

Daily Word of Life

March 2023

“Chosen to Bring Hope”.

01	Wed Lk 11,29-32	Look out for conversion. Real conversion goes through true repentance. This is different from remorse. Repentance leads us to God, reconciliation, a fresh start and a change in behavior. Remorse, on the contrary, destroys us. Recognizing one's mistakes, asking for forgiveness, forgiving and starting over are attitudes that demonstrate wisdom and humility. It is the love of God that has value, that recycles the rubbish of past mistakes, manifesting the good that lives in us. Acknowledge mistakes and start over.
02	Thu Mt 7,7-12	Everything you want others to do you, do it too to them. This is the “golden rule” that can be lived by everyone, whatever their religion, philosophy or conviction. It is the basic law for living in family and community. It is the rule that builds unity and fraternity, that overthrows prejudice, indifference and hatred, even with small actions. It is concrete love that takes the initiative, knows how to serve and do good. The love of God also passes through the good we do to others. Strive to do good.
03	Fri Eze. 18,21-28	Abandon evil by doing good. It is difficult for us to admit that sometimes we do evil, we are vindictive, gossips, lazy, slanderous, liars, immoral, selfish, quarrelsome... among other attitudes of death. Our life is for good. While the feeling of guilt leads us to destruction, as it values evil and despair, regret, even in pain, leads us to believe in love again and makes us start over. It is a time that invites us to live the Word for a radical life change. start loving again.
04	Sat Dt 26,16-19	Receive and live the Word. “I understand that in history, especially in Germany, with Luther, what became very strong was how to live the Word [...] many come in dancing, the priest lifts the Bible and we clap our hands, but in terms of living concretely, we are still very shy. This needs to improve, we need to discover the value of the Word, discover God in every sentence he spoke when he was here among us”. (Fr. Hans Stapel, in: Father Christian Heim. Friar – A conversation with Hans Stapel, pp. 250-251)
05	Sun	Second Sunday of Lent – This is my beloved Son... Listen to him. (Mt 17,1-9)
06	Mon	Proceed as children of light. And the fruit of the light is every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. (Eph 5,8-9)
07	Tue Mt 23,1-12	He who humbles himself will be exalted. It's not playing the victim, nor submission and much less destruction of self-esteem. Humbling yourself is a firm and determined action to do good gratuitously without feelings of superiority. It is a behavior that promotes peace, unites people and helps to endure and overcome difficult times. It is building unity and recognizing that the point of reference is not us, but Jesus in our midst. It's the love that doesn't want to appear, but bends so as not to break. Act with humility.
08	Wed Mt 20,17-28	Whoever wants to be first, let him be your servant. How nice it would be if we entered into a competition to do good! It would be a very different day, with a championship of those who, in order to love, can be the first to wash the bathroom, clean the house, make the other's bed, prepare meals, provide help, unite and much more. We could be champions in the art of serving, donating, forgiving, starting over, etc. The first place, in life with God, is the one that allows us to make the other happy. Love first.
09	Thu Jer 17,5-10	Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord. Just like us, others also fail. To put the safety of our lives in the hands of people, no matter how good they are, is to invest in disappointment. Parents, siblings, children, spouses, friends or anyone else can never give us the fullness of life. Only God can. Trust, the basis of relationships, is solid when God's love is the basis of everything. When we trust in love we have the wisdom to build true bonds with those we meet. Trust the good.
10	Fri Mt 21,33-43.45-46	Deliver the fruits on time. We are not owners of good, nor of the good things that God does through us. When we hide the positive experiences we have, as if they were our property, we prevent others from being fed by the fruits of the Word. Concrete experiences, fundamental to our path, when they are not shared, are lost. Spreading evil is easy, but we who believe in love have a mission to spread good. Share the good.
11	Sat Lk 15,1-3.11-32	Return to the Father. “Owe look to the prodigal son and understand that it is also time for us to return to the Father. Like that son, we too forget the atmosphere of home, we squander precious goods in exchange for worthless things and we are left with empty hands and unsatisfied hearts. We fall: we are children who continually fall, we are like little children who try to walk but fall to the ground (...). It is the Father's forgiveness that always puts us on our feet”. (Pope Francis, February 17, 2021)
12	Sun	III Dom. of Lent - The water I give you will become a spring welling up to eternal life. (John 4.5-42)
13	Mon	Proceed as children of light. And the fruit of the light is every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. (Eph 5,8-9)
14	Tue Mt 18,21-35	Forgive from the heart. Forgiveness is not being stupid, but in certain situations it may require us to pay for the loss of someone who caused us harm, including irreversible harm. It is the demanding art of daily renewing the willingness to love, to the point that the wound in our soul becomes a sign of resurrection. Situations that seriously hurt us need to be touched countless times by our forgiveness and God's forgiveness. Forgiveness is the healing of the soul and the foundation of our recovery. To forgive.
15	Wed Det 4,1.5-9	Keep and practice the commandments. The commandments, previously kept in the Ark of the Covenant, are also kept in the Scriptures. When we learn to keep them in our hearts, we are able to bring them to life through the practice of experiences. We can be like Living Words when we are willing to love God and our neighbor with concrete gestures, such as respecting, thanking, sharing, helping, supporting, donating, forgiving and, even more, letting God be God in our lives. Assume and do good.

16	Thu Jer 7,23-28	Hear God's voice and follow your ways. To follow with God a path that fulfills us, it is essential to give up our stubbornness, pride and indifference. He always points us in the direction through his Word, people, prayer and other means that are sometimes almost imperceptible. When our life is guided by good, by love, Jesus can speak to our soul in an ever new way, illuminating us in every decision, action, project, and even more, in moments of pain and darkness. Let yourself be guided by the good.
17	Fri Mk 12,28-34	Love God and neighbor. It is a unique reality that we live as three: me, God and my brother. Love unites us, and we discover it as we do good. It is a gift that leads us into a mystery infinitely greater than ourselves. Whoever becomes capable of loving with concrete gestures, discovers the beauty of his own soul, the positivity of others and feels involved by the greatness of God. Let's immediately start smiling, helping and sharing. Those who love become a better and happier person. Always love.
18	Sat Lk 18,9-14	He who humbles himself will be exalted. <i>“Pride compromises all good deeds, it empties prayer, it distances you from God and your neighbor. (...) Humility is above all a necessary condition for us to be lifted up by Him, so as to experience the mercy that fills our voids. If the prayer of the proud does not reach the Heart of God, the humility of the miserable opens it wide. God has a weakness: weakness for the humble. Before a humble heart, God opens his heart completely”.</i> (Pope Francis, June 1, 2016)
19	Sun	IV Sun. of Lent - Do you believe in the Son of Man? (John 9,1-41)
20	Mon	Proceed as children of light. And the fruit of the light is every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. <i>(Eph 5,8-9) / Saint Joseph</i>
21	Tue Jn 5,1-16	Do not sin again. Jesus, in front of those who start over, always pushes us forward. The past, which is gone, even with the marks that remain, cannot stop us from seeking forgiveness and following a new life. Also the future, which may seem uncertain and frightening, has not yet arrived. To start over and love we have today, the present moment. That moment we call now goes by so fast. How about redeeming the past and preparing for the future by living well and loving in the present moment? Moving forward living in the present.
22	Wed Jn 5:17-30	Do the will of the Father. When we place ourselves in front of certain requirements of the Word, thoughts may come, like no one thinks like that, today everything is different, certain things are now normal, that which is harmful to the other, to health, to dignity, to nature and to the soul continues to be the bad. Values such as goodness, fidelity, generosity and everything that manifests itself in the love of God, continue to be good. We can do as everyone else does, or going against the current, join those who believe in love. Choose good, which is Jesus.
23	Thu Jn 5:31-47	Seek the glory that comes from God. When we do good things with the intention of being seen, praised, and rewarded, we ultimately experience more frustration than joy. Those who do good without ulterior motives, motivated by the desire to love, are able to experience joy even when good is not recognized. Let every act of this day, small or great, be done not for our glory, but for the glory of God. And that the sharing of experiences have the same greatness. Do good for free.
24	Fri Ps. 33 (34)	The Lord is close to the troubled heart. Difficult times come in the lives of saints, sinners, believers and non-believers alike. The difference is in the way you experience these moments. Suffering can reveal a supernatural love that surrounds us in the hours of darkness. People of faith don't love pain, but they may be able to embrace the Jesus who is present in every pain. We can recognize and welcome His presence and declare: “My Jesus, present in my pain, in my difficulty, I love you and I embrace you”. Go beyond the pain.
25	Sat Lk 1,26-38 Annunciation of the Lord	The Lord is with you. <i>“And we find moments of light, but we also experience others in which God seems absent; his silence weighs heavily on our hearts and his will does not correspond to ours, to what we would like. But the more we open ourselves to God, the more we accept the gift of faith, the more we place our trust in him — like Abraham and like Mary — the more he enables us, through his presence, to live every situation of life in peace and in the certainty of your faithfulness and your love”.</i> (Pope Benedict XVI, December 19, 2012)
26	Sun	V Sun. of Lent. I am the resurrection and the life. (John 11,1-45)
27	Mon	Proceed as children of light. And the fruit of the light is every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. <i>(Eph 5,8-9)</i>
28	Tue Nm 21,4-9	Drive away the snakes of complaint and judgment. Realizing problems, looking for solutions and helping is positive. Complaining about everything, judging, murmuring, gossiping is destructive. The evils of complaining and judgment can grow in our soul like a potent poison that kills joy and peace. It's a slow and effective poison that destroys the soul, relationships and takes away the presence of God. Before complaining, let us remember that by living the Word we are able to love. Overcoming complaints and living communion.
29	Wed Jn 8:31-42	The truth will set you free. Love is the truth. Faced with the slavery of addictions, sins, illusions and lies, we discover that love sets us free. God created us free and able to do good. Prisoners of hatred, bitterness, indifference and selfishness are freed when they forgive, start over and serve. Rather than thinking that we have truths about people or situations, let us strive to build unity through mutual love. Unity generates the presence of Jesus, the way, the truth and the life. To be free loving.
30	Thu Gn 17,3-9	Guard my covenant. God is generous in his promise. Anyone who accepts His projects and opens up to His action can expect everything from God. When we say yes to God's love, aware of the situation and the place we've come from, we can't even imagine where He wants to take us. But we believe, because such is faith, such is love. We can renew this holy pact in prayer, in the sacraments, in forgiveness, as well as in concrete acts of love for our brothers and sisters. “Keep the Covenant” is to love always. Be faithful to good.
31	Fri Jer 20,10-13	The Lord is on my side. Those who are willing to do good, at some point go through persecution and misunderstandings. Certainly there are those who criticize or even create serious difficulties. But the biggest challenge can come from our “old man”, our sin, which is always ready to step in and thwart the good. Whether faced with temptations or persecution, let us remember that God is always present and asks us for perseverance and faithfulness. His promise is the love that conquers all evil. Believe in the victory of good.