

*5th Week in Ordinary Time -
A time to grow in faith...*

Celebration of the Word

Prayer Theme -

Be a Beacon



*We begin with
the sign of the cross...*

*In the name of the
Father, and of the
Son and of the
Holy Spirit.*

AMEN

WE GATHER

Our prayer theme this week is

Be a Beacon.

A beacon brings light to others –

- I wonder what that means to you...
- I wonder who brings light to you...
- I wonder how you can bring light to others...



WE LISTEN TO
THE WORD OF GOD

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (5:14-16).

*'You are the light of the world.
A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.
Nor do people light a lamp
and put it under a basket, but on a stand,
and it gives light to all in the house.'*

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WE RESPOND

**Close your eyes and see Jesus
standing before you...**

**What is Jesus saying to you
through the Gospel...?**



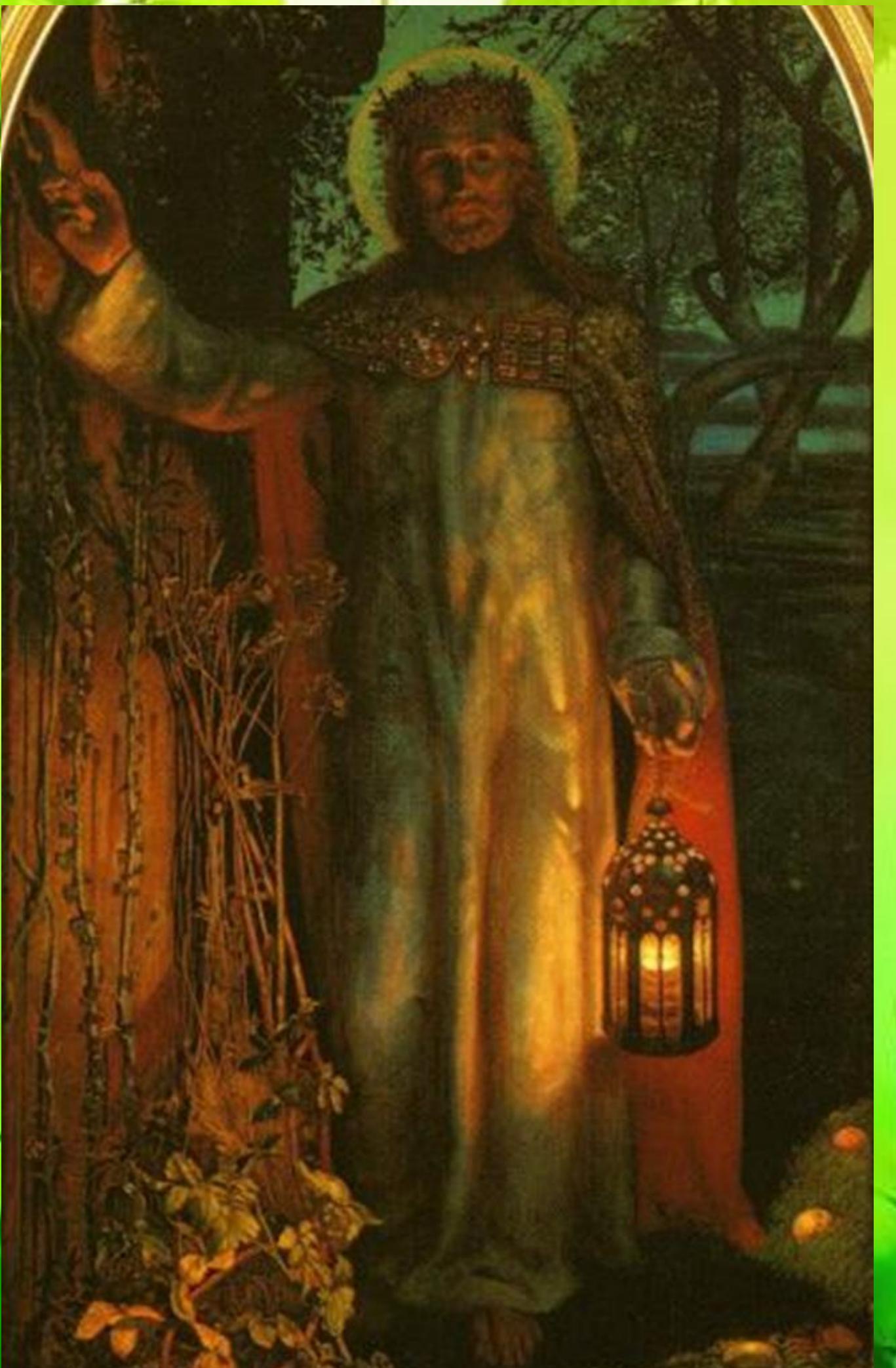


This image is an artwork by
William Holman Hunt
(1827-1910)
called -
The Light of the World



Take a moment to look at this image.

- **What do you see?**
- **What do you notice about Jesus in this image?**



A few things you may have noticed:

- The door Jesus is knocking at has no handle – he must be invited into our hearts.
- The door is overgrown with plants and looks like it hasn't been opened in a while – Jesus is still waiting, always there when we need him.
- Jesus is carrying a lantern (the light of conscience), has a halo (the light of salvation) and behind him the sun is rising. (a new spiritual dawn)



Jesus is calling us to be a visible and positive influence for others.

He calls us to reflect God's love, God's truth and God's hope in a dark world through good deeds and actions.



We are asked to light the path for others so they too can find God.

Pope Leo reminds us that
“each of us can be a little light”.

Even a small light provides some guidance. A small action will always provide hope to someone else.

So what does this mean for me?

This is your time to let the Light of Christ shine in you.

**Let the Holy Spirit work through you showing love,
kindness and truth.**



**You are being asked to do good deeds;
to be a witness and not hide your faith.**

We Go Forth...

MISSION

- When are you a beacon of light for others to see?
- What will you do this week to be a light of hope for others?



PRAYER



ACTION

What will **YOU** do...?

Let us pray ...

Lord God,

You have called us to be a light to the world.

Light creates light, dispelling darkness.

Light brings joy and hope.

**Help us to be a light and to be a beacon,
leading people to you through our actions.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

St Augustine, pray for us.
St Cuthbert, pray for us.



MY LIGHTHOUSE, MY LIFE

We close our time of
prayer with the sign of
~~Jesus~~ the signs you
in the name of the
Father, the Son and the
Holy Spirit, Amen.



