

## The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 25 January 2026

### The Word of God Sunday

Pope Francis on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019, declared that the third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God. A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event, but rather a yearlong event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Sacred Scriptures, and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and is present in the breaking of the bread around the table of believers.

At the Second Vatican Council in 1965, “DEI VERBUM was released, The Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation. Here is the preface of the document:

*Hearing the word of God with reverence and proclaiming it with faith, the sacred synod takes its direction from these words of Saint John: “We announce to you the eternal life which dwelt with the Father and was made visible to us. What we have seen and heard we announce to you, so that you may have fellowship with us and our common fellowship with the Father and His Son Jesus Christ.” (1 John 1:2-3)*

Therefore, following in the footsteps of the Council of Trent and of the First Vatican Council, this present council wishes to set forth authentic doctrine on divine revelation and how it is handed on, so that by hearing the message of salvation the whole world may believe, by believing it may hope, and by hoping it may love.

In just 26 short paragraphs Dei Verbum speaks of the handing on of Divine Revelation, its inspiration and interpretation, an Old Testament outline, a New Testament outline, and the pastoral approach to Sacred Scripture in light of the church today.

May we grow ever deeper in our love for the Word of God, remembering: *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1)*

Pax Christi,

Fr. Dave - Pastor

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