

LIVING THE WORD

- The Book of the Prophet Jonah is a book about his life. It is understood not to be a historical writing, but a reflection on the nationalism of the Hebrew people (*represented by Jonah*) who could not consider 'Gentiles' as worthy of receiving God's Mercy and attention (*represented by the Gentile city of Nineveh*). Jonah was called by God to speak to the people of Nineveh but instead chose to run in the opposite direction. Only after trying to escape and spending 3 days in the belly of a whale did he show obedience to God's call. Strikingly, the people of Nineveh responded to God's call to change and '*turn from their evil ways*'. Have you heard a constant voice, noticed a constant desire, felt a passion stir within that does not go away? This is frequently the way people experience God's 'call' upon their life. Are you 'running in the opposite direction'? Arguing with God (*like Jonah*) with reasons 'why you will not do it'? What is your best guess as God is calling on your life today? What is your response?
- Paul's letter to the Corinthians is an early letter when Paul still thought Jesus would be returning 'very soon'. While we are conscious of Jesus' delayed return, his message still holds: all the things of the world will pass away and nothing is to become an obstacle between ourselves and God. List the relationships and objects / possessions that are important to you. Is anyone / anything damaging the time and relationship and obedience that God is asking of you? What could you do to restore a balance? What could you 'let go of' to be more available to God?
- The beginning of Mark's Gospel quickly teaches us about being a disciple of Jesus. In a dark way the cost of being a true disciple is suggested, with John the Baptist being 'handed over'. Jesus too will be handed over. Disciples too will be handed over. A battle scene is subtly painted with words. Satan's rule is now going to be replaced by that of God: the Kingdom of God is at hand! While sometimes slower at revealing themselves, God's ways to bring justice and overcome evil will triumph. Are you with God? Are you engaged in overcoming evil or are you passively watching? What does 'repent' (*change*) mean for you?
- Simon and Andrew, with their father and hired men, are considered to be at least middle class. Members of a family business, with boats and employees. In following Jesus they are letting go of family expectations and financial security. They must be attracted to an even greater concern. What is it? Re-imagine the scene using your own 'family' and 'work'. What is your response to Jesus?
- In the Gospel of Mark, immediately Jesus chooses disciples. Immediately he places himself with others in a community. He will teach but also receive companionship. Who are like-minded people who *you* need to support *your* discipleship? How could you 'build community' together to encourage faithfulness and obedience to Jesus?

REFLECTIONS FOR WORD OF GOD SUNDAY 2024

Vatican II (Constitution on the Liturgy)

51. The treasures of the Bible are to be opened up more lavishly, so that richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God's word.

Benedict XVI (Verbum Domini)

30. Saint Jerome recalls that we can never read Scripture simply on our own. We come up against too many closed doors and we slip too easily into error. The Bible was written by the People of God for the People of God, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Only in this communion with the People of God can we truly enter as a "we" into the heart of the truth that God himself wishes to convey to us. Jerome, for whom "*ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ*", states that the ecclesial dimension of biblical interpretation is not a requirement imposed from without: the Book is the very voice of the pilgrim People of God, and only within the faith of this People are we, so to speak, attuned to understand sacred Scripture.

Pope Francis (Evangelii Gaudium)

3. I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unflinchingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "*no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord*". The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realise that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms.

Pope Francis (Audience – 27th January, 2021)

Thus, we read the Scriptures so that they may "*read us*". And it is a grace to be able to recognise oneself in *this* passage or *that* character, in *this* or *that* situation. The Bible was not written for a generic humanity, but for us, for me, for you, for men and women of flesh and blood, men and women who have a name and a surname, like me, like you. And when the Word of God, infused with the Holy Spirit, is received with an open heart, it does not leave things as they were before: **never!** Something changes. And this is the grace and the power of the Word of God which is made flesh in those who receive it in prayer. The Holy Scriptures are an inexhaustible treasure.



CALENDAR

MONDAY

January 22
*Day of Prayer for
the Legal Protection
of Unborn Children*
2 Sm 5:1-7, 10
Mk 3:22-30

TUESDAY

January 23
Weekday
2 Sm 6:12b-15,
17-19
Mk 3:31-35

WEDNESDAY

January 24
*St. Francis de Sales,
Bishop and Doctor
of the Church*
2 Sm 7:4-17
Mk 4:1-20

THURSDAY

January 25
*Conversion of St.
Paul the Apostle*
Acts 22:3-16 or
Acts 9:1-22
Mk 16:15-18

FRIDAY

January 26
*Sts. Timothy and
Titus, Bishops*
2 Tm 1:1-8
or Ti 1:1-5
Mk 4:26-34

SATURDAY

January 27
Weekday
2 Sm 12:1-7a,
10-17
Mk 4:35-41

SUNDAY

January 28
*Fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time*
Dt 18:15-20
1 Cor 7:32-35
Mk 1:21-28

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

January 21, 2024

While on vacation, I attended Mass at a church where many people left right after Communion. Why would they do this?

Canon law says the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass on Sundays and other holy days. We are expected to attend the entire Mass.

A misunderstanding of this law may be traced to a pre-Vatican II teaching. Some theologians taught that the Mass had three main parts: of-fertory, consecration, and Communion. Some people reasoned that their obligation would be fulfilled by attending only those parts of the Mass. They felt justified in coming late and leaving early.

This changed with the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). The Mass is divided into four sections (introductory rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, concluding rite), and Christ is present throughout the Mass. Attending Mass means being there from the processional hymn through the recessional hymn.

Some people have valid reasons for leaving Mass early, such as feeling ill or taking a crying child from church. Perhaps they are traveling and need to get to the airport on time. Still, I also wonder why there is a great exodus before the Mass has ended in some churches. In my opinion, people who are in the habit of leaving early should reconsider that practice. ●

Fr. Victor Karls, 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.

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: BEHOLD THE LAMB (No. 939)

FINAL: ONE LORD (No. 770) PLEASE STAND

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)
Sunday, 21 January 2024

ENTRANCE: MAKING THEIR WAY (No. 845) 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: Jon 3:1-5, 10

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jonah:

The word of the LORD came to Jonah, saying: "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to it the message that I will tell you." So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD'S bidding. Now Nineveh was an enormously large city; it took three days to go through it.


Jonah began his journey through the city, and had gone but a single day's walk announcing, "Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed, " when the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them; he did not carry it out.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 25: TEACH ME YOUR WAYS, O LORD



R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

1. Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior. (R)
2. Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD. (R)
3. Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice and teaches the humble his way. (R)

SECOND READING: 1 Cor 7:29-31

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians:

I tell you, brothers and sisters, the time is running out. From now on, let those having wives act as not having them, those weeping as not weeping, those rejoicing as not rejoicing, those buying as not owning, those using the world as not using it fully. For the world in its present form is passing away.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ALLELUIA PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

**All: The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent and believe in the Gospel.**

GOSPEL: Mk 1:14-20

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Priest: A reading from the Good News according to Mark.

All: And with your spirit.

All: Glory to you, Lord.

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

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 of glory, hear our prayer."

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY: SHELTER ME, O GOD (No. 717)

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