

**Daily Bible Readings:**

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	John 1:29-42	Christ revealed as the Lamb of God
Monday	Genesis 22:1-2,9-18	The Lord provides a ram
Tuesday	Exodus 12:1-13,21-28	The Passover lamb
Wednesday	Isaiah 53:1-12	The one like a lamb
Thursday	1 Peter 1:13-22	A lamb without blemish
Friday	Revelation 7:9-17	The lamb will be their shepherd
Saturday	Psalms 55:1-2,16-23	God ransoms me unharmed
Sunday	Matthew 4:12-23	Christ revealed as a prophet

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**Scripture Verse for this Week:**

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"  
John 1:29 (NIV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

**Prayer for the week:**

"Protect me with your love and truth, O God, and make it my heart's desire to do your will. Amen." (Psalm 40:8,11)

**For Throughout the Day:**

"Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on me. Amen." (John 1:29; Psalm 40:11).

**Mealtime Refrain:**

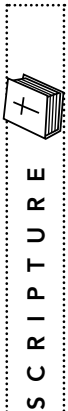
"Christ has come as our light: Bringing salvation to the ends of the earth."  
(Isaiah 49:6)

**A Blessing to Share:**

"May God enrich you in every way, bless you with his spiritual gifts, and keep you strong in the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen." (1 Corinthians 1:4-8)

**Epiphany Mealtime Prayer:**

Christ our light, shine upon us. Refresh us by this meal to reflect your love to others. Amen.



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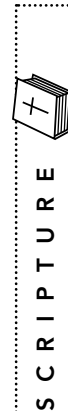
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**Epiphany Mealtime Prayer:**

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**Faith Talk:**

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when someone gave up something for you or you gave up something for someone else.
- John the Baptist called Jesus the “Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). What did Jesus give up for us and why?
- Jesus’ disciple Andrew brought his brother Simon to Jesus (John 1:40-42). In what ways could you help others come to know Jesus?

**Devotional Practices:**

18-25 January 2008 is being observed by churches across the world as the 100th “Week of Prayer for Christian Unity” (see [www.weekofprayer2008.org](http://www.weekofprayer2008.org)). Make a list of churches in your region, town or suburb. This week, pray for one or more of these churches in each of your family devotional times. Pray for the pastors and leaders of these congregations and for God’s blessing upon the ministry of each congregation.

**Rituals and Traditions:**

Purchase a portion of lamb to share in a family meal this week. Take a few minutes to talk about the lamb as a symbol for Jesus. If you have time, look up the Old Testament passages listed in this week’s “Daily Bible Readings” and talk about their connections to the image of Jesus as the “Lamb of God”.

**Service:**

In John 1 we hear that John the Baptist pointed two of his disciples to Jesus. They followed Jesus and spent the day with him (John 1:37-39). Andrew, in turn, introduced his brother Simon Peter to Jesus. Is there an individual or family you could invite to spend a Sunday with you – perhaps to come to your church and then for a midday meal? Prepare to invite them and to offer them your hospitality.

**Parent Toolbox:**

Making the Most of Mealtimes

Family mealtimes offer wonderful opportunities for family sharing and connectedness and value formation - but these things do not come automatically! Consider these steps to make the most of your mealtimes:

- When you eat, turn off the TV and other forms of media.
- Try not to worry about accidental messes. Focus on the bigger picture – time together with one another.
- Establish clear rules and boundaries e.g. asking, not reaching; using inside voices; saying “please” and “thank you”; asking for permission before leaving the table; and waiting for your turn to speak.
- Avoid using this time to raise “issues”. Ban “putdowns”. Encourage affirmation, sharing of news and ideas, and other positive communication.

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