

LIVING THE WORD

- The Book of Wisdom was written for Jewish people living in cities heavily influenced by Greek culture and philosophy. Wisdom teaching was to remind them of their history and relationship with God. People are to learn from the patience, gentleness and forgiving nature of God and show this in their own lives. How can you be both 'just' and 'kind'? Does your use of power show itself in being 'lenient' and gentle to all?
- Last week the Spirit dwelling within us was referred to as a 'first-fruits'. A first installment. An engagement ring looking forward to the promise of the wedding day! St Paul today provides a beautiful image of the presence and power of the Spirit at work in us. The Spirit prays within us in a unique way to God. Have you experienced a time of wanting to pray to God but not having words to describe how you feel. What prayer intention does your body and spirit 'groan' with to God? Do you recognise that this experience can be a powerful prayer? Offer this groaning today to God in prayer.
- Weeds. Seeds. Yeast. Each image expresses something of the way that God and God's project (*growing the Kingdom of Heaven*) is present and alive in the world. Allowing wheat and weeds to grow together is risky farming. What is your emotional reaction to the presence of good and evil existing alongside each other? Within you? Can you glimpse the patience of God?
- The mustard seed is the smallest seed, yet within a year it can turn into a shrub large enough to be mistaken for a tree. From very small beginnings it becomes something extraordinarily large. Can you identify a small action of love and service that made a profound impact on you? Can you recognise your daily 'sowing' mustard seeds of justice, forgiveness and gentleness build the Kingdom of Heaven? What 'seed' needs to be sown most in your workplace / home today?
- The humble presence of a small amount of yeast in a large quantity of flour dramatically transforms a flour mixture into bread (three measures would feed 100 people). Jesus challenges disciples to be this type of 'presence' in the world. Yet the Kingdom requires a person to be completely possessed by a small seed: *'love your neighbour as yourself'*.
- Parables often hide a challenging message. The apparent power of evil. The littleness of the 'seeds' of our loving. The small amount of our 'yeast' in the vastness of the world and its problems. Yet the mustard seed is tremendously fruitful. The yeast succeeds in transforming flour. Hope is at the centre of Kingdom living. The 'righteous will shine'. Can you live full of hope – refusing to be beaten by the reality you see?

Summary of FABC Final Document to the Church Synod on Synodality, March 2023 *(continued from last week)*

PRIORITIES FROM THE ASIAN RESPONSES

The following are 6 priorities that have been identified through a process of prayer and discernment with the hope that they reflect the desires of Asian hearts. These point to a need for authentic prophetic servant-leadership that is dependent upon and leads to continuous conversion. It is evident that, to a large extent, the synodal journey is made more possible with the awareness and willingness of the people of God to embrace this reality.

Formation

For a synodal Church, there needs to be an initial and ongoing formation at all levels, for all people, beginning with the families and Basic Ecclesial Communities (BECs). Seminarians, priests, bishops, and consecrated men and women must be formed to live synodal leadership styles, communal discernment, and decision-making. The laity needs to be formed to take active roles, according to their baptismal call, to serve with generosity to God and a love for the Church and its people. Formation for a synodal spirituality must be at the heart of the Church's mission and vision.

Inclusivity & Hospitality

Women, youth, and those marginalised or excluded, with special attention to the abandoned (e.g., street children and elderly), also significant pastoral care should be provided to divorced, remarried, single parents, broken families, persons with disabilities, prisoners, persons who identify as LGBTQIA+, the elderly, substance dependents, commercial sex workers, the wounded and victimised, fractured families and those struggling with gender identity, the displaced and the persecuted, and a whole spectrum of many others must find their place in this Church.

Structures may need to be revisited so that everyone feels a sense of belonging in the Church and each person becomes an ambassador of Christ, an ambassador of inclusivity and hospitality.



CALENDAR

Monday

July 24
Weekday
Ex 14:5-18
Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday

July 25
St. James,
Apostle
2 Cor 4:7-15
Mt 20:20-28

Wednesday

July 26
Sts. Joachim and
Anne, Parents of
the Blessed Virgin
Mary

Ex 16:1-5, 9-15
Mt 13:1-9

Thursday

July 27
Weekday
Ex 19:1-2, 9-11,
16-20b
Mt 13:10-17

Friday

July 28
Weekday
Ex 20:1-17
Mt 13:18-23

Saturday

July 29
Sts. Martha, Mary,
and Lazarus
Ex 24:3-8
Jn 11:19-27 or
Lk 10:38-42

Sunday

July 30
Seventeenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12
Rom 8:28-30
Mt 13:44-52 or
Mt 13:44-46

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

ASSUMPTION CATHEDRAL

23 Oriental Avenue (Charoenkrung Soi 40)
Bangrak, Bangkok 10500
Thailand
Tel: 0-2234-4592, 0-2234-8556, 0-2233-7120
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 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 23, 2023

Christians teach that Adam and Eve were the first man and woman and that they were created by God. How does the Catholic Church reconcile this belief with the theory of evolution?

Chapter 1 of Genesis contains the seven-day account of creation that we usually refer to when we reflect on the beginning of our world. The very next chapter contains a second account. The editors of the Bible were not distraught over the two differing accounts; they left them side by side because they weren't interested in giving either a historical or scientific explanation for the world's origin. Rather, they were emphasizing deeper truths, such as the goodness of the earth as created by a loving and caring God. Scripture tells us that the Creator held human beings as especially precious.

Cannot these same values be maintained if we believe creation (or evolution) took longer than seven twenty-four-hour days? Perhaps God actually spent seventy billion years bringing forth the world's beauty. Details and numbers don't change the message of Genesis: God is good; God created the cosmos, heaven and earth, "all things visible and invisible," as we profess in the Nicene Creed, and all of creation is good. Furthermore, scientific discoveries surrounding space, matter, and all forms of life "invite us to even greater admiration for the greatness of the Creator, prompting us to give him thanks for all his works and for the understanding and wisdom he gives to scholars and researchers" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 283). ●

Fr. Richard A. Boever, CSsR, PhD / DearPadre.org

© 2023 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in USA. Imprimatur: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on October 10, 2022, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivituso, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved.

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: IN REMEMBRANCE OF YOU (No. 944)

FINAL HYMN: GO MAKE OF ALL DISCIPLES (No. 769) **PLEASE STAND**

16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

Sunday, 23rd July 2023

ENTRANCE HYMN: GLORY AND PRAISE TO OUR GOD (No. 606) **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: Wis 12:13, 16-19

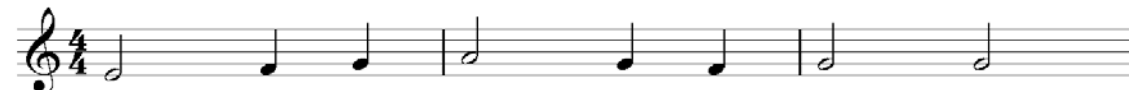
A reading from the Book of Wisdom:

There is no god besides you who have the care of all, that you need show you have not unjustly condemned. For your might is the source of justice; your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all. For you show your might when the perfection of your power is disbelieved; and in those who know you, you rebuke temerity. But though you are master of might, you judge with clemency, and with much lenience you govern us; for power, whenever you will, attends you. And you taught your people, by these deeds, that those who are just must be kind; and you gave your children good ground for hope that you would permit repentance for their sins.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 86: LORD, YOU ARE GOOD AND FORGIVING



Lord, you are good and for - giv - ing.

1. You, O LORD, are good and forgiving, abounding in kindness to all who call upon you. Hearken, O LORD, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my pleading. (R)
2. All the nations you have made shall come and worship you, O LORD, and glorify your name. For you are great, and you do wondrous deeds; you alone are God. (R)
3. You, O LORD, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in kindness and fidelity. Turn toward me, and have pity on me; give your strength to your servant. (R)

SECOND READING: Rom 8:26-27

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

Brothers and sisters: The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will.

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 13:24-30

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.

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn." ' "

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:
"Transform our hearts within us, O God."

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

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

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.