

LIVING THE WORD

- ❖ The writer of the Gospel of Luke is also understood to have written the Acts of the Apostles. In Acts, we learn of the unfolding events after Easter. The Feast of the Ascension is not trying to claim historically after 40 days Jesus 'ascended' but simply to reflect on his 'Ascension' and new presence now in Heaven. Jesus states a promise has been made by the 'Father' to send the Holy Spirit. Have you ever asked someone to make a 'promise'? Why? What does this reveal about Jesus and 'us'?
- ❖ The disciples are almost 'told off' by the Angels. 'Why are you looking up at the sky?' Instead of looking up, look around and get to work. The text also encourages a waiting for the Spirit and its power so that each disciple can 'witness'. Have you 'waited in prayer' calling for the gift and promise of the Holy Spirit? Consider how you could enter deeply into this prayer request leading to the celebration of Pentecost next week. Consider a place and time. The Spirit is often given through other people's prayer. Who could you ask?
- ❖ The letter to the Ephesians describes what the Spirit can bring about in us constantly in the life of the Church. What part of the prayer attracts your attention... wisdom, revelation, knowledge, enlighten, hope, call, glory, great might....? Why do you feel the attraction? What may this reveal about a possible prayer journey with the Holy Spirit leading to Pentecost?
- ❖ Putting things 'beneath his feet' is an ancient idea of authority and power. Kings and Queens were often raised to a height so that all who would come to visit would approach at the level of their feet. Consider Jesus having 'all power and authority'. Nothing is beyond the possibility of his doing. What would you often pray for knowing you can call upon this 'power'?
- ❖ Some disciples fell down and worshipped but others doubted. Matthew includes this acknowledgment of the persistent weakness and failure always present in the Church. Does this weakness of the disciples give you comfort or cause you to complain? In your journey of worship and doubt what has helped you remain a disciple? How could you help a 'doubter'?
- ❖ Jesus is not an absentee landlord. The Matthew text does not actually state Jesus has 'left'. There is still the struggle displacing the grip of Satan and completing the 'reign of God'. This is why he clothes his disciples with his power to continue in his work. How is Jesus present 'until the end of the age'? How do *you* continue 'his presence'?

*POPE FRANCIS at Mass with Myanmar Community in Rome
St Peter's Basilica - Solemnity of the Ascension, 2021*

In the last hours of his life, Jesus prays for his friends. Even though he bears in his heart and in his flesh all the sin of the world, Jesus continues to love us and pray for us. From his prayer, we learn how to deal with dramatic and painful moments. Let us think about one particular word that Jesus uses in his prayer to Father: it is the word "keep". In these days when your beloved country of Myanmar is experiencing violence, conflict and repression, let us ask ourselves: what we are being called to keep?

To keep the faith. Jesus does not resign himself to evil; he does not let himself be overwhelmed by grief; he does not retreat into the bitterness of the defeated and disappointed. Instead, he looks to heaven. To keep the faith is to keep our gaze lifted up to heaven, as here on earth, battles are fought and innocent blood is shed. To keep the faith is to refuse to yield to the logic of hatred and vengeance, but to keep our gaze fixed on the God of love, who calls us to be brothers and sisters to one another.

To keep unity. Jesus asks the Father to preserve the unity of his disciples, so that they may be "completely one" (Jn 17:21), one family in which love and fraternity reign. Division is a deadly disease. We experience it in our hearts, because we are divided within. We experience it in families and communities, among peoples, even in the Church. Sins against unity abound: envy, jealousy, the pursuit of personal interests rather than the common good, the tendency to judge others. Those little conflicts of ours find a reflection in great conflicts, like the one your country is experiencing in these days. We are called to keep unity, to be a family, to find the courage to live in friendship, love and fraternity. Each of you can make an effort to be, in little things, a builder of fraternity, someone who works to rebuild what is broken rather than fomenting violence. We are called to do this as Church. Let us promote dialogue, respect for others, care for our brothers and sisters, communion!

To keep the truth. Jesus asks the Father to consecrate his disciples in truth as they will be sent throughout the world to carry on his mission. Keeping the truth means remaining bound to Christ and being devoted to his Gospel. Truth, for the apostle John, is Christ himself, the revelation of the Father's love. Jesus prays that his disciples will not follow the criteria of this world. They are to keep their friendship with him; they are to preserve his message in its integrity. To keep the truth means to be a prophet in every situation in life, in other words, to be consecrated to the Gospel and bear witness to it.



CALENDAR

Monday

May 22
Easter Weekday
Acts 19:1-8
Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday

May 23
Easter Weekday
Acts 20:17-27
Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday

May 24
Easter Weekday
Acts 20:28-38
Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday

May 25
Easter Weekday
Acts 22:30;
23:6-11
Jn 17:20-26

Friday

May 26
St. Philip Neri,
Priest
Acts 25:13b-21
Jn 21:15-19

Saturday

May 27
Easter Weekday
Acts 28:16-20,
30-31
Jn 21:20-25

Sunday

May 28
Pentecost
Acts 2:1-11
1 Cor 12:3b-7,
12-13
Jn 20:19-23

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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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 21, 2023

Why should I be confirmed?

In baptism, God calls you to be a priest, prophet and king. In confirmation, you receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit to live out those vocations. A priest offers prayer and sacrifice. In confirmation, you are moved to make your everyday life a sacrifice that you join to the sacrifice of Christ on the cross (Romans 12:1). *Prophet* is from *prophētēs*, a Greek word meaning “spokesperson.” In confirmation, you are compelled to preach the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:16), just as the apostles were when they received the Holy Spirit on the original day of Pentecost (Acts 2:2-4). When you were baptized, you were made a member of the royal family of God (1 Peter 2:9). Just as Jesus showed what it means to be a Servant King, so are we called to serve others in love. In confirmation, we are inspired by the love that God pours into us in his Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5).

In his first public preaching, Jesus quoted from Isaiah the prophet: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me” (Luke 4:18). That was the beginning of his public ministry. When the bishop anoints you with chrism, you can say the same. Your confirmation is the beginning of your own public ministry. ●

Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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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 AM THE BREAD OF LIFE (No. 945)

*FINAL HYMN: GO TO THE WORLD (No. 546) **(PLEASE STAND)***

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (Year A)

Sunday, 21st May 2023

ENTRANCE HYMN: HAIL THE DAY THAT SEES HIM RISE (No. 543, verses 4-6)

(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 1:1-11

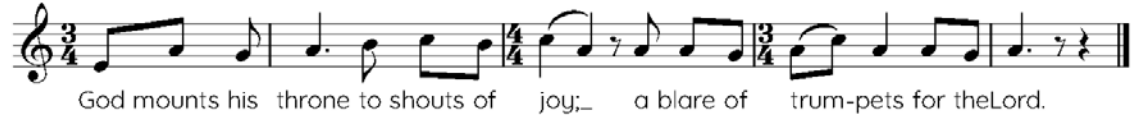
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 47: GOD MOUNTS HIS THRONE TO SHOUTS OF JOY

1. All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness, For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth. (R)
2. God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the LORD, amid trumpet blasts. Sing praise to God, sing praise; sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R)
3. For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne. (R)

SECOND READING: Eph 1:17-23**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians:**

Brothers and sisters: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA – Belmont Mass
(PLEASE SEE INSERT)

PLEASE STAND

**All: Go and teach all nations, says the Lord;
I am with you always, until the end of the world.**

GOSPEL: Mt 28:16-20

Priest: The Lord be with you.

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

All: And with your spirit.

All: Glory to you, Lord.

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

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:
"Send us your Spirit, O God."

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

OFFERTORY HYMN: BLESS THE LORD (No. 620)

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS PLEASE STAND