

LIVING THE WORD

- ❖ Ezekiel worked as a priest in the Temple before being exiled into Babylon with the Israelites. It was here, in a distant land, he experienced the spirit enter him and raise him to his feet to 'speak'. It was not a popular message – the cause of their exile and punishment was due to their unfaithfulness to God. Have you experienced being moved from a 'comfortable' to an 'uncomfortable' place? Have you felt the spirit strengthen you for a new and difficult challenge? How do you think Ezekiel felt knowing the outcome of his words was uncertain ... will they heed or resist?
- ❖ Today we reflect on a deep and personal self-revelation of St Paul. It is uncertain if the 'thorn' (translated also as 'stake') was a physical ailment, a disease, or depression. Was it constant persecution? Lust? Upset with being 'short'? It is probably helpful we do not know as we can now all symbolically identify with Paul in our own personal experience of 'pain'. What would you humbly own as your 'thorn'? Some spiritual writers suggest the first deep question of spiritual direction is: *where are you hurting?* 'Boast' comes from the word meaning 'having your head held high', from a position of understanding. Have you shared this with anyone. Would you like to receive encouragement to move from pain to boasting, and being accepting of your weakness?
- ❖ Jesus returns home to Nazareth and experiences rejection. Mark, the earliest Gospel writer, clearly describes the lack of faith of the Jewish people and the Synagogue in Jesus. At home in Nazareth they are attracted to his teaching but take offense (skandalizmai – scandalised) and even make a negative remark calling him 'Son of Mary'. It was normal to refer to someone only using the title 'Son of Joseph – Father'. They are objecting to the uncertain origin of Jesus. Can you glimpse the pain and rejection of Jesus at home, from his own family members? Have you personally experienced rejection? Lack of belief in you? 'Cutting you down'? 'Putting you into a box'? How did you react? How does Jesus react? Are you curious as to what Jesus does next?
- ❖ The three readings today highlight a theme of 'if only ...'. If only people would listen (Ezekiel) ... If only I didn't have this personal difficulty (St Paul) ... If only my family and friends would believe in me (Jesus) ... Difficult circumstances can shut us down, sap our energy. We need another source of energy and identity. The spirit sustained and encouraged Ezekiel, Paul and Jesus to respond positively, *not* negatively. Consider naming your challenges and decide on positive solutions. How do you overcome the 'Nazareth Syndrome'?
- ❖ It is mysterious how Jesus 'was not able to perform any mighty deed there'. Have you ever decided about someone and your mind and heart become 'closed' and 'not open' to that person? The relationship now becomes 'stuck' in possibility and expectation. We bring the closed door and negative view into each conversation and meeting. How open are you to Jesus? Pray for an open mind and heart to see signs and wonders and glimpses of the Kingdom at work in daily events. How are you seeking to grow your faith and relationship with Jesus?

On the Solemnity of the Ascension, Pope Francis declared 2025 a Year of Jubilee *— continuing from his Bull, proclaiming 2025 as a Jubilee Year —*

During the Holy Year, we are called to be tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind. I think of prisoners who, deprived of their freedom, daily feel the harshness of detention and its restrictions, lack of affection and, in more than a few cases, lack of respect for their persons. In order to offer prisoners a concrete sign of closeness, I would myself like to open a Holy Door in a prison, as a sign inviting prisoners to look to the future with hope and a renewed sense of confidence.

Signs of hope should also be shown to the sick, at home or in hospital. Their sufferings can be allayed by the closeness and affection of those who visit them. Works of mercy are also works of hope that give rise to immense gratitude. Gratitude should likewise be shown to all those healthcare workers who, often in precarious conditions, carry out their mission with constant care and concern for the sick and for those who are most vulnerable.

Inclusive attention should also be given to all those in particularly difficult situations, who experience their own weaknesses and limitations, especially those affected by illnesses or disabilities that severely restrict their personal independence and freedom. Care given to them is a hymn to human dignity, a song of hope that calls for the choral participation of society as a whole.

Signs of hope are also needed by those who are the very embodiment of hope, namely, the young. Sadly, they often see their dreams and aspirations frustrated. We must not disappoint them, for the future depends on their enthusiasm. It is gratifying to see the energy they demonstrate, for example, by rolling up their sleeves and volunteering to help when disasters strike and people are in need. Yet it is sad to see young people who are without hope, who face an uncertain and unpromising future, who lack employment or job security, or realistic prospects after finishing school. Without the hope that their dreams can come true, they will inevitably grow discouraged and listless. Escaping into drugs, risk-taking and the pursuit of momentary pleasure does greater harm to them in particular, since it closes them to life's beauty and richness, and can lead to depression and even self-destructive actions. For this reason, the Jubilee should inspire the Church to make greater efforts to reach out to them. With renewed passion, let us demonstrate care and concern for adolescents, students and young couples, the rising generation. Let us draw close to the young, for they are the joy and hope of the Church and of the world!



CALENDAR

MONDAY

July 8
Weekday
Hos 2:16, 17c-18,
21-22
Mt 9:18-26

TUESDAY

July 9
Weekday
Hos 8:4-7, 11-13
Mt 9:32-38

WEDNESDAY

July 10
Weekday
Hos 10:1-3,
7-8, 12
Mt 10:1-7

THURSDAY

July 11
St. Benedict,
Abbot
Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9
Mt 10:7-15

FRIDAY

July 12
Weekday
Hos 14:2-10
Mt 10:16-23

SATURDAY

July 13
Weekday
Is 6:1-8
Mt 10:24-33

SUNDAY

July 14
Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Am 7:12-15
Eph 1:3-14
or 1:3-10
Mk 6:7-13

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. Francis Xavier Akranon Kitcharoen

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

July 7, 2024

***My Protestant friends asked me why we call
priests "Father" when Jesus said not to.
I don't know how to answer.***

Jesus instructs his disciples, "As for you, do not be called 'Rabbi.' You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers. Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven" (Matthew 23:8-9). Taken in context, Jesus is denouncing the scribes and Pharisees for bestowing honors and titles on themselves. If taken literally, this passage would also prohibit us from calling our biological fathers by that name, or our instructors "professor."

Jesus assures us that God is Father of us all. The early Christian community adopted family terms—father, mother, brother, sister—to show their affiliation through baptism and their mutual faith in the Lord (See Luke 8:21, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and act on it.")

Thus, St. Paul refers to Timothy as his "child in faith" (1 Timothy 1:2; Philippians 2:22). He also tells his Christian converts, "I am writing...to admonish you as my beloved children. Even if you should have countless guides to Christ, yet you do not have many fathers, for I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel" (1 Corinthians 4:14-15). Like St. Paul, who speaks of himself as a father in nurturing the faith, priests are called "Father" for their pastoral role in the Church. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / 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: I RECEIVE THE LIVING GOD (No. 916)

FINAL: GIVE THANKS PLEASE STAND

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. (Repeat)

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong",

Let the poor say, "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us." (Repeat)

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Sunday, 7 July 2024

ENTRANCE: PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN (No. 613) 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: Ez 2:2-5

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel:

As the LORD spoke to me, the spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard the one who was speaking say to me: Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have revolted against me to this very day. Hard of face and obstinate of heart are they to whom I am sending you. But you shall say to them: Thus says the LORD GOD! And whether they heed or resist—for they are a rebellious house—they shall know that a prophet has been among them.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 123: OUR EYES ARE FIXED ON THE LORD

R. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, plead-ing for his mer-cy.

1. To you I lift up my eyes who are enthroned in heaven —
As the eyes of servants are on the hands of their masters. (R)
2. As the eyes of a maid are on the hands of her mistress,
So are our eyes on the LORD, our God, till he have pity on us. (R)
3. Have pity on us, O LORD, have pity on us, for we are more than sated with contempt;
our souls are more than sated with the mockery of the arrogant,
with the contempt of the proud. (R)

SECOND READING: 2 Cor 12:7-10**A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians:**

Brothers and sisters: That I, Paul, might not become too elated, because of the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, an angel of Satan, to beat me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I begged the Lord about this, that it might leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me. Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA: PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

All: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor.

GOSPEL: Mk 6:1-6

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.

Jesus departed from there and came to his native place, accompanied by his disciples. When the sabbath came he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands! Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary, and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house." So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there,

apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

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:
"Compassionate God, hear us!"

PLEASE BE SEATED**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST****PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS**

OFFERTORY: QUIETLY, PEACEFULLY (No. 713)

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.