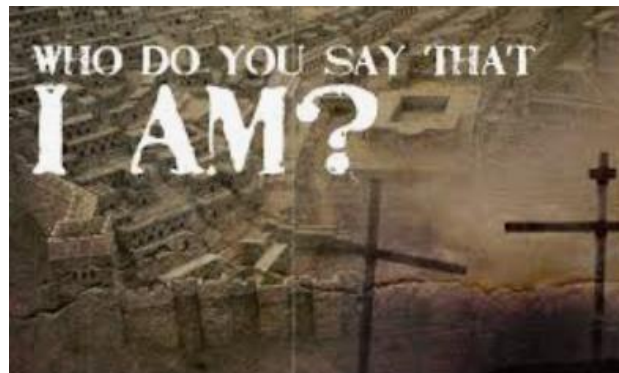


# Our Gospel Value this week is Courage

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3qkB7gucDk>

# Our Virtue this week is Fortitude



**We gather together to love,  
value and respect each other  
within our Catholic family, to  
nurture each individual's  
talents and skills as Jesus  
taught us.**

***Everyone matters and is loved by  
God.***

Peace be with you  
**and with your Spirit**

Jesus Christ light of the world  
... **shine brightly in our lives**



Jesus Christ God's living  
Word  
... **speak to us your truth**



Jesus Christ God's love  
revealed  
... **dwell among us**



Our lit candle reminds us that  
we are in God's presence as  
we mark ourselves with the  
sign of the cross

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit  
Amen**

# We Say Sorry

You call us to follow you  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You call us to trust in you  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You open your arms to all of us  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Today we hear about how it is not always easy to follow Jesus or to accept what God wants to happen in our lives. Even Peter, one of Jesus's disciples found it difficult.

Let's think some more about this today...

Christ Jesus, you call us  
to follow you. May we  
have the courage to  
answer that call, even  
in the most difficult  
times.

**Amen**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Jesus is the Lord,  
He's the Lord of all my heart.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Jesus is the Lord,  
He's the Lord of all my heart.**

**He's the way, he's the truth,  
he's the life.**

**He's the way, he's the truth,  
he's the life.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Jesus is the Lord,  
He's the Lord of all my heart.**



*We listen to the word*

Gospel according to Mark 8:27-35

**May the words of Jesus be**

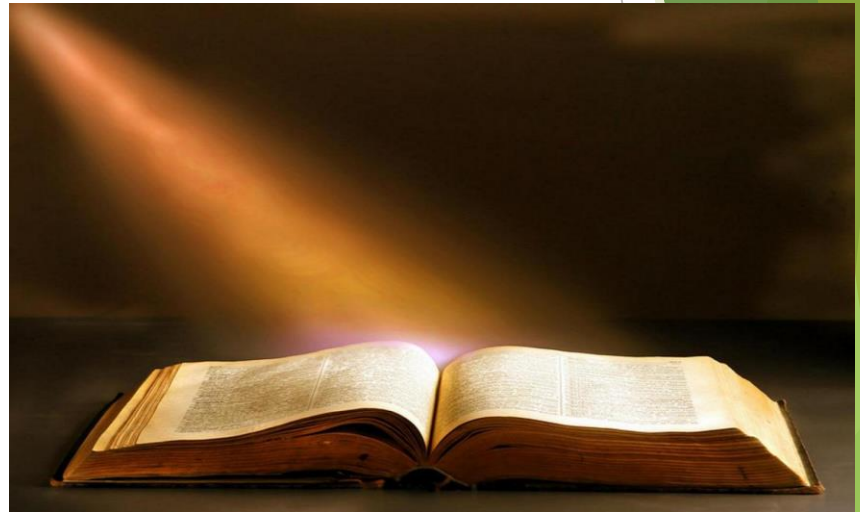
**On my mind**

**On my lips and**

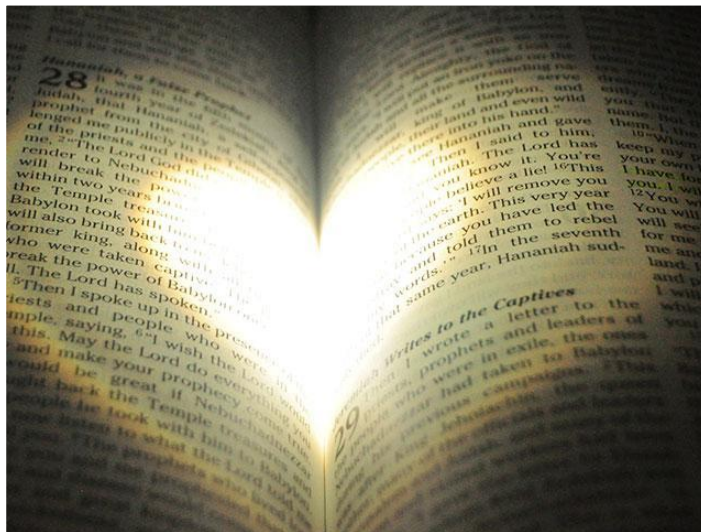
**In my heart**

The Gospel of the Lord

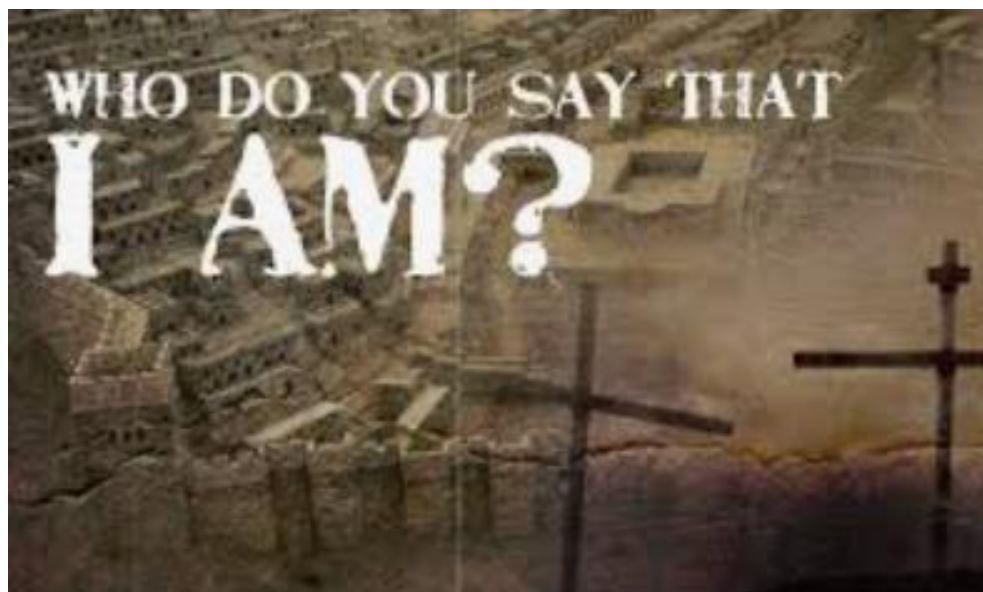
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**



We are still and silent as we reflect on God's word for us in the Gospel.



What do you remember from today's reading?



Jesus asks his friends, the disciples, a question. He asks them who people think he is.

What answer do the disciples give?

Jesus then asks the disciples who they think he is.

What does Peter say?



Peter believes that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. He has faith in Jesus.

But then Jesus starts to tell the disciples about what will happen to him. That he will suffer and be killed, and after three days he will rise again.



Peter struggles to believe all this - he does not want to believe that his friend, the Son of God, will suffer and die.



Peter feels afraid that Jesus might leave them. And he wants to protect Jesus from harm because he cares about him.



It is sometimes hard to do what God wants us to do, just like it was for Peter, because we are afraid, and we do not want to get hurt, or for those that we love to be hurt.





Jesus tells us that it will not always be easy to follow him, but that we must have courage, because God will always be with us.

Can you think of a time when you were afraid and needed courage?



Tekon is a fisherman in Liberia. Being a fisherman can be dangerous, especially when there is a storm out at sea. Tekon remembers a very bad storm, saying “The sky was black.” Even though he and his friends tied three boats together, to try not to get swept out to sea by the wind, they were carried a long way off.



The fishermen were all very afraid. Tekon said, “Everyone was panicking and then I panicked. We had fear. I had doubts.”



But Tekon had been given training in how to stay safe at sea and he had a GPS tracker on board. It took them almost 24 hours, but guided by the device, Tekon and the other fishermen made it home.



“We got onto the beach and everyone surrounded me and cheered. I felt very happy. I followed the training and we saved lives... There were a lot of families who thanked God and some people came to me to thank me for bringing their father home.”



Tekon showed great courage that day in the storm to follow the training, even when he was afraid. We might need to show courage when we follow Jesus in our lives.



What does it mean to follow Jesus?

What can we do to show that we are following Jesus?



Can you think of a time when you have found it difficult to do what you knew was right and follow Jesus?

Why was it so difficult?





In silence, pray for each other -  
that God will be with all of us.



We are called to follow Jesus  
and so together we pray:

We pray for all the world's  
leaders: that they may  
have the courage to  
make the decisions that  
are best for all people,  
even when it is difficult.

Lord in Your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

We pray for all our  
brothers and sisters living  
in poverty: that they may  
be able to work together  
and build a better future  
for themselves.

Lord in Your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

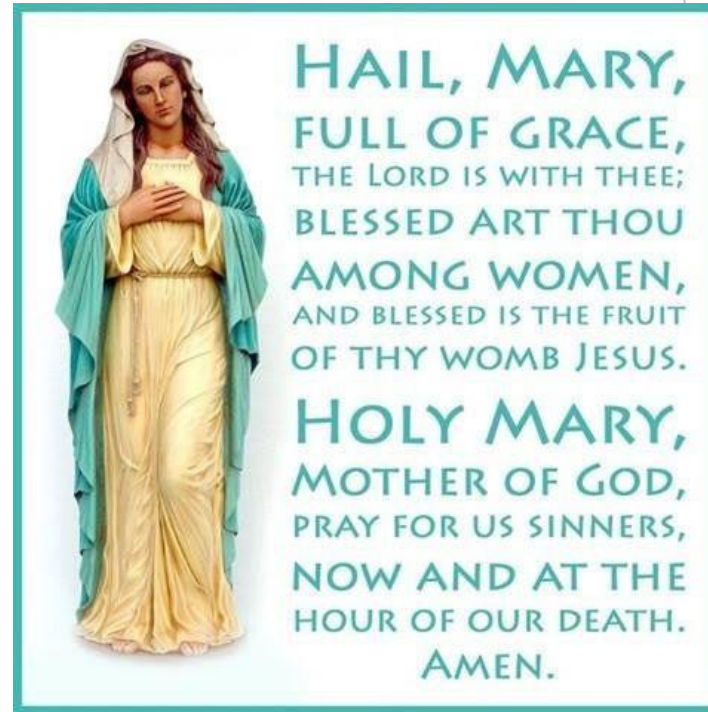
We pray for our school,  
parish, families and  
friends: that we may be  
true followers of Jesus,  
reaching out to help  
people who are poor,  
sick, lonely or frightened.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

We take a moment now to pray for our own intentions.

We ask Our Lady to intercede on our behalf as we say together...



God of light, as we try to follow you, give us the courage to work with our brothers and sisters to build a fairer world.

**Amen.**

St Anthony

**Pray for us**

St Mark

**Pray for us**

St Francis

**Pray for us**

St Alban

**Pray for us**



How will  
you follow  
Jesus this  
week?

# In the week ahead let's try to...

- ▶ be brave and have courage to do what is right
- ▶ follow Jesus even when it is difficult

**Jesus, I offer my day to you**  
**Jesus, I offer my day to you**  
**Jesus, I offer my day to you**

Let us go in  
peace

**Thanks be to God**

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWk9I26nX5w>

# Our Virtue this week is Fortitude

