

*Father will invite you to come forward for the readings. Go to the Altar, bow and then go to the lectern. Do reading.*

Sirach 6:14, 26:1-4, 30:4, 5, 22

## **A reading from the Book of Sirach**

Reflect on the teachings of the Lord; let God's commandments be your constant meditation.

A Faithful friend is a sturdy shelter. He who finds one finds a treasure. A faithful friend is beyond price; no sum can balance his worth.

Happy the husband of a good wife, as they bring joy to their children; peaceful and full are their lives. A good husband is a generous gift from God; be he rich or poor, his heart is content and a smile is ever on his face.

The good father loves his children that they may be his joy when they grow up. The father who educates his children can boast of them among his intimates and shows his delight in them among his friends.

At the father's death, he will seem not dead, since he leaves after him others like himself. He looks upon them through life with joy and even in death without regret. Gladness of heart is the very life of such a father; happiness prolongs his days.

## **The Word of the Lord**

When finished go to bottom of step, turn and face the Altar, bow and go back to your seat.