

# LIVING THE WORD

- ❖ A special relationship between God and his people was created with Abraham and Moses. This relationship was two-way. God would look after and guide his people. God's people would listen to and obey certain laws. The first 5 books of the Old Testament – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy – express what is required by both parties to live this Covenant. Today's reading explores the 'covenant code' and what social behaviours are required by God. Aliens (foreigners), widows and orphans have no protection of family or friends. But God loves them. We are to love, include and provide for them. Who are the equivalent of aliens, widows and orphans today? Are you living in 'covenant-love' with them?
- ❖ Jewish people were not to demand interest. They developed the practice of a 'pledge' to ensure repayment. As a safeguard God stated a poor person was not to go cold at night without his cloak. Certain measures were in place to protect the dignity of the poor. How could you relate this to the present time?
- ❖ Paul continues his praise for the community of Thessalonica. Despite Paul and the other teachers being forced to leave them because of persecution, their '*imitation of them*' and '*the word of the Lord sounding forth from them*' to other communities showed such courage and faith. Have you ever had someone inspirational leave you and yet you decided to 'continue their example'? Who has done this for your faith journey? What happened?
- ❖ Jesus is again forced into an argument with religious leaders. Pharisees decide to attack Jesus' knowledge of the 'Laws'. Jewish people had summarised all the laws of the first 5 books of the Old Testament into 613 laws. All were to be observed. Some were interpreted as 'heavy—very important' and some were thought of as 'light—not as important'. Surprisingly, Jesus took a '*heavy*' law and a '*light*' law and said they were intimately linked. Love God **and** neighbour. Jewish people interpreted 'neighbour' as fellow Israelites. Jesus' teaching pushed 'neighbour' to include *everyone*. Everyone is to be treated as belonging to 'yourself' – as family! How does your love get 'limited'? Why? Who gets excluded? Can you glimpse the heart of the Gospel in this brief statement?
- ❖ A common criticism of the prophets in the Old Testament was that love of God was celebrated in the temple with sacrifices and gifts – Sunday worship. But it stopped there! They cried: what God wants is 'mercy, not sacrifice'. Christianity is not lived on Sunday alone. How could you show more clearly Sunday **and** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, ... discipleship?

## FROM Pope St John XXIII's Opening of Second Vatican Council - 11<sup>th</sup> October, 1962.

The great problem confronting the world after almost two thousand years remains unchanged. Christ is ever resplendent as the center of history and of life. Men and women are with Him or without or against Him. With Him, they enjoy light, goodness, order, and peace. Without or against Him, they experience confusion, bitterness in human relations, and the constant danger of fratricidal wars.

God is leading us to a new order of human relations which are directed toward the fulfillment of God's superior and inscrutable designs. The world of today is so busy with politics and controversies that it does not find time to attend to the care of spiritual reality. Such a way of acting must justly be disapproved.

The greatest concern of this Council is that the sacred deposit of Christian doctrine be guarded and taught more efficaciously. That doctrine embraces the whole of humankind, composed as we are of body and soul. And, since we are pilgrims on this earth, it commands us to tend always toward heaven. Our duty is not only to guard a precious treasure, but to dedicate ourselves with an earnest will and without fear to that work which our era demands of us, pursuing thus the path which the Church has followed for twenty centuries. The substance of the ancient doctrine of the deposit of faith is one thing, and the way in which it is presented is another.

Nowadays, the Church prefers to make use of the medicine of mercy rather than that of severity. She is ever more deeply convinced of the paramount dignity of the human person, as well as of the duties which that implies. Even more important, experience has taught us that violence inflicted on others, the might of arms, and political domination, are of no help at all in finding a happy solution to the grave problems which afflict humanity.

The Church desires to be the loving mother of all, full of mercy and goodness. To humankind, oppressed by so many difficulties, the Church says, as did Peter to the poor who begged alms from him: "I have neither gold nor silver, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise and walk" (Acts 3:6). In other words, the Church distributes the goods of divine grace which, raising all to the dignity of children of God, are the most efficacious safeguards and aids toward a more human life. Enlightened by the light of Christ, men and women may understand well who they really are, their lofty dignity and their purpose. Through her children, the Church spreads everywhere the fullness of Christian charity, knowing that nothing is more effective in eradicating the seeds of discord, and in promoting concord, just peace, and the unity of all.

***The present Synod is a continuation of the Second Vatican Council. Do we learn from history?***



## CALENDAR

### MONDAY

October 30  
Weekday  
Rom 8:12-17  
Lk 13:10-17

### TUESDAY

October 31  
Weekday  
Rom 8:18-25  
Lk 13:18-21

### WEDNESDAY

November 1  
All Saints  
Rev 7:2-4, 9-14  
1 Jn 3:1-3  
Mt 5:1-12a

### THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 2  
Commemoration  
of All the Faithful  
Departed  
(All Souls' Day)  
Any readings  
from no. 668 in  
the Lectionary or  
from the Masses  
for the Dead

### FRIDAY

November 3  
Weekday  
Rom 9:1-5  
Lk 14:1-6

### SATURDAY

November 4  
St. Charles  
Borromeo, Bishop  
Rom 11:1-2a,  
11-12, 25-29  
Lk 14:1, 7-11

### SUNDAY

November 5  
Thirty-first Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Mal 1:14b-2:2b,  
8-10  
1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13  
Mt 23:1-12

## 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 29, 2023

### **How does a person become a saint?**

Saint Alphonsus Liguori challenged those who entered the Redemptorists saying, "Don't become a Redemptorist unless you want to be a saint." I would widen his expression to say, "Don't get baptized unless you want to be a saint." To be a saint means that you want to go to heaven. Most people are not canonized, but anyone who leads a holy life is a member of the communion of saints. This mystical body spans heaven, earth, and purgatory. As St. Paul said, "We are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1).

Technically speaking, to be canonized, that is, given the title of "saint" by the Church, a person's life should serve as a model for others, and two miracles must be attributed to his or her intercession. The formal process begins after death with the creation of the person's "cause," often with the leadership of local clergy.

The beatitudes offer us a blueprint for holiness. If we are poor in spirit, mourning, meek, hungry for righteousness, merciful, pure, peacemakers, or persecuted for doing what is right, we are on the road to sainthood. Reflect on one of the beatitudes. It can be one you do well or one that challenges you. Discern how you live it out and how you could live it out better. Slowly you will find yourself growing holier, and one day you will find yourself a saint in heaven. ●

*Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR / DearPadre.org*

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**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: IN REMEMBRANCE OF YOU (No. 944)**

**FINAL HYMN: THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS (No. 835) PLEASE STAND**

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

*Sunday, 29 October 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, 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: Ex 22:20-26**

**A reading from the Book of Exodus:**

Thus says the LORD: "You shall not molest or oppress an alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt. You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans.

"If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among my people, you shall not act like an extortioner toward him by demanding interest from him. If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge, you shall return it to him before sunset; for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body. What else has he to sleep in? If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 18: I LOVE YOU, LORD**



1. I love you, O LORD, my strength, O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer. (R)
2. My God, my rock of refuge, my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold! Praised be the LORD, I exclaim, and I am safe from my enemies. (R)
3. The LORD lives and blessed be my rock! Extolled be God my savior. You who gave great victories to your king and showed kindness to your anointed. (R)

**SECOND READING: 1 Thes 1:5c-10**

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

Brothers and sisters: You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ALLELUIA PLEASE STAND**

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

**All: Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.**

**GOSPEL: Mt 22:34-40**

**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.**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

**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:**

**"Lord, hear us!"**

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY HYMN: FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE (No. 702)**

**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**