

LIVING THE WORD

- ❖ God is a God of surprises but the disciples were afraid of Saul. They could not imagine the greatest source of persecution could ‘turn around’. The situation required someone courageous like Barnabas. He had the nickname ‘Son of Encouragement’. He had witnessed Saul in Damascus and stepped up to being a mentor — a link. He was introduced as ‘Paul’ to the Apostles. Imagine the loss for the Church if Barnabas hadn’t taken charge of him? Who is on the ‘outside’ of your group, community, workplace, whom you could include?
- ❖ Barnabas and Paul show us the cost of the committed Christian life. They are ‘radicals’. They go a bit further. Without people like Barnabas and Paul the Church is stagnant. Paul’s first preaching experiences to the Hellenists (Greeks) in Damascus and Jerusalem ended with attempts to kill him. And yet both Paul and Barnabas did not stop. Have you met resistance in preaching the message of life and peace of Jesus? Do you have a safe place, like Paul’s home in Tarsus, to retreat to when necessary?
- ❖ **LOVE** is *lived*. It looks like something. Too easily love can stay in ‘word or speech’ and not make it to ‘deed and truth’. What love action could you commit to this week that you have struggled with for a while? What words or promises have you made but you have failed to back up with action?
- ❖ The image of the Gospel this Sunday is of life flowing through the vine into the branches. ‘Remain in me’ repeats itself 6 times! ‘Remain in me’ is different from ‘remain close to me’ or ‘read my book’. How could you go one step further in praying with Scripture, celebrating the sacraments, or living Christian community?
- ❖ The intimacy of the vine image in John’s Gospel is a description of the Church and the individual disciple. In baptism we were truly joined to Jesus’ mystical body, the Church. In the eucharistic union of our lives with the Body and Blood of Jesus in ‘Holy Communion’, we are called to bear the fruit of replicating the life of Jesus in the world. Pray with the idea of being ‘fruitful’ and ‘bringing glory’ to the Father. What do you begin to think about?
- ❖ Jesus shares that the experience of praying with his Word is like ‘being pruned’. Have you ever experienced the Scriptures ‘cutting’ you and bringing you pain, yet also directing you to what is lifegiving?

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

This existential engagement happens — in continuity with and consistent with the method of Incarnation — in a sacramental way. The Liturgy is done with things that are the exact opposite of spiritual abstractions: bread, wine, oil, water, fragrances, fire, ashes, rock, fabrics, colours, body, words, sounds, silences, gestures, space, movement, action, order, time, light. The whole of creation is a manifestation of the love of God, and from when that same love was manifested in its fullness in the cross of Jesus, all of creation was drawn toward it. It is the whole of creation that is assumed in order to be placed at the service of encounter with the Word: incarnate, crucified, dead, risen, ascended to the Father. It is as the prayer over the water at the baptismal font sings, but also the prayer over the oil for sacred chrism and the words for the presentation of the bread and wine — all fruit of the earth and work of human hands.

The Liturgy gives glory to God not because we can add something to the beauty of the inaccessible light within which God dwells (cf. 1Tim 6:16). Nor can we add to the perfection of the angelic song which resounds eternally through the heavenly places. The Liturgy gives glory to God because it allows us — here, on earth — to see God in the celebration of the mysteries, and in seeing Him to draw life from his Passover. We, who were dead through our sins and have been made to be alive again with Christ — we are the glory of God. By grace we have been saved (Eph 2: 5). Irenaeus, the *doctor unitatis*, reminds us of this: “The glory of God is man alive, and the life of man consists in seeing God: if the revelation of God through the creation already gives life to all living beings on earth, how much more then is the manifestation of the Father through the Word the cause of life for those who see God.”

Guardini writes, “Here there is outlined the first task of the work of liturgical formation: man must become once again capable of symbols.” This is a responsibility for all, for ordained ministers and the faithful alike. The task is not easy because modern man has become illiterate, no longer able to read symbols; it is almost as if their existence is not even suspected. This happens also with the symbol of our body. Our body is a symbol because it is an intimate union of soul and body; it is the visibility of the spiritual soul in the corporeal order; and in this consists human uniqueness, the specificity of the person irreducible to any other form of living being. Our openness to the transcendent, to God, is constitutive of us. Not to recognise this leads us inevitably not only to a not knowing of God but also to not knowing ourselves.

... to be continued next week ...



CALENDAR

MONDAY

April 29
St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Acts 14:5-18
Jn 14:21-26

TUESDAY

April 30
Easter Weekday
Acts 14:19-28
Jn 14:27-31a

WeDNESDAY

May 1
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:1-6
Jn 15:1-8

THURSDAY

May 2
St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Acts 15:7-21
Jn 15:9-11

FRIDAY

May 3
Sts. Philip and James, Apostles
1 Cor 15:1-8
Jn 14:6-14

SATURDAY

May 4
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:1-10
Jn 15:18-21

SUNDAY

May 5
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
1 Jn 4:7-10
Jn 15:9-17

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

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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

April 28, 2024

Several months ago my son died in a tragic car accident. Life, work, family, and even religion seem so meaningless now. How can I find my way back?

You have suffered a great loss. When you are able, you can choose to live in a way that will respect both your son's memory and your own ongoing life. Here are a few gentle steps that might help.

- Expect to feel numb at first. This is nature's way of helping you deal with your loss. Keep following the normal patterns of your life and, eventually, meaning will return.
- Allow your friends to help. "Sorrows shared are sorrows lessened."
- If you are sad, let the tears come! Even Jesus cried at the death of his friend Lazarus (John 11:32-35).
- If you are angry, look for a healthy release. Focus the energy of your anger into productive work, even if it's just doing dishes or yard work.
- Use your experience to help others. While helping others, the Lord often reveals to us the meaning of our own losses.
- Don't be afraid to seek professional help. A therapist has the expertise to help you talk about your loss and cope with your grief.
- Pray for yourself, for your son, for all whose lives he touched, for all those who are grieving.
- After you have done everything you can, leave your loss in God's hands. The Lord will do for you what you cannot do for yourself. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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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. (2)

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: MANY AND GREAT (No. 911)

FINAL HYMN: LEAD ME, LORD PLEASE STAND

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, longing for their Lord, for God's coming kingdom shall be theirs. Blessed are the sorrowing, for they shall be consoled, and the meek shall come to rule the world. (R) Lead me, Lord, lead me, Lord, by the light of truth to seek and to find the narrow way. Be my way; be my truth; be my life, my Lord, and lead me, Lord, today.
2. Blessed are the merciful, for mercy shall be theirs, and the pure in heart shall see their God. Blest are they whose hunger only holiness can fill, for I say they shall be satisfied. (R)
3. Blest are they who through their lifetimes sow the seeds of peace; all will call them children of the Lord. Blest are you, though persecuted in your holy life, for in heaven, great is your reward. (R)

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year B)

Sunday, 28 April 2024

ENTRANCE: I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES! (No. 527) 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: Acts 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles, and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus. He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem, and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord. He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists, but they tried to kill him. And when the brothers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him on his way to Tarsus.

The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace. It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM 22: I WILL PRAISE YOU, LORD



R. I will praise you, Lord, in the as-sembly of your peo - ple.

1. I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the LORD.
The lowly shall eat their fill; they who seek the LORD shall praise him:
"May your hearts live forever!" (R)
2. All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of the nations shall bow down before him. (R)
3. To him alone shall bow down all who sleep in the earth;
before him shall bend all who go down into the dust. (R)
4. And to him my soul shall live; my descendants shall serve him.
Let the coming generation be told of the LORD
that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born the justice he has shown. (R)

SECOND READING: 1 Jn 3:18-24

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John:

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts before him in whatever our hearts condemn, for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA: PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

**All: Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit.**

GOSPEL: Jn 15:1-8

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.

Jesus said to his disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can

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do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

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

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.