

LIVING THE WORD

- ❖ Jeremiah expresses total confidence that the Lord will protect him even though he is in a volatile situation where even one-time friends are out to trip him up. Have you ever felt trapped and surrounded by difficulties out of your control? How did you relate with God through that time?
- ❖ How hard is it for you to 'trust your cause to God' like Jeremiah? What do you need to be able to move from *knowledge* about faith, to faith in a warm, honest, deep relationship in which you experience the love, power, mercy and justice of God at 'gut level' in your life? Try praying the prayer of Jeremiah and keep a record of how God works in your situation.
- ❖ In Romans 5, Paul explains why the revelation of Jesus means God can be utterly trusted. Because he put his love on the line by sending Jesus to rescue us when we were trapped in sin and separated from God. Sin entered the world and because of sin we struggle with trials, difficulties, addictions and disordered desires and relationships with people and Creation in a myriad of ways. But just as one person caused the problem, Jesus – true God and true Man – overcame sin not simply for himself but for many. That is the essence of the Good News. While we were trapped in sin, Jesus came to set us free. It is a gift to be accepted and opened. What aspect of your life do you struggle with most? Ask Jesus to give you the grace of what you need to be set free in that area today.
- ❖ Jesus tells us to "*Fear no one*". That brings enormous freedom, born out of trust in the absoluteness of God's power and care for us. Jesus asks us to recognise our true worth – that we are so precious to God that every hair on our head has been counted and even a sparrow is known to God. What does the imagery tell you about how attentive God is to you? Did you know how much God values you? Pray for the gift of knowing the worth God sees in you.
- ❖ The Gospel tells us that anyone who acknowledges Jesus before others will be acknowledged by Jesus before the Father. What opportunities to share God's love can you take this week? How do you feel knowing that Jesus speaks up for you and your needs?
- ❖ The word 'fear' appears 92 times in the New Testament. God knows our human tendency to be afraid and wants to encourage us to trust God. Pope St John XXIII said, "*Consult not your fears, but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.*" How does knowing your true worth help you do that?

Six Months until Christmas

It is six months until Christmas and who's counting? Time goes quickly – a truism. Time is precious – a healthy appreciation of a God-given gift. Time is wasted – too often the sad fact. When looking at time, St Augustine's encouragement was that we keep on walking, to adventure forward, to make progress: "*Think about the things to come, do not look back, or you may become stuck, feeling satisfied with yourself, and losing sight of the real goal of growing closer to God*" (Sermon 169).

Bishop Kallistos Ware reflects this same perspective on time, in his work, *The Orthodox Way* (1999): *Eternity signifies unending progress, a never-ceasing advance. As J.R.R. Tolkien has said, "Roads go ever, ever on". This is true of the Spiritual Way, not only in the present life, but also in the Age to come. We move constantly onwards. And it is forward we go, not back. The Age to come is not simply a return to the beginning, a restoration of the original state of perfection in Paradise, but it is a fresh departure. There is to be a new heaven and a new earth: and the last things will be greater than the first.*

Then I came across a line of St Basil (4th century, Bishop and theologian) – "*Your whole life is the moment of baptism.*" I read so many WoW statements. This one from St Basil tells us that baptism gives us entry into appreciating time in a new and radical way, for baptism transforms life. That is what the Gospel is about: transformation. I have often read: "*The Gospel transforms life, or it does nothing at all*". We may not appreciate this. We may think nothing ever changes. If so, simply put, we are wrong, for baptism changes everything. It is up to us as church together to believe this and act accordingly.

Radical changes do happen through baptism and our subsequent living out our baptismal faith for, through our baptism, we are proclaiming faith in the resurrection, which is *now*. Think about it. Time is no longer just going quickly, no longer boring nor simply wasted. Rather, baptism opens us up to appreciating that *now* is the time. *Now* we live life to the full, living the life Jesus gives to us.

Returning to Bishop Kallistos, he continues: *Because God is infinite, this constant 'reaching forward' proves limitless. The soul possesses God, and yet still seeks him; her joy is full, and yet grows always more intense. God grows ever nearer to us, yet he still remains the Other; we behold him face to face, yet we still continue to advance further and further into the divine mystery. Although strangers no longer, we do not cease to be pilgrims. We go forward 'from glory to glory' (2Cor. 3:18), and then to a glory that is greater still.*

Never again, let us think time is boring. – **John P Murray osa**



CALENDAR

Monday

June 26

Weekday

Gn 12:1-9

Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday

June 27

Weekday

Gn 13:2, 5-18

Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday

June 28

St. Irenaeus,

Bishop and Martyr

Gn 15:1-12, 17-18

Mt 7:15-20

Thursday

June 29

Sts. Peter and

Paul, Apostles

Acts 12:1-11

2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18

Mt 16:13-19

Friday

June 30

Weekday

Gn 17:1, 9-10,

15-22

Mt 8:1-4

Saturday

July 1

Weekday

Gn 18:1-15

Mt 8:5-17

Sunday

July 2

Thirteenth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

2 Kgs 4:8-11,

14-16a

Rom 6:3-4, 8-11

Mt 10:37-42

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 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

June 25, 2023

A friend of mine wants to be cremated. Does the Church permit it?

The Church permits cremation when extraordinary circumstances warrant it. There was never a direct canonical ban on cremation until 1886, simply because it was not widely practiced by the Christian Church; its members preferred inhumation—the traditional form of burial—in hopeful imitation of Christ, whose body was resurrected from the dead. The Church reacted to a proliferation of nineteenth-century cremation societies, primarily in Europe, with a decree that forbade Catholics from membership in these societies or from cremation (with obvious exceptions made in times of public crisis, plagues, wars, etc.). The Church restated the ban as late as 1926 out of concern that these groups were anti-religious in promoting cremation as an argument against belief in the resurrection.

The Vatican has allowed cremation as an acceptable alternative to burial since 1963, except in cases where irreligious motives are apparent (Canon 1176, No. 3). Nevertheless, “although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in those rites” (No. 413, *Order of Christian Funerals*, “Appendix 2, Cremation,” 1997). Moreover, while the Church permits cremation, the scattering of ashes is forbidden. They are to be reserved with reverence in a sacred place. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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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: JESUS, HOPE OF THE WORLD (No. 909)

FINAL HYMN: ONE LORD (No. 770) (PLEASE STAND)

12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

Sunday, 25th June 2023

ENTRANCE HYMN: ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH (No. 604) (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: Jer 20:10-13

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah:

Jeremiah said: "I hear the whisperings of many: 'Terror on every side! Denounce! let us denounce him!' All those who were my friends are on the watch for any misstep of mine. 'Perhaps he will be trapped; then we can prevail, and take our vengeance on him.' But the LORD is with me, like a mighty champion: my persecutors will stumble, they will not triumph. In their failure they will be put to utter shame, to lasting, unforgettable confusion. O LORD of hosts, you who test the just, who probe mind and heart, let me witness the vengeance you take on them, for to you I have entrusted my cause. Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD, for he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!"

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 69: LORD, IN YOUR GREAT LOVE



1. For your sake I bear insult, and shame covers my face.
I have become an outcast to my brothers,
a stranger to my mother's children,
Because zeal for your house consumes me,
and the insults of those who blaspheme you fall upon me. (R)
2. I pray to you, O LORD, for the time of your favor, O God!
In your great kindness answer me with your constant help.
Answer me, O LORD, for bounteous is your kindness;
in your great mercy turn toward me. (R)
3. "See, you lowly ones, and be glad; you who seek God, may your hearts revive!
For the LORD hears the poor, and his own who are in bonds he spurns not.
Let the heavens and the earth praise him,
the seas and whatever moves in them!" (R)

SECOND READING: Rom 5:12-15**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans:**

Brothers and sisters: Through one man sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all men, inasmuch as all sinned—for up to the time of the law, sin was in the world, though sin is not accounted when there is no law. But death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin after the pattern of the trespass of Adam, who is the type of the one who was to come.

But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA – Belmont Mass
(PLEASE SEE INSERT)

PLEASE STAND

All: The Spirit of truth will testify to me, says the Lord; and you also will testify.

GOSPEL: Mt 10:26-33

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

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

All: Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus said to the Twelve: "Fear no one. Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known. What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot

kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father."

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:
"Increase our faith and trust in you, O God."

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

OFFERTORY HYMN: BE NOT AFRAID (No. 683)

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.