



ARCHDIOCESE OF JOHANNESBURG  
DEPARTMENT OF CATECHETICS

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**We are the light of the world. Matt 5:14**

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Dear Reverend Priest and Catechist's Coordinator

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time has, for the last two years been celebrated as **Word of God Sunday**. It will be difficult to do this if parishes are still unable to celebrate the Eucharist.

But, I appeal to you to do all within your means to circulate this information to your parish coordinators and parish priests.

**There are three documents attached to this email.**

1. The letter sent by the Congregation for Divine Worship and Sacraments in Rome with information about Word of God Sunday. Your Bishops received this in December last year.
2. The Apostolic letter of Pope Francis written in 2019 where he explains the reasons for instituting this special Sunday in January.
3. Some resources I am sending you that may be helpful if our parishes have re-opened by 24<sup>th</sup> January. I have also included a brief celebration for the Enthronement of the Word in families.

Would also ask that those priests who do online Masses, please use some of this material for the Mass on 24<sup>th</sup> January. It could be using the Book of the Gospels for the proclamation of the Gospel, it could be using the Prayers of the Faithful that are provided, or your own and most importantly to encourage families to enthrone their Bible in their homes. That is the best that we can do for now.

Thank you for your commitment under these very trying circumstances and for encouraging the catechists to do the best that they can.

Yours in Christ

**Father Boniface D'Souza**  
Catechetical Vicar