

# Light Breaking Forth: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn  
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Isaiah 58:7-10; Psalm 112:4-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16



Jesus came among us as light to scatter the darkness of a fallen world. As his disciples, we too are called to be “the light of the world,” he tells us in the Gospel this Sunday (see John 1:4–4, 9; 8:12; 9:5).

All three images that Jesus uses to describe the Church are associated with the identity and vocation of Israel.

God forever aligned his Kingdom with the Kingdom of David and his sons by a “covenant of salt,” salt being a sign of permanence and purity (see 2 Chron. 13:5, 8; Lev. 2:13; Ezek. 43:24).

Jerusalem was to be a city set on a hill, high above all others, drawing all nations towards the glorious light streaming from her Temple (see Isa. 2:2; 60:1–3).

And Israel was given the mission of being a light to the nations, that God’s salvation would reach to the ends of the earth (see Isa. 42:6; 49:6).

The liturgy shows us this week that the Church, and every Christian, is called to fulfill Israel’s mission.

By our faith and good works we are to make the light of God’s life break forth in the darkness, as we sing in this week’s Psalm.

This week’s readings remind us that our faith can never be a private affair, something we can hide as if under a basket.

We are to pour ourselves out for the afflicted, as Isaiah tells us in the First Reading. Our light must shine as a ray of God’s mercy for all who are poor, hungry, naked, and enslaved.

There must be a transparent quality to our lives. Our friends and family, our neighbors and fellow citizens, should see reflected in us the light of Christ and through us be attracted to the saving truths of the Gospel.

So let us pray that we, like St. Paul in the Epistle, might proclaim with our whole lives, “Christ and him crucified.”

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**  
February 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

<b>Saturday</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>Feb. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Special Intentions of Ramya and Merle Aloysius
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Feb. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Mass of Anticipation</b> Constantino Lopez – RIP by the family
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.  11:00 a.m.	<b>Feb. 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Thanksgiving by Ruth Gaudreau  Eliard Finn – RIP – by the Finn and McGregor families
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Feb. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Feb. 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Domingo and Pompea Pili – RIP – by Ludi and family
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Feb. 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Jerome Emiliani</b> In Memory of Mellie Francisco – by Tony and family
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Feb. 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Elizabeth Csaki – RIP – by her loving family
<b>Friday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Feb. 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Scholastica</b> Teresita Manzo Manzanal – RIP – by Jerry and Ofelia Roy
<b>Saturday</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>Feb. 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Our Lady of Lourdes</b> For the Sick
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Feb. 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Mass of Anticipation</b> Gerald O'Donnell – RIP – by Charles Brocklehurst
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.  11:00 a.m.	<b>Feb. 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Thanksgiving by Ruth Gaudreau  Adoracion Buguis Borlaza – RIP – by Elena

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*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

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## OUR LADY OF LOURDES MASS

On **Saturday, February 11th, at 10am** there will be a mass to celebrate the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes. The mass intention will be offered for the sick.

### OUR LADY OF LOURDES



The veneration of Mary as Our Lady of Lourdes arose first in popular devotion and later in the Church's liturgy.

In 1858, Mary, the Mother of Jesus, appeared to Bernadette Soubirous in a cave at Massabielle, near Lourdes in France. Just four years earlier, in 1854, the Church had declared the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, so when the "beautiful woman" of Bernadette's visions identified herself as the Immaculate Conception, there was initial skepticism. Although others accompanied Bernadette to the grotto, no one else could see or hear the visions. It did not take very long for an Episcopal Commission, an official inquiry, to state: "We judge that Mary, the Immaculate Mother of God, did really appear to Bernadette Soubirous on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 1858, and on certain subsequent days, 18 times in all, in the grotto of Massabielle, near the town of Lourdes; that this appearance bears every mark of truth and that the belief of the faithful is well-grounded."

A few years later, this date was added to the list of Marian feasts to honour the mysterious beauty of the Immaculate Conception.

*-Living with Christ, February 2017*

### PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Be blessed, O most pure Virgin, for having vouchsafed to manifest your shining with life, sweetness and beauty, in the Grotto of Lourdes, saying to the child, St. Bernadette: "I am the Immaculate Conception." A thousand times we congratulate you upon your Immaculate Conception. And now, O ever Immaculate Virgin, Mother of mercy, Health of the sick, Refuge of sinners, Comforter of the afflicted, you know our wants, our troubles, our sufferings deign to cast upon us a look of mercy.

By appearing in the Grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary, whence you dispense your favors, and already many have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and physical. We come, therefore, with the most unbounded confidence to implore your maternal intercession. Obtain for us, O loving Mother, the granting of our request. (*state your request*) Through gratitude for your favors, we will endeavor to imitate your virtues, that we may one day share your glory.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Mother of Christ, you had influence with your divine son while upon earth. You have the same influence now in Heaven. Pray for us; obtain for us from your Divine Son our special requests if it be the Divine Will. Amen

Our Lady of Lourdes, *pray for us.*

Saint Bernadette, *pray for us.*

### Be My Disciples News

**PARENT MEETING** - Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. All parents must attend. Thank you!