

LIVING THE WORD

- Zechariah makes a prophesy that the Saviour will enter Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Horse and chariot were symbols of power and war. A donkey was a symbol of humble work and peace. Horse and Donkey. Power and Humility. Violence and Service. Why does the world favour a horse, while God prefers a donkey?
- “Meek” is a word mentioned twice in today’s readings. It comes from a Greek word meaning ‘not easily provoked’. Like a person feeling anger and yet staying in full control, able to turn it to justice rather than violence. Meek people lead the way in reconciliation and healing. Who could you identify as ‘meek’? What practice could you adopt to develop a meek character?
- ‘Flesh’ is St Paul’s expression talking about a life that is lived without God, like an animal following only its senses. A ‘Spirit-led’ life is a life open to God and turned outward in love. How do you experience the disciple’s tension between ‘flesh’ and ‘spirit’? Which life do you feed and nourish?
- Back in Ordinary Time we return to the Year A Gospel of Matthew. In chapters 11-12 Matthew is teaching about Jesus’ identity as the Messiah. Matthew has Jesus replace Moses as the great teacher. Jesus is the Wisdom of God. Jesus is greater than the Torah (the Law given by Moses) and all the Prophets. *‘No one knows the Father except the Son and to whom the Son wishes to reveal him’* is a knowledge claim by Jesus. What does this statement mean for you?
- Jesus remarks how great learned religious figures – Pharisees and Scribes – cannot accept him, yet ‘little ones’ (the poor, those without learning, workers of the land) accept him. It is not necessarily learning that has proven an obstacle, but pride and position. Within those who are ‘comfortable’ and ‘satisfied’ grows an inability to be ‘open’. Are you satisfied? Have you made Jesus comfortable? What challenge of Jesus do you find hardest to be ‘open’ to?
- The Torah (Old Testament Law), handed down by Moses, required knowing and being obedient to 613 laws. This was a ‘heavy burden’. People felt oppressed by the rules and those enforcing them (Sadducees, Scribes and Pharisees). Jewish people referred to this as the ‘yoke of the law’. Jesus invites a radical change. *‘Come to me’* all who are feeling heavily burdened. I will give you rest. Put on my yoke. Learn from me. The Torah is being replaced by the person of Jesus. A wooden ‘yoke’ put around the bullock’s neck was tailor-made to avoid painful imbalance. In *your* disciple’s journey, how are you experiencing the ‘yoke’ of Jesus? Are you trying to do and carry more than is required?

Asian Continental Assembly on Synodality – Federation of Asian Bishops’ Conferences (FABC):

A Summary of Its Final Document to the Church Synod on Synodality, March 2023

The Synodal process put forward by the Pope includes having the Church in each continent present its own contribution to the Universal Church for consideration. Over four Sundays, I present a simple summary of the Asian Church’s document.

THE ASIAN CONTEXT

1. Asia, blessed with diverse cultures, religions, languages, and ethnicities, is the world’s largest continent in terms of both geographical area and population. It has a landmass of 44.6 million square kilometres, about 30% of the total earth’s surface. Asia is home to approximately 4.6 billion people with over 2,300 languages spoken across Asia. It is also considered the birthplace and cradle of major world religions like Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Taoism, Confucianism and several others. Islam is the most prominent religion and is practised by 1.2 billion people, followed by Hinduism with 900 million people, with 150 million Catholics.
2. Though the systems of beliefs, values, and symbols vary from place to place, the interconnectedness of the human community draws the Asian peoples together. The Asian value of being relational (with God, self, other human beings, and the cosmos) brings with it the unity of the human family and the unity of the peoples of Asia.
3. Asia holds the dubious distinction of having the most billionaires in the world on one hand, while on the other, it has 320 million people that are extremely poor, living below the poverty line, according to the World Bank Report. The recent pandemic has further exacerbated the inequality and economic divide between the haves and the have-nots.
4. Politically too, we see diverse systems of governance that include parliamentary democracies, military dictatorial regimes, communist rulers, constitutional monarchies, and presidential forms of government.
5. Despite the benefits that unity and diversity bring to Asia, it is also entrenched with many challenges that directly affect the Church and the lives of the people of Asia. Some of the challenges are the widespread poverty across Asia, the ecological threat that has brought disequilibrium in the lives of people, the challenges of systemic corruption, the waves of economic migration in search of better lives, the political instability that causes internal disruption to peace and harmony, and much more. All of these have a direct impact on the Church as she seeks to reach out to all peoples.



CALENDAR

Monday

July 10
Weekday
Gn 28:10-22a
Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday

July 11
St. Benedict,
Abbot
Gn 32:23-33
Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday

July 12
Weekday
Gn 41:55-57;
42:5-7a, 17-24a
Mt 10:1-7

Thursday

July 13
Weekday
Gn 44:18-21,
23b-29; 45:1-5
Mt 10:7-15

Friday

July 14
St. Kateri
Tekakwitha, Virgin
Gn 46:1-7, 28-30
Mt 10:16-23

Saturday

July 15
St. Bonaventure,
Bishop and Doctor
of the Church
Gn 49:29-32;
50:15-26a
Mt 10:24-33

Sunday

July 16
Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Is 55:10-11
Rom 8:18-23
Mt 13:1-23 or
Mt 13:1-9

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:
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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

July 9, 2023

In 1961, I became a member of the Catholic Church when I married a Catholic man. I divorced him and left the Church in 2007. Now I am a member of the United Methodist Church. Is it possible for me to rejoin the Catholic Church, and if so, what are the requirements? I miss "the church of my heart," the Catholic Church.

It certainly is possible for you to come back, and now is the time to do it. Simply return to your local parish and begin attending Mass regularly. Before you receive the Eucharist again, you should make an appointment to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation. If you are not quite ready to do that, at least begin with coming to church regularly. When you are ready, introduce yourself to the priest and tell him that you would like to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation because you have been away from the Church for a number of years. The priest might encourage you to come to confession at a regularly scheduled time or perhaps make an appointment so you can spend more time together.

It is not necessary to go to classes or to rejoin the RCIA, but there may be some adult faith formation classes you could participate in. Again, your priest or parish could guide you. That tug you are feeling is nothing less than the Holy Spirit. Welcome Home! ●

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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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: LEAD ME, LORD (PLEASE STAND)

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, longing for their Lord, for God's coming kingdom shall be theirs. Blessed are the sorrowing, for they shall be consoled, and the meek shall come to rule the world.
- (R) Lead me, Lord, lead me, Lord, by the light of truth to seek and to find the narrow way. Be my way; be my truth; be my life, my Lord, and lead me, Lord, today.
2. Blessed are the merciful, for mercy shall be theirs, and the pure in heart shall see their God. Blest are they whose hunger only holiness can fill, for I say they shall be satisfied. (R)
3. Blest are they who through their lifetimes sow the seeds of peace; all will call them children of the Lord. Blest are you, though persecuted in your holy life, for in heaven, great is your reward. (R)

14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

Sunday, 9th July 2023

ENTRANCE HYMN: GATHER YOUR PEOPLE (No. 837) (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: Zec 9:9-10

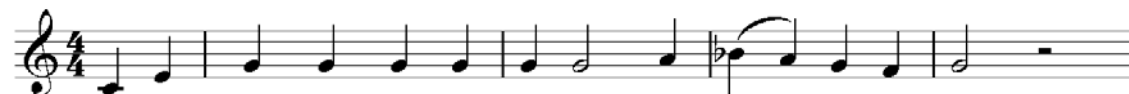
A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zechariah:

Thus says the LORD: Rejoice heartily, O daughter Zion, shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king shall come to you; a just savior is he, meek, and riding on an ass, on a colt, the foal of an ass. He shall banish the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem; the warrior's bow shall be banished, and he shall proclaim peace to the nations. His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 145: I WILL PRAISE YOUR NAME FOR EVER



I will praise your name for ev - er, my king and my God.

1. I will extol you, O my God and King, and I will bless your name forever and ever. Every day will I bless you, and I will praise your name forever and ever. (R)
2. The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The LORD is good to all and compassionate toward all his works. (R)
3. Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD, and let your faithful ones bless you. Let them discourse of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might. (R)
4. The LORD is faithful in all his words and holy in all his works. The LORD lifts up all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. (R)

SECOND READING: Rom 8:9, 11-13

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans:

Brothers and sisters: You are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you. Consequently, brothers and sisters, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA – Belmont Mass
(PLEASE SEE INSERT)

PLEASE STAND

All: Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL: Mt 11:25-30

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.

At that time Jesus exclaimed: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Priest: The Good News of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PLEASE BE SEATED

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES PLEASE STAND

The Priest addresses the Community, who make their responses together.

Do you reject sin so as to live in the freedom of God's children? **I do.**

Do you reject the glamour of evil, and refuse to be mastered by sin? **I do.**

Do you reject Satan, father of sin and prince of darkness? **I do.**

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth? **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father? **I do.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting? **I do.**

The priest concludes:

This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church.

We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

RESPONSE TO THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:
“Lord of glory, hear our prayer.”

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN: REST NOW IN ME (No. 711)

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.