



A Year with Torah

A weekly schedule for reading the first five books of the Bible over one year.

Parishioners who wish to grow in their love of the Old Testament, the Hebrew Scriptures which Jesus knew and loved, are invited to undertake “A Year with Torah” (see explanatory page in this bulletin). By following the Jewish cycle of Scripture readings, starting with the first chapter of Genesis, we can read the whole of the Torah over the course of a year. Torah refers to the first five books of the bible, precious to Jews and Christians alike.

“Without the Old Testament, the New Testament would be an incomprehensible book, a plant deprived of its roots and destined to dry up and wither.” (Pontifical Biblical Commission, 2001)



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How familiar are you with the Old Testament? Sometimes we Catholics tend to skip over it, or treat it as being of secondary interest. When we do this, however, we lose sight of the foundations upon which the New Testament depends. One Vatican document puts it this way: *“Without the Old Testament, the New Testament would be an incomprehensible book, a plant deprived of its roots and destined to dry up and wither.”* (Pontifical Biblical Commission, 2001)

To rediscover the riches of the Old Testament in your life, join in our bible reading program “A Year with Torah”. An explanatory leaflet is available in the church foyer.



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“A Year with Torah” is a simple plan for parishioners to grow in their love of the Hebrew Scriptures which Jesus knew and loved. (See explanatory page in foyer of church.) By following the Jewish cycle of Scripture readings, starting with the Book of Genesis, we can read the whole of the Torah over the course of a year. Torah refers to the first five books of the bible, precious to Jews and Christians alike.

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Here’s something different: Commit yourself to reading the whole of the Torah (the first five books of the bible) over the course of a year! It’s not as scary as it sounds, and okay, you might not read *every* word, but at least dip into Torah, week by week. One way to do this is to draw inspiration from the Jewish people and their liturgical calendar which assigns a reading or ‘Torah portion’ for each week of the year. Week by week you can follow the whole saga from creation of the world to the call of Moses, to the Israelites’ escape from Egypt, their adventures in the wilderness, right through to their arrival at the Promised Land. Riveting stuff! Try “a year with Torah”, be persistent, and this time next year you will have worked your way through a core part of the Bible that is so precious to both Christians and Jews. More info: see explanatory leaflet in church foyer.