

It is important to note that the appointed texts of the lectionary are not random or loosely related to one another, but rather, are carefully chosen so as to construct the many themes that together make up the greatest theme of the Church: the Liturgical Year. Often times, when we pray the Daily Office or go to Mass, we miss out on the thematic arrangement of the lections that are read. This is to our great disadvantage. Even though it can be difficult to discern at times, and quite frankly, requires a bit of work on our part, we ought to spend both time and effort reflecting on the lectionary and its themes. Some ways to go about utilizing and developing this beneficial practice is to either think about how the Gospel and Epistle lessons relate to one another each Sunday or by thinking about how the theme of each Sunday relates to the themes of the preceding and following Sundays.

As Members of the One Body of Christ, it is important for us to remember that the Bible belongs to the Church as One Body, and not just to individual members that make up a body. We must never think that

the Bible belongs to us as individuals, so as to empower each man with the authority of private interpretation. As Saint Peter reminds us, “...no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation” (2 Peter 1:20; KJV). Likewise, we must never think that the Bible belongs only to some of the members of the Body, so as to neglect the importance of catholic consent within the One Body.

We must always read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Holy Scriptures in the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. Every day, through the words of the Creed, we confess our belief in the Communion of Saints. Each day as we make that confession, may we reflect not only on how we are connected to the saints through the Sacraments and the Liturgy but also through the thematic mediation upon and dogmatic interpretation of the Scriptures made available to us through the Lectionary.