

LIVING THE WORD

- ❖ Persecution in Jerusalem saw many Christians go out to other towns and cities. Samaria was the Northern part of Israel, the home of the 'Samaritans'. Because of history and religious differences - they waited for the Messiah to come to Mt Gerazim instead of Jerusalem - Samaritans and Jews did not associate together. It is a newly appointed Greek speaking Philip (see last week's readings) who enters into this area. Looking back on your life, have sufferings, trials, persecution helped you expand the horizons of your life? In your workplace or parish do some barriers need to be broken down? Who could be a 'Philip' without the baggage of the past to work in this area?
- ❖ Philip's whole life won people over to his message. It was not only his words but 'the signs' he was doing. Does your lifestyle help or hinder people to hear and accept the gospel?
- ❖ Peter's letter acknowledges suffering. Keep your conscience clear and show good conduct. How could this apply to your life?
- ❖ The Easter-tide readings are still dwelling upon the farewell speech of Jesus to his disciples in the Gospel of John (Jn 14-17). He promises to send to them 'another advocate'. Advocate comes from a Greek legal word meaning someone who will give 'good advice' and stand alongside to speak for you. Like a lawyer in a courtroom. In trials and troubles the Holy Spirit will lead into 'truth'. John will also use the words 'Paraclete' (one standing alongside) and comforter as words to explain the role and experience the Holy Spirit will bring. Ponder the words 'Advocate' and 'Paraclete' and 'Comforter'. Does this expand your appreciation of the Holy Spirit?
- ❖ Many consider the Holy Spirit difficult to know and experience. A guide from the scripture texts may be we need to be more courageous in mission – to 'be taken to court' - to experience the Holy Spirit at work? Can you identify an experience of the Spirit at work in your life? How could this experience be grown and deepened?
- ❖ There is a long prayer tradition of repeating and deeply feeling the words of a scripture phrase. Our mind focusses upon the words and our heart feels its truth. John shares some beautiful phrases today. Pray for 5 minutes with a phrase...take one with you for your car journey, lunchtime prayer, personal quiet time....
 - 'I am in the Father and you are in me and I in you'.
 - 'Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father'.
 - 'I will love you and reveal myself to you'.

May we reflect on who we are.

In my pastoral role within this faith community, I have the great privilege to see much that most might never see. People come forward at moments of true personal conversion or growth. Others seek the sacraments or share just amazing stories of their life. Some seek a prayer at a time of great suffering or challenge. It is all so humbling.

Last Sunday, we celebrated the baptism of Leo and his initiation into the church. As an adult male, Leo made a purposeful decision to become a Christian. He took that step by coming our way, with his family, and being part of us. In our midst, he encountered the living Jesus, and so becoming a member of the Catholic Church made sense. We are part of his treasured journey, for no one's journey is ever taken alone. Together, we stand as a community of faith.

This Sunday, after mass, an eight-year-old girl, is being baptized. This is happening at her own request. She is the one who came forward to me, to request baptism. She did not come from nowhere. She came with her mum and dad. She stepped forward because of what she has experienced as part of our worshipping community.

As I reflect upon all this, and more, happening in our midst, I name it as being about us. It is about us together with the Holy Spirit, who is alive and active in and through us. The Spirit is stirring us up, stirring up life. We are caught up in a powerful whirlwind of 'spiritual enlightenment', as I name it. So we share life with each other in faith, thus encountering Jesus, our true and intimate companion, and being enlivened by him.

A great theologian of last century, *Edward Schillebeeckx op*, aptly reflected on who we are.

As church, as the body of Christ in the world, we "make visible the invisible love of God".

So, he sees the seven sacraments as "visible signs of the church's encounter in faith with the risen Christ". As for us, he names that we have a positive role as church to give witness, "in and through communities of baptized Christians, who write a fifth gospel with their lives".

Basically, the sacraments are about our coming to know Jesus, grow as his friend and go out to share his friendship with others. Think about it. What a great privilege we all share as lovers of God and friends of Jesus. - **John P Murray osa**



CALENDAR

MONDAY

May 15
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:11-15
Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday

May 16
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:22-34
Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday

May 17
Easter Weekday
Acts 17:15,
22-18:1
Jn 16:12-15

Thursday

May 18
Easter Weekday
Acts 18:1-8
Jn 16:16-20

Friday

May 19
Easter Weekday
Acts 18:9-18
Jn 16:20-23

Saturday

May 20
Easter Weekday
Acts 18:23-28
Jn 16:23b-28

Sunday

May 21
Ascension
Acts 1:1-11
Eph 1:17-23
Mt 28:16-20

HOSPITALITY

Communion

We are the Body of Christ. This is who we are as Church. It is our profound mystery that we take and eat, take and drink at Communion. In doing so, we give expression to our identity.

If we are not in communion with the Catholic Church, it makes no logical sense for those to receive because simply, it is not their identity.

If you are Buddhist, from another Christian tradition or just our welcome guest, please feel free to come forward, not to receive communion but to ask for a blessing.

The simple practice of asking for a blessing is through the bodily posture of bowing one's head and crossing one's arms across one's chest when before the minister distributing communion.

If you are a parent with a child not receiving Communion, please take personal responsibility in asking the minister for a blessing for your child.

John P. Murray osa
Pastoral Leader, 10 am Mass Community

Our website:

www.assumptioncathedralbkk.org

PLEASE REGISTER!

For general or pastoral enquiries, please email:
enquiries@assumptioncathedralbkk.org

ASSUMPTION CATHEDRAL

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Bangrak, Bangkok 10500
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Fax: 0-2234-3414

PASTOR:

Rev. Ignatius Adisak Somsaengsuang

ASSISTANTS:

Rev. Peter Booncharat Suksawang
Rev. Peter Withawat Kaewwaen

MASS SCHEDULE:

Mon-Fri : Thai 06:00 and 17:15 hrs.
Sat : Thai 06:00; 17:00 novena followed by
mass
Sun : Thai 07:00; 08:30 and 17:00 hrs.
English 10:00 hrs.

BAPTISM:

Thai : **First Sunday** during 8:30 am mass.
English : **Second Sunday** during 10:00 am
mass.

CONFESSION:

Sundays : Before all masses (Thai).
English before 10:00 am mass.

CATHOLIC CENTER:

For religious articles, please visit the center opposite
the entrance of the Cathedral.

Opening Hours:

Mon-Fri : 08:30 – 17:00 hrs.
Sat, Sun : Closed
& public holidays

Dear Padre

May 14, 2023

***If the Catholic Church recognizes baptisms
from other Christian denominations, why not
confirmations?***

Baptism signs us with an indelible mark. It defines our character and can never be repeated. A baptism is always held to be valid if a person is baptized with water using the Trinitarian formula (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1256). If a priest is unsure of the validity of a person's baptism, he would baptize the person conditionally, recognizing the earlier baptism if it happened and was valid. The minister of baptism is usually an ordained minister, but in necessity anyone can baptize, including a non-Christian, if the person intends what the Church intends.

Confirmation also leaves an indelible mark, as does holy orders, and they also cannot be repeated. What makes confirmation different from baptism is that the minister of confirmation is ordinarily the bishop because this expresses the apostolic unity of the Church (CCC 1312). If someone had been confirmed in a Church that has apostolic succession, their confirmation would be considered valid, and the person wouldn't be reconfirmed.

Most Christian churches have a common understanding of what the sacrament of baptism is, but while other churches might have communion, confirmation, and ordination, their celebration of those sacraments may not include all the requirements necessary for the Catholic Church to consider them valid. ●

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS PLEASE STAND

Priest: Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

HOLY – Belmont Mass
MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION – Belmont Mass
(PLEASE SEE INSERT)

DOXOLOGY PLEASE STAND

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

GREAT AMEN – Belmont Mass (PLEASE SEE INSERT)

COMMUNION RITE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (No. 387)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil; graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

LAMB OF GOD – Belmont Mass (PLEASE SEE INSERT)

PLEASE KNEEL

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

COMMUNION HYMN: I RECEIVED THE LIVING GOD (No. 916)

FINAL HYMN: ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS (No. 949) PLEASE STAND

6th Sunday of Easter (Year A)
Sunday, 14th May 2023

ENTRANCE HYMN: SING TO THE MOUNTAINS (No. 519) PLEASE STAND

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Priest: I confess to almighty God,

All: and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do;
– and, striking their breast, they say –

Through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;
Therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever-virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: **Amen.**

KYRIE / LORD HAVE MERCY – Belmont Mass
GLORY TO GOD – Belmont Mass
(PLEASE SEE INSERT)

FIRST READING: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

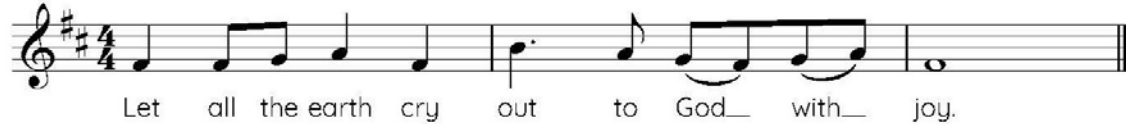
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Christ to them. With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing. For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice, came out of many possessed people, and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured. There was great joy in that city.

Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 66: LET ALL THE EARTH CRY OUT TO GOD WITH JOY

1. Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise. Say to God, "How tremendous are your deeds!" (R)
2. "Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you, sing praise to your name!" Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam. (R)
3. He has changed the sea into dry land; through the river they passed on foot; therefore let us rejoice in him. He rules by his might forever. (R)
4. Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare what he has done for me. Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or his kindness! (R)

SECOND READING: 1 Pt 3:15-18**A reading from the first Letter of Saint Peter:**

Beloved: Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who defame your good conduct in Christ may themselves be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be the will of God, than for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA – Belmont Mass
(PLEASE SEE INSERT)

PLEASE STAND

All: Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

GOSPEL: Jn 14:15-21

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the Good News according to John.

All: Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

Priest: The Good News of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PLEASE BE SEATED**THE APOSTLES' CREED PLEASE STAND**

Priest: I believe in God,

All: the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

RESPONSE TO THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:
"Come to us, O Spirit of Truth."

PLEASE BE SEATED**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST****PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS**

OFFERTORY HYMN: THE KINGDOM OF GOD (No. 740)