

Chapter 3

The fullness of God's Revelation comes to us in the Person of Jesus Christ. That Revelation is passed on to us in two ways – through Scripture and Tradition. When reading Sacred Scripture, we have to keep in mind that we must read the Bible as a whole. The entire Story is, in one way or another, connected to Jesus. We need to let the Church guide us in our interpretation of the Bible, and to understand that there are different levels of meaning.

When we speak of Tradition with a capital "T", we mean official documents that are produced by various groups within the Church, such as the Sacred Congregation on the Liturgy, or encyclicals, letters written by the pope for the whole Church. Tradition is the living transmission of the message of the Gospel in the Church. It is to be distinguished from "traditions," the prayer forms and customs, such as May crowning or the Forty Hours Devotion, that have developed at certain times or certain places, as part of the faith life of a people. Both the living Tradition and the written Scriptures have their common source in the revelation of God in Jesus Christ.

Reflection:

- What is both consoling and challenging about the way God has chosen to transmit His Revelation?
- How does the Church help you to understand the Bible?
- What traditions have been part of your faith life?