

LIVING THE WORD

- ❖ Fr Anthony De Mello, a famous preacher and teacher, once began a retreat by asking: "Hands up if you want to go to heaven." All eagerly put their hands up. He responded, "Hands up if you want to go to heaven now." No hands went up. He suggested they think about why they were 'not ready' and he walked out of the room! What would be your answer and why?
- ❖ The Book of Daniel was written to encourage Jewish people during a time of great persecution. Mighty armies, Kings, and powerful empires would cease and be silenced by the 'Son of Man'. This is an enthronement vision of Jesus before God the Father. In the midst of superpowers and battles for resources and status, do you view the world and history with 'hope' that the way of Jesus will be victorious? Ask God for what you need to help you grow in this mindset.
- ❖ The second reading is a testimony of what Peter, James and John experience when they are given the revelation of who Jesus truly is as the glorified beloved son of the Father. The three apostles did not share the experience at the request of Jesus, but they also did not fully comprehend its meaning until after the Resurrection. Describe a time you experienced something significant which took a long time to fully understand. What personal experience of God has helped you grow deeper in your faith or knowledge of God in your life over time? How much weight do we place on eyewitness testimony today? How does Peter's eyewitness testimony impact your faith?
- ❖ A 'mountain' or 'high place' was symbolic of a place where one can be *'in touch with God'*. Where is a 'place' where you feel close to God and which helps you 'listen' to yourself and God?
- ❖ Jewish people remembered living in tents in the 40 years of wandering in the desert. They believed God would come among them and look after them again with the coming of the Messiah. They thought Moses or Elijah would come again. Peter acknowledges Jesus' true identity. White symbolizes divinity and Jesus being truly God among us. What are you waiting for God to 'do' for you? Can you identify ways God is showing himself present and active now in your life?
- ❖ The disciples were 'afraid'. Have you ever been 'afraid' of damaging a love relationship with someone close to you? This is called *'holy fear'*. How could you live a 'holy fear' this week?

***Journeying Together as Peoples of Asia "...and they went a different way." (Mt 2:12)
-Document of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC),
arising from its 2023 Conference in Bangkok, celebrating 50 Years.***

Introduction

Bearing witness to God's love for all human beings and for his creation is the mission of the disciples of Jesus Christ, journeying together as peoples of Asia. Indeed, in the covenant with Noah, God's love embraces all peoples and the whole of creation. Caring as a merciful father and a loving mother, God opens new pathways for our journeying in the present time with its multiple challenges and crises.

Walking in the footsteps of the Magi, presented in Matthew's gospel, the FABC 50 General Conference invites us to set out on a journey, charting the way together, following the "star" of God in our present history, interpreting the signs of the times. The evangelist narrates how the Magi, led by a star, embarked on an adventurous journey together. This inspired our Jubilee theme, "Journeying Together as Peoples of Asia, and they went a different way" (Mt 2:12). We saw the present time as a propitious one to discern and undertake new pathways to genuinely renew our mission and ministry in Asia of making the Gospel alive and life-giving for all.

The Gospel impels us, disciples of Jesus, to dare transcend borders – as the Magi did – to abandon unjust structures of life and embark on a journey together in a common quest for meaning and purpose, as we participate in God's project of building life in fullness (cf Jn 10:10), justice and peace. Keeping the journey of the Magi as our framework, we present this Final Document of our FABC 50 General Conference in five parts:

1. Journeying Together
2. Looking
3. Discerning
4. Offering Our Gifts
5. Undertaking New Pathways.

(To be continued over the next five Sundays)



CALENDAR

Monday

August 7

Weekday

Nm 11:4b-15

Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday

August 8

St. Dominic, Priest

Nm 12:1-13

Mt 14:22-36 or

15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday

August 9

Weekday

Nm 13:1-2,

25-14:1,

26-29a, 34-35

Mt 15:21-28

Thursday

August 10

St. Lawrence,

Deacon and Martyr

2 Cor 9:6-10

Jn 12:24-26

Friday

August 11

St. Clare, Virgin

Dt 4:32-40

Mt 16:24-28

Saturday

August 12

Weekday

Dt 6:4-13

Mt 17:14-20

Sunday

August 13

Nineteenth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a,

11-13a

Rom 9:1-5

Mt 14:22-33

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

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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

August 6, 2023

For the past year or so I have been trying to pray on a regular basis, but I am constantly distracted. My mind wanders so easily. Do you have any suggestions?

Distractions in prayer are an inescapable part of the human condition and the result of our imagination. Even great saints experienced distractions in prayer, and some of their suggestions may help. When St. Thérèse of Lisieux struggled with prayer, she would recite an Our Father or a Hail Mary or read from the Gospels. Praying an act of faith or returning to God's presence and love can turn our focus away from other concerns, but even then, distractions may still arise.

When we become aware of them, we should calmly renew our focus and continue our prayer. Saint Teresa of Ávila offers this guidance: "We should not be distressed by reason of our thoughts, nor allow ourselves to be worried by them...The thing is inevitable, therefore do not let it disturb or grieve you" (*The Interior Castle*). No matter how often distractions return or how long they last, they are not sinful. Rather, they are opportunities to show God that we are sincere about praying.

Saint Alphonsus, another great teacher of prayer, reminds us that prayer is necessary, beneficial, and always possible. Hang in there, he says, because the devil would like nothing better than for you to stop praying. ●

The Redemptorists / 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: YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART (No. 940)

FINAL HYMN: JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE YOU (No. 614) **PLEASE STAND**

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Sunday, 6th August 2023

ENTRANCE HYMN: HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE THY NAME (No. 615) **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: Dn 7: 9-10, 13-14

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel:

As I watched: Thrones were set up and the Ancient One took his throne. His clothing was bright as snow, and the hair on his head as white as wool; his throne was flames of fire, with wheels of burning fire. A surging stream of fire flowed out from where he sat; Thousands upon thousands were ministering to him, and myriads upon myriads attended him. The court was convened and the books were opened.

As the visions during the night continued, I saw: One like a Son of man coming, on the clouds of heaven; When he reached the Ancient One and was presented before him, The one like a Son of man received dominion, glory, and kingship; all peoples, nations, and languages serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, his kingship shall not be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 97: THE LORD IS KING



The Lord is king, the Most High o - ver all the earth.

1. The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice; let the many islands be glad.
Clouds and darkness are round about him,
justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne. (R)
2. The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the LORD of all the earth.
The heavens proclaim his justice, and all peoples see his glory. (R)
3. Because you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth,
exalted far above all gods. (R)

SECOND READING: 2 Pt 1:16-19**A reading from the second Letter of Saint Peter:**

Beloved: We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that unique declaration came to him from the majestic glory, "This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain. Moreover, we possess the prophetic message that is altogether reliable. You will do well to be attentive to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA – Belmont Mass
(PLEASE SEE INSERT)

PLEASE STAND

All: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

GOSPEL: Mt 17:1-9

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Priest: The Gospel 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 us into your image, O God."

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN: TRANSFORM US (No. 878)

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.