

Thoughts on the Daily Word

1st Week of Lent. Saturday 28th February. Readings: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Psalm: 118; Matthew 5:43-48.

Moses sums up the meaning of the Law as consecration, total giving of oneself to God and the fulfilment of the promise to Abraham. There is a mutual relationship called a covenant going on here. Each side gives of everything to the other. Consecration is also a good definition of that covenant. It also underlies the meaning of our use of the word during the Eucharist. In the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew Jesus renews that consecration but goes even deeper. We are being led into a deeper understanding of what Baptism means for us. It all revolves around this sense of covenant and consecration, enabled by the Promise fulfilled in Christ. Now we are entering into an even deeper relationship, with Christ and his Body, the Church.