

# LIVING THE WORD

- Cyrus was the King of Persia. He conquered Babylon and decreed that all exiles could return home and practice their religion. God's people saw God's power at work in this amazing event. God can use even a powerful pagan king to deliver his chosen people. Is there some area of your life, a difficulty at work, an obstacle in your family, which you think of as 'impossible' to change? Be invited to pray for a 'Cyrus' event!
- In ancient times a belief existed of different countries having different gods, and the power of these 'gods' was territorial. Hence, the gods of Babylon would operate in Babylon. The God of Israel would operate in Israel. This event of liberation from Babylon marked a turning point in understanding. God is *all* powerful. Over *all* countries. Over *all* kings. 'There is *no other!*' Does your life reveal a trust and relationship with God who can make all kings *'run in his service ... opening doors before him?*
- When Paul began his preaching in Thessalonica he met resistance from the Jews. He turned to the Greeks in this important Roman City. Upset, the Jewish leaders chased him and others out of town. He sent Timothy back to learn how the Church of God was coping with the persecution. He congratulates them on their endurance. Is there a particular persecution you face in following Christ? Are you working on your faith, labouring in love, enduring in hope? If Timothy were to arrive at your door, what would you share with him?
- A surprising partnership of Pharisees (who resist Roman authority) and Herodians (who partner with 'Herod' and the Roman authorities) attacks Jesus. It is a carefully staged question about paying the poll or census tax. Everyone aged between 12 and 65 was required to pay 1 day's wages to Rome. If Jesus said 'Yes' to tax he would be disloyal to the Jews and lose favour with the people. If he said 'No' he would be seen as opposing Rome and be arrested as a revolutionary. Many Jews even refused to carry Roman coins as a sign of resistance. In a dramatic twist Jesus invites them to show the coin – which reveals they do carry it – and 'accept the system'. What is your view on paying tax? Civil obedience? Making a personal contribution to the 'common good' and public services? What is your reaction to Jesus' strikingly fresh detachment from money?
- Bearing the imprint of Caesar on the coin meant 'it' belonged to Caesar. Jesus invites a more profound reflection. We bear the imprint of our Creator in our very being. We belong completely to God. Consider the depths of this truth. Do you repay and give your whole being to God? Grudgingly or gratefully?

## **World Mission Sunday 2023 – Pope Francis: 'Hearts on fire, feet on the move' (Lk 24:13-35)**

For World Mission Sunday, I have chosen a theme inspired by the story of the disciples on the way to Emmaus, in the Gospel of Luke. Those two disciples were confused and dismayed, but their encounter with Christ in the word and in the breaking of the bread sparked in them the enthusiastic desire to set out again towards Jerusalem and proclaim that the Lord had truly risen.

*Our hearts burned within us 'when he explained the Scriptures to us'. In missionary activity, the word of God illumines and transforms hearts.* Today, as then, the Risen Lord remains close to his missionary disciples and walks beside them, particularly when they feel disoriented, discouraged, fearful, overwhelmed. So, 'let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of hope!' The Lord is greater than all our problems, for this mission is his and we are his humble co-workers.

After listening to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, the Risen Jesus, 'explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself'. As they later confided to each other: 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?'. Jesus is himself the living Word, who alone can make our hearts burn within us, as he enlightens and transforms them. A cold heart can never make other hearts burn! So let us always be willing to let ourselves be accompanied by the Risen Lord as he explains to us the meaning of the Scriptures. May he make our hearts burn within us; may he enlighten and transform us, so that we can proclaim his mystery of salvation to the world with the power and wisdom that come from his Spirit.

*Our feet set out on the way, with the joy of telling others about the Risen Christ. The eternal youth of a Church that is always going forth.* After their eyes were opened and they recognised Jesus 'in the breaking of the bread', the disciples 'set out without delay and returned to Jerusalem'. This setting out in haste, to share with others the joy of meeting the Lord, demonstrates that 'the joy of the Gospel fills the heart and the whole life of those who meet Jesus. Those who allow themselves to be saved by him are freed from sin, from sadness, from inner emptiness, from isolation. With Jesus Christ, joy is always born and reborn'.

The image of 'feet setting out' reminds us of the perennial validity of the mission entrusted to the Church by the Risen Lord to evangelise all individuals and peoples. Today more than ever, our human family, wounded by so many situations of injustice, so many divisions and wars, is in need of the Good News of peace and salvation in Christ.

Just as the two disciples of Emmaus told the others what had taken place along the way, so too our proclamation will be a joyful telling of Christ the Lord, his life, his passion, his death and resurrection, and the wonders that his love has accomplished in our lives. So let us set out once more, illumined by our encounter with the Risen Lord and prompted by his Spirit. Let us set out again with burning hearts. Let us set out to make other hearts burn with the Word of God.



## CALENDAR

### MONDAY

October 23  
Weekday  
Rom 4:20-25  
Lk 12:13-21

### TUESDAY

October 24  
Weekday  
Rom 5:12, 15b,  
17-19, 20b-21  
Lk 12:35-38

### WEDNESDAY

October 25  
Weekday  
Rom 6:12-18  
Lk 12:39-48

### THURSDAY

October 26  
Weekday  
Rom 6:19-23  
Lk 12:49-53

### FRIDAY

October 27  
Weekday  
Rom 7:18-25a  
Lk 12:54-59

### SATURDAY

October 28  
Sts. Simon and  
Jude, Apostles  
Eph 2:19-22  
Lk 6:12-16

### SUNDAY

October 29  
Thirtieth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Ex 22:20-26  
1 Thes 1:5c-10  
Mt 22:34-40

## 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](http://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

October 22, 2023

***Is it a sin to break the law? It is illegal to use fireworks in my city, but every year I do it anyway. Should I mention this in confession?***

Strictly speaking, to break a government law does not automatically constitute the definition of sin, so it needn't be mentioned in the sacrament of penance. By definition, sin damages (or, with grave sin, destroys) communion with God and the Church (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1472). Some actions may not be objectively destructive to our relationship with God and Church—and therefore are not sinful—but they may affect others. Church members are part of society, which depends on its citizens to abide by the laws. Saint Paul encouraged everyone to obey the authorities, for all authority that exists is established by God (see Romans 13:1-7).

Not all sins are equally offensive to God; similarly, not all civil laws are equal in their gravity. To knowingly travel a few miles over the posted speed limit isn't the same as intentionally starting a fire in a posted area of a forest. The danger is in thinking one's actions are without consequence. Sensible civil laws are designed to ensure the safety and well-being of citizens, and many municipalities outlaw fireworks because of the hazards they pose.

When any civil law is broken for mere self-indulgence or when breaking the law places others at risk, the act has the potential of constituting the definition of sin. In that case, it would rightfully warrant sacramental reconciliation. ●

*Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org*

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**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**HOLY**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest. **PLEASE KNEEL**

**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION**

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

**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**

Amen. Amen. Amen.

**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**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. (Repeat)  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace. **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: DRAW NEAR (No. 935)**

**FINAL HYMN: MAKE ME A CHANEL OF YOUR PEACE (No. 828) PLEASE STAND**

**29<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)**

*Sunday, 22 October 2023*

**ENTRANCE HYMN: SING A NEW SONG (No. 607) 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, ELEISON / LORD, HAVE MERCY**

Kýrie, eléison, (2); Christe, eléison, (2); Kýrie, eléison, (2).

**GLORY TO GOD**

**Refrain:** Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace, on earth peace to people of good will.

- 1. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.**
- 2. Lord, Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand, the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.**
- 3. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. (R)**

**FIRST READING: Is 45:1, 4-6**

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:**

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus, whose right hand I grasp, subduing nations before him, and making kings run in his service, opening doors before him and leaving the gates unbarred: For the sake of Jacob, my servant, of Israel, my chosen one, I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the LORD and there is no other,

there is no God besides me. It is I who arm you, though you know me not, so that toward the rising and the setting of the sun people may know that there is none besides me. I am the LORD, there is no other.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 96: GIVE THE LORD GLORY AND HONOUR**



1. Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all you lands.  
Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous deeds. (R)
2. For great is the LORD and highly to be praised; awesome is he, beyond all gods.  
For all the gods of the nations are things of nought, but the LORD made the heavens. (R)
3. Give to the LORD, you families of nations, give to the LORD glory and praise;  
give to the LORD the glory due his name! Bring gifts, and enter his courts. (R)
4. Worship the LORD, in holy attire; tremble before him, all the earth;  
say among the nations: The LORD is king, he governs the peoples with equity. (R)

**SECOND READING: 1 Thes 1:1-5b**

**A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians:**

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing, brothers and sisters loved by God, how you were chosen. For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ALLELUIA PLEASE STAND**

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)**

**All: Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the word of life.**

**GOSPEL: Mt 22:15-21**

**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.**

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

**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:**

***"Guide us in our mission, O God."***

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY HYMN: FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD (No. 580)**

**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.**