



DAILY BIBLE READINGS: 

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Matthew 25:31-46	The sheep and the goats
Monday	Isaiah 41:17-20	The Lord will help the thirsty
Tuesday	Hebrews 13:1-3	Remember those in prison
Wednesday	Acts 28:1,7-10	Paul visits a sick man
Thursday	Revelation 7:9-17	No more hunger or thirst
Friday	Matthew 2:1-12	The visit of the wise men
Saturday	Psalms 72	Kings will present him gifts
Sunday	Mark 1:4-11	Jesus is baptized

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’” **Matthew 25:40 (NLT)**

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, as we step into this new year, give us the faith to walk with you, and your power to love and serve others. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, for a year of many meals we give you praise; in the year to come, please bless our days. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you and keep you in the year ahead. May God give you the good gift of God’s kingdom. Amen. (Matthew 25:34)



CARING CONVERSATION:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Jesus says that when we serve others who are sick, hungry, thirsty, or in prison we are doing these things to him. What do you understand from this?
- Share about a time when you were sick, hungry, thirsty, or in prison and someone else helped you.
- How does your church community help people who are sick, hungry, thirsty, or in prison? How could you support or become involved with this?

DEVOTIONS:

Wrap up a calendar or diary for the new year and gather together all your 2011 calendars. Take some time to recall events and special days from the past year. Then have a symbolic “throwing away” of your 2011 calendars and unwrap your new 2012 calendar. Say a prayer of thanks for the old year and ask for God’s blessing on the year to come. Write into the new calendar or diary any special 2012 household events or dates (e.g. birthdays, anniversaries, vacations).

SERVICE:

Is there anyone from your church community who is sick or in the hospital over the New Year period? Make a special effort to phone, write or visit them.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:

Arrange some time this week to talk about your goals for the next year as individuals and as a household. Consider these questions:

- What would you like to achieve or experience in this next year?
- In what ways would you like to grow or change?
- In what ways would you like to contribute this coming year to serve those who are in need?
- In what ways would you like to develop in your Christian life and faith?

Make up a poster displaying your goals for your refrigerator or home display area. Pray for God’s help in acting upon them and aim to revisit your goals at the end of June.



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