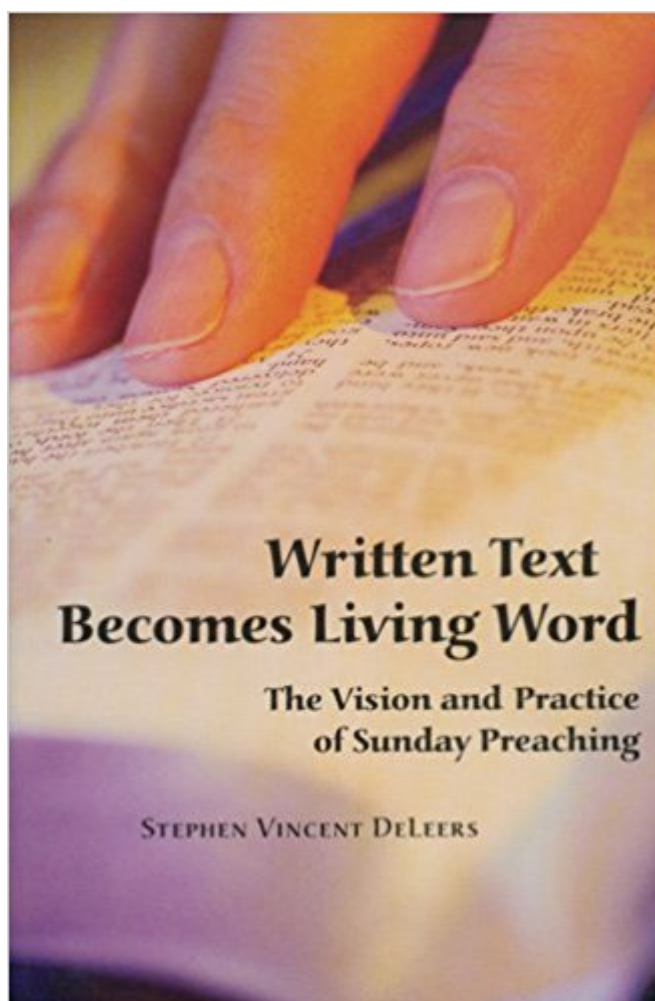


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# Written Text Becomes Living Word: The Vision And Practice Of Sunday Preaching



## Synopsis

Effective, significant preaching requires a Vision and a pondering of the question, "How can I do what the Church expects of me?" The homily offers preachers a chance to live this question. Drawing from official Roman Catholic documents (1963-1995), *Written Text Becomes Living Word* summarizes this Vision for the homily as having five characteristics: personal, liturgical, inculturating, clarifying, and actualizing. DeLeers integrates and develops homiletic practice into this Vision by a detailed process for effective preparation and preaching. Written from the author's work with preachers, *Written Text Becomes Living Word* will help re-inspire the homiletic Vision as well as the spiritual life of those preaching. Chapters are: \*Repairing the 'Accidents of History': Roman Catholic Restoration and Embrace of the Sunday Homily, - \*The Evolution of the 'Restored' Homily, 1963-93, - \*A Roman Catholic Contribution to the Vision of Sunday Preaching, - \*The Homily as Personal Word: Responsibility, Faith, and Love, - \*The Homily as Liturgical Word: The Assembly and Its Sacred Ritual, - \*The Homily as Inculturated Word: Correlating Experience and Tradition, - \*The Homily as Clarifying Word: One Good Point, Clearly Made, - \*The Homily as Actualizing Word: *Written Text Becomes Living Word*, - \*Arriving at the Sunday Message: Three Necessary Encounters with the Word, - \*From Message to Homily: Content, Structure, and Delivery, - \*Ten Suggestions for Becoming a Better Preacher, - and an Appendix: Roman Catholic Documents on the Homily. Also includes an Index. Stephen Vincent DeLeers, DMin, is an author and consultant in homiletics. He has taught and lectured widely, and among his writings are those in *The Bible Today*, *New Theology Review*, and *The Theology of Priesthood*, all published by Liturgical Press. He maintains a presence on the web at [www.betterpreaching.org](http://www.betterpreaching.org).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

From documents to process, from routine to reflection, the book offers a wide variety of help in the craft of creating homilies, as well as 10 suggestions to help the preacher be a better homilist; no matter how good he already is. He specifically encourages us to call upon five characteristics; personal, liturgical, inculturated, clarifying and actualizing; for a homily. Crux Seminarians, Catholic clergy, and those charged with liturgical preaching in Catholic communities of faith will find helpful guidance in preparing homilies preached in the context of festivals and occasional services as well as the Lord's Day Eucharist. Catholic Books Review

Steven Vincent DeLeers clearly understands the challenges facing Catholic preaching some forty years after the Second Vatican Council. Catholic Books Review Offers preachers a book that is personal, inculturated, clear, and, one that will activate the reader to prepare sermons that are, indeed the living Word of God. Pastoral Music This book should be in the library of every preacher. Catholic Library World DeLeers' guidance through over thirty years of church documents leads preachers to a renewed awareness of the dignity and importance of the Sunday homily. The vision found here leads to a practical approach to preaching, holding up a profile of the homily as personal, liturgical, clear, inculturated, and actualizing. This study is informative and transformative for both those with preaching experience and those beginning to preach, for Catholics, Protestants, and all other traditions that preach the word of God. Add this book to your preacher's library. James A. Wallace, CSsR, professor of Homiletics at Washington Theological Union, Washington, D.C. Author of *Preaching to the Hungers of the Heart* (Liturgical Press, 2002) With a great deal of keenness Stephen DeLeers has cut through the often dense thicket of forty years of Catholic magisterial pronouncements to describe the Church's developing theology of Sunday preaching. I find this work both theologically challenging, professionally fascinating and immensely practical. For that reason I wholeheartedly recommend the work for novices and veterans alike. Bishop Richard J. Sklba A mosaic window of insights, understanding, and helpful practices, whether for the preacher who stands inside the homiletic moment or for the believer who sits in the pew with eyes and ears of faith. Joseph J. Juknialis, Homiletic faculty, Saint Francis Seminary, Milwaukee, WI

Stephen Vincent DeLeers, DMin, is an author and consultant in homiletics. He has taught and lectured widely, and among his writings are those in *The Bible Today*, *New Theology Review*, and

The Theology of Priesthood, all published by Liturgical Press. He maintains a presence on the web at [www.betterpreaching.org](http://www.betterpreaching.org).

Very helpful for students.

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