

## **Ephesians 5:8-14<sup>iv</sup>**

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

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### **<sup>iv</sup> About the Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14**

Today’s reading comes from a section urging members of the Christian community to live out the reality of their new baptismal life, imitating God as known to them through Christ—forgiving, loving and offering themselves. Gentile converts may have believed that physical actions were irrelevant to spiritual existence. Paul affirms that both words and deeds give evidence of new life.

The old and the new ways of life are contrasted as “once...darkness, now...light” (v. 8). The baptized receive enlightenment and are now to live as light to others.