

LIVING THE WORD

- ❖ Jewish Rabbis would dance with the Books of the Law. The Ten Commandments was like a treasure and a link to the marriage covenant and relationship that God had promised to his Chosen People. What strikes you about this image of 'dancing with the law'? Are these 'laws' a burden? Or are they guidance directly from God that will lead to a full and joyful life? What 'law' grabs your attention the most. Why?
- ❖ The word 'command' literally means 'something placed in one's hand'. Like a letter from a close friend or special advice from a wise grandparent. Which bit of advice from the Ten Commandments may *you* need to listen to and respect more in *your* life at the moment?
- ❖ St Paul invites Christians to be clear: it is not wisdom, special knowledge or worldly power that saves – it is the saving event of Jesus on the Cross. Jews considered this full of 'shame'. Greeks couldn't believe that God, who is so powerful, could actually 'do' this. What is *your* response to Jesus on the Cross?
- ❖ Jesus' first public action in the Gospel of John is to cleanse and purify the temple. It is a most dramatic action. Jesus replaces the temple and its sacrifices, its legalistic ritual, with his Body, his intimate presence. The Father's House, a house of prayer, a place of communion and becoming one with God is now replaced by Jesus with his own body. Instead of looking at a photo album of God, Jesus insists that God, **He**, is in front of their very eyes. Can you see what Jesus is doing in his first public act in the Gospel of John?
- ❖ The Gospel of John always has many layers of meaning and interpretation. Many began to believe as they 'saw the signs' He was doing. The cleansing of the temple takes place at the Feast of Passover. The next Passover takes place in John 6, where Jesus replaces Moses' bread (manna) with his own body (Jn 6:35). The final Passover takes place in John 19:31, where Jesus replaces the Passover lamb with His body on the Cross. Can you see the '*signs he was doing*' and believe?
- ❖ Has your image and experience of the Church changed over time? A marketplace with all of its conflict? Legalistic ritual and laws? Intimate presence and communion with God in the celebration of the Eucharist?
- ❖ Lent is an opportunity to practise three deep, transforming, experiences: **Praying**, **Fasting**, and **Giving**. They can be re-framed as Listening (*to God*), Stopping (*negative habits*), and Seeing (*those in need and responding*). Which Lenten practice could you intensely focus on this week?

Pope Francis' Teaching on the Liturgy – Desiderio Desideravi (continued)

Here lies all the powerful beauty of the Liturgy. If the Resurrection were for us a concept, an idea, a thought; if the Risen One were for us the recollection of the recollection of others, however authoritative, as, for example, of the Apostles; if there were not given also to us the possibility of a true encounter with Him, that would be to declare the newness of the Word made flesh to have been all used up. Instead, the Incarnation, in addition to being the only always-new event that history knows, is also the very method that the Holy Trinity has chosen to open to us the way of communion. Christian faith is either an encounter with Him alive, or it does not exist.

The Liturgy guarantees for us the possibility of such an encounter. For us, a vague memory of the Last Supper would do no good. We need to be present at that Supper, to be able to hear his voice, to eat his Body and to drink his Blood. We need Him. In the Eucharist and in all the sacraments we are guaranteed the possibility of encountering the Lord Jesus and of having the power of his Paschal Mystery reach us. The salvific power of the sacrifice of Jesus, his every word, his every gesture, glance, and feeling, reaches us through the celebration of the sacraments. I am Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman at the well, the man possessed by demons at Capernaum, the paralytic in the house of Peter, the sinful woman pardoned, the woman afflicted by haemorrhages, the daughter of Jairus, the blind man of Jericho, Zacchaeus, Lazarus, the thief and Peter both pardoned. The Lord Jesus, who dies no more, who lives forever with the signs of his Passion, continues to pardon us, to heal us, to save us with the power of the sacraments. It is the concrete way, by means of his Incarnation, that he loves us. It is the way in which he satisfies his own thirst for us that he had declared from the Cross. (John 19:28)

Our first encounter with his paschal deed is the event that marks the life of all believers: our Baptism. This is not a mental adhesion to his thought or the agreeing to a code of conduct imposed by Him. Rather, it is a '*being plunged into*' his Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension, a '*being plunged into*' his paschal deed. It is not magic. Magic is the opposite of the logic of the sacraments because magic pretends to have a power over God. In perfect continuity with the Incarnation, there is given to us, in virtue of the presence and action of the Spirit, the possibility of dying and rising in Christ.

... to be continued next week ...



CALENDAR

MONDAY

March 4
Lenten Weekday
2 Kgs 5:1-15ab
Lk 4:24-30

TUESDAY

March 5
Lenten Weekday
Dn 3:25, 34-43
Mt 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY

March 6
Lenten Weekday
Dt 4:1, 5-9
Mt 5:17-19

THURSDAY

March 7
Lenten Weekday
Jer 7:23-28
Lk 11:14-23

FRIDAY

March 8
Lenten Weekday
Hos 14:2-10
Mk 12:28-34

SATURDAY

March 9
Lenten Weekday
Hos 6:1-6
Lk 18:9-14

SUNDAY

March 10
Fourth Sunday of Lent
2 Chr 36:14-16,
19-23
Eph 2:4-10
Jn 3:14-21

ANNOUNCEMENT

During the coming Sundays of Lent, we will offer the opportunity to pray the Stations of the Cross. This is a long-held prayer within the Church. My understanding is that this devotion arose within the Church in the Middle Ages, as a way of allowing the faithful to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, without actually, physically going there. So, for us, the Stations of the Cross are a pilgrimage we can make this Lent in faith.

In the hope of offering some little reflection and formation during Lent, there will be a 30 minute presentation on lay ministry, following the Stations of the Cross, on two Sundays this Lent - 3rd and 10th March. All welcome. Our aim is to finish at noon with the Angelus.

***V. The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
All: Hail Mary ...
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:
R. Be it done unto me according to Thy word.
All: Hail Mary ...
V. And the Word was made Flesh:
R. And dwelt among us.
All: Hail Mary ...***

***V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
R. that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
V. Let us pray:
All: Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may, by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.***

*John P. Murray osa
Pastoral Leader, 10 am Mass Community*

***Our website:
www.assumptioncathedralbkk.org***

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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

March 3, 2024

***My thoughts are my worst enemy.
Sometimes they turn to lust and anger.
When I recognize what I am thinking, I
pray to Jesus and Mary, but I still struggle.
What else can I do?***

When angry and lustful thoughts enter our consciousness, we should say a prayer and turn our mind to something else. Such thoughts become sins only when we deliberately encourage them or when we make plans to commit the sin. The thoughts themselves are temptations, not sins.

Continue to put your trust in Jesus and Mary, and try to focus on what is good and peaceful. You might also consider what you are letting into your thoughts or imagination: What are you watching on TV or the internet? What music are you listening to? What are you reading? Are those helping to shape your thoughts and imagination in a new direction, or are they contributing to the problem?

A good thing to turn your attention to is God's word in Scripture. You might want to memorize all or part of the following New Testament verse: "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (Philippians 4:8). Peacefully reflect on these words when troubled by temptation. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

HOLY

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.

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.

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, 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: MERCIFUL GOD (No. 489, LENT COMMUNION VERSE)

FINAL: O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME (No. 581, Verses 1-3) PLEASE STAND

3rd Sunday of Lent (Year B)

Sunday, 3 March 2024

ENTRANCE: THE GLORY OF THESE FORTY DAYS (No. 481) 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).

FIRST READING: Ex 20:1-17

A reading from the Book of Exodus:

In those days, God delivered all these commandments: "I, the LORD, am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery. You shall not have other gods besides me.

You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth; you shall not bow down before them or worship them. For I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God, inflicting punishment for their fathers' wickedness on the children of those who hate me, down to the third and fourth generation; but bestowing mercy down to the thousandth generation on the children of those who love me and keep my commandments.

"You shall not take the name of the LORD, your God, in vain. For the LORD will not leave unpunished the one who takes his name in vain.

"Remember to keep holy the sabbath day. Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD, your God. No work may be done then either by you, or your son or daughter, or your male or female slave, or your beast, or by the alien who lives with you. In six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the LORD has blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.

"Honor your father and your mother, that you may have a long life in the land which the LORD, your God, is giving you.

You shall not kill.
 You shall not commit adultery.
 You shall not steal.
 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
 You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
 You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male or female slave, nor his ox or ass, nor anything else that belongs to him."

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 19: LORD, YOU HAVE THE WORDS



1. The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul;
 The decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple. (R)
2. The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
 the command of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eye. (R)
3. The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever;
 the ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just. (R)
4. They are more precious than gold, than a heap of purest gold;
 sweeter also than syrup or honey from the comb. (R)

SECOND READING: 1 Cor 1:22-25

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

Brothers and sisters: Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: GLORY TO YOU PLEASE STAND

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**All: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
 so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.**

GOSPEL: Jn 2:13-25

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

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

All: Glory to you, Lord.

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated

there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, *Zeal for your house will consume me*. At this the Jews answered and said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and you will raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they came to believe the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken.

While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing. But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all, and did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well.

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:

"Create a new heart within us, O God."

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY: TURN TO THE LIVING GOD (No. 485)

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.**