



## VI SUNDAY 15th FEBRUARY 26 - CYCLE A



### BEYOND THE MINIMUM



#### SETTING

Today we will hear a Word that invites us to go beyond a faith of rules and explanations. It's not just about knowing a lot or doing what's right, but about living from within.

Jesus proposes a justice that springs from the heart and translates into healthy, reconciled, and true relationships.

A wisdom that is not imposed, but learned by walking, loving, and trusting. In a world full of noise and haste, the Gospel asks for authenticity.

Let our "yes" be yes, and our "no" be no. Let faith not be an appearance, but a shared life. Listen and allow yourself to be transformed.

#### SONG –THIS IS MY WILL MY ONE COMMAND

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0\\_YIGO6bjG4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_YIGO6bjG4)

## **GOSPEL – Mathew 5, 17-37**

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not one letter, not one stroke of a pen, will disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Therefore, anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven. You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, “You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.” But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. And if anyone calls his brother “fool,” he will be subject to the Sanhedrin; and if anyone calls him “rag,” he will be in danger of the fire of hell. Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother and then come and offer your gift. Settle matters quickly with your adversary while you are still with him on the way to court, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny. You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery.” But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>3</sup>If your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell. It has been said, “Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.” But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, “Do not break your oath, but fulfil to the Lord the vows you have made.” But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. Do not swear by your head, for you cannot make a single hair white or black. Let your word be simply “Yes,” and your word be “No,” and your word be “No.” Anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

## To delve deeper into today's Word

**Ecle 15, 15-20** Inspired by divine wisdom, human beings are capable of freely making good choices.

**Pasam 118, 1-34.** Joy in being able to observe the commandments wholeheartedly and freely, thus expressing our love for God.

**1Cor 2, 6-10.** The wisdom given by the Spirit allows us to see the Lord of glory in the one whom human beings have crucified. The wisdom given by the Spirit allows us to see the Lord of glory in the one whom human beings have crucified.

**Mathew 5, 17-37.** And it is true, the Kingdom advances slowly but surely: this is the heart of our faith. Certainly, this doesn't happen in a few decades. We must allow for time: God chose a people like any other and revealed himself to them gradually over the centuries, and we must acknowledge that a long way has been travelled in this regard. First in the discovery of God, but also in our relationship with other human beings. The ideals of justice, freedom, and fraternity are gradually replacing the law of the strongest and the instinct for revenge. This slow work of converting the human heart has been the work of the Law given by God to Moses: the first commandments were small pivots that pointed, in a way, to the bare minimum necessary for life in society to be possible: do not kill, do not steal, do not lie... Later, throughout the centuries, the Law was refined and clarified as moral demands progressed. And Jesus is part of this progression; he doesn't abolish what was previously acquired but rather perfects it: "You have heard that it was said... but I say to you." That is, it's not a matter of erasing the preceding stages, but of moving on to another stage: "I have not come to abolish the Law, but to fulfil it." First stage: you shall not kill; second stage: you will even forbid yourself anger and move toward forgiveness. For in love, going far, always further—that is true wisdom! It is not enough to say, "Your Kingdom come." Jesus has just shown us how, in our small ways, but with complete certainty, we can all contribute to this endeavour.

### Praying with the Word

Today's Gospel reading is demanding and clear, inviting us to change our very being, to make it a conviction rather than a precept, to be as God wants us to be. How far does this message reach in my life?



### SLEEPING AT LAST – TURNING PAGE

<https://youtu.be/YbRWc44GkOw?list=RDMM>

## THE WISDOM OF SIMPLICITY

We don't want a faith  
of checked lists,  
nor a clear conscience  
achieved by minimal measures  
nor empty words.

Teach us the wisdom  
that doesn't boast,  
that walks slowly,  
that asks before judging,  
that listens.

May your Word  
not remain in our heads,  
but descend to our hands,  
to our gaze,  
to the way we treat our  
brothers and sisters.

Tear away from us the  
hardness  
that complies but doesn't  
love,  
that says "I don't do harm"  
while passing by the wound.

### CANTO

**Aquí estoy, Señor | Cristóbal Fones, SJ**

[https://youtu.be/VV0\\_mloZEBE?si=f5HgprhmXvEjfsRL](https://youtu.be/VV0_mloZEBE?si=f5HgprhmXvEjfsRL)

Make us people of  
reconciliation,  
capable of taking the first  
step,  
of letting go of reason  
to save the relationship,  
of choosing life.

May our speech be pure,  
without oaths or deceit,  
without pious masks,  
without hidden agendas,  
with truth.

Give us a greater justice,  
one that creates a future,  
one that defends the weak,  
one that doesn't measure love,  
one that takes risks.

And when everything seems  
empty,  
when answers are lacking,  
teach us to sense  
that you are still at work,  
that life always springs forth.



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