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3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sunday of the Word of God

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Pope Francis has asked that the third Sunday of ordinary time be specially kept at the "Sunday of the Word of God" so that we might "*…appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people.*"

This first celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God comes during our own 'Year of the Word' focusing on 'the God who speaks'. During this year the Lord encourages us to develop or renew a habit of prayerful reading and reflection of the Scriptures, and to being open to Him speaking to us in our daily lives.

I would like to invite you to join me in Aylesford later this year for a Diocesan celebration marking the 'God who speaks'. On Saturday 27th June an event is being organised so that Parishes can come together for Mass and other activities focused on the Year of the Word. More details will follow, but I would like to encourage you to plan for this special day. On the day before I will be celebrating a similar day with the young people of the schools and college in the diocese.

As we listen for how the Lord is speaking to us, let pray for one another.

+JM

The Most Reverend John Wilson,
Archbishop of Southwark