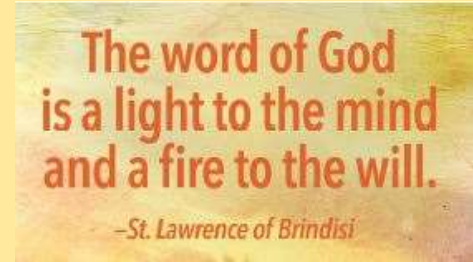




*From the Desk of Father Peter*

*Mass—Breaking Open the Word*

*When the priest finishes proclaiming the Gospel, he kisses the text. This is an intimate moment. He and His Lord touch and share breath. This gesture indicates the priest's desire to be enlivened and for his lips to be purified so that he may speak the life-giving Word of Life. When the priest "breaks open the Word of the Lord," this is a moment of communion for the faith community. It is at this moment that the community looks upon the leader of the celebration, the one who represents Christ in our midst in a special way, to share with us his faith.*



*This special sharing is for the purpose of enlightenment of our minds and the feeding of our hungry souls. The homily is a continuation of the flow of the communal experience of a specific encounter with Christ—an informed reflection upon what we have seen and heard.*

*We want to hear how the priest helps us live out the Word of God today; we who are the living body of Christ. The priest or the one preaching helps us to get in touch with the Gospel story as it is unfolding in our lives. The Homilist is sharing an event in which we are all participating; the wonder of our Salvation History.*

*It is good for us to pause after the homily so we can absorb the point the preacher has made, and be in touch with the experience. This moment of reflection is necessary to allow the Word of Life which has been underscored to come to life in us. Then we rise up to respond with our yes, "Belief," in the Profession of Faith.*



*Peace and love to all*

*Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu*