

Year of Faith
Liturgical Minute No. 37
Striving in Faith

The kingdom of God is something that all persons, from the age of reason to the end of life, must continually realize for themselves. Every person must repeatedly hammer away at the truths of faith, endeavoring to get more meaning out of them, to find in them the help and guidance that daily life continuously demands.

God freely offers the gift of himself through faith in the words and actions of Jesus Christ and the leadings of his Holy Spirit. However, it remains our task to nourish that faith and to protect it from harm. Along with the graces of the sacraments, we nourish faith most especially with the words of Sacred Scripture. Saint Paul assures us that the Word of God in Sacred Scripture speak to us as one friend would speak to another, working in us to perfect our faith, and to strengthen us against doubt.

When we regularly immerse ourselves in Sacred Scripture, and then suffer loss, experience temptation, or undergo discouragement, God will speak to us, and comfort us with his love. When we are challenged and need strength, and the will to choose the right path, the Word of God implanted in our minds and in our hearts will speak to us.

Deacon Gary Nelson

Major Source: Father Bede Jarrett, O.P., and Father James M. Sullivan, O.P., *Magnificat, Year of Faith Companion*.