulty in recognizing the relationship between light and life. Jesus had just declared himself to be ‘the light of the world’. He brings the light of God into the world.

### **Jesus the Light and effects of that light in my life**

What did Jesus mean by the expression I am the light of the world and light of life (John 8:12)?

1. The light Jesus came to give is the light of God's revelation - his beauty, truth, wisdom, and power. God's light exposes the darkness of sin which is often hidden and sometimes even unknown to us.
2. His light brings healing, pardon, and restoration as well - freeing us from the burden of guilt and the scars of sin's effect on us - physically, spiritually, intellectually, and emotionally. We need God's penetrating light to shine into our innermost being so he can remove wrong patterns of thoughts, attitudes, and hurtful desires.
3. Sin and every form of wrong-doing cloud our vision of what is good and right and lead us down the wrong path away from God's truth and righteousness (moral goodness). God's light shows us the way that leads to peace, joy, happiness, and fulfillment.

4. The light which the Lord Jesus offers produces in us abundant life and great fruitfulness. Just as natural life depends on light for energy, warmth, and growth (without it nothing could live or grow), so the light of God's kingdom power produce in us new life in the Holy Spirit and the abundant fruits of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, self-control (Galatians 5:22,23).
5. The light which the Lord Jesus gives enables us to walk freely and confidently without stumbling in the darkness of sin, ignorance, and unbelief.
6. His light warms our heart to the truth of God's love and it opens our eyes to recognize the reality of God's kingdom at work within us.

Do you walk confidently in the light of God's truth and love?

We may find ourselves in great personal darkness, for whatever reason. Even in such moments, we remain in the Lord's light, the light of life. It is above all when we find ourselves in some darkness of spirit that we need to remind ourselves that we are enveloped in this divine light which remains undimmed, regardless of our own personal circumstances.

In these dark days for the universal/local church, we are called to keep the Lord in view, so that his light may enlighten and guide us and keep us hopeful.

**Let us pray:**

Lord Jesus, true light and source of all light, send the radiance of your light to shine in my heart and cast out from my heart the darkness of sin and bring me to the light of your Truth. Make me true to your teaching; keep me free from all errors. Fill me with zeal for Your house that I may be radiant lights in Your Church.

**Jesus, I trust in you**