

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS — *Some thoughts from Fr Kieran O’Mahony osa*

There are twenty-seven Beatitudes in the New Testament. The first is in Matthew 5:1 and the last is in Rev 22:14. The Beatitudes in Matthew are to be interpreted within the Sermon on the Mount and alongside the corresponding narrative section (Chapters 8-9).

Matthew leaves out the woes of Luke, but he has his own dire warnings. In rhetorical terms, this text is an introduction, designed to get the attention, good will and receptivity of the hearers. It achieves these aims (a) by awakening a desire for happiness; (b) by naming the present situation and (c) by proposing attitudes and actions that lead to salvation in heaven.

Matthew’s Beatitudes are chiefly apocalyptic, promising end-time reversal. They thus reveal a difficult situation in his community, perhaps as a result of the – probably recent – break with the mother faith of Judaism. In this Gospel, there are nine Beatitudes, in a significant order:

- 1-4 → passive Beatitudes
- 5-8 → active Beatitudes (*with 8 as a bridge to 9*)
- 9 → Beatitude on persecution

Beatitude 8 is from Matthew’s own source. Cf. 1 Pet 3:14: “But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.” (1 Pet 3:14-15)

Today we celebrate the community of faith, being in communion with all the Saints, a day of both thanksgiving and vision. **Thanksgiving** because of the example and inspiration of the Saints, who have come to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ (Eph 4:13). **Vision** because our Gospel today describes the path we must take to make the same journey home to God. If we wish to join the Saints both now and into eternity, we must make our own “mission statement” of Jesus – which is the Sermon on the Mount – and especially the opening invitation to true happiness.

Prayer

Jesus you are our teacher within and today we ask your help. Just as you have brought our brothers and sisters to full maturity in you, so also guide us and be with us as we walk your Way. By your grace, may we too be counted among saints in the present moment and in the life to come. Amen.

Continuing a look at Chapter 4 of Pope Francis’ Encyclical “Amoris Laetitia” (2016), where he considers love through the eyes of St Paul, in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is at the service of others (93-94)

The next word that Paul uses is *chrestéuetai*. The word is used only here in the entire Bible. It is derived from *chrestós*: a good person, one who shows his goodness by his deeds. Here, in strict parallelism with the preceding verb, it serves as a complement. Paul wants to make it clear that “patience” is not a completely passive attitude, but one accompanied by activity, by a dynamic and creative interaction with others. The word indicates that love benefits and helps others. For this reason, it is translated as “kind”; love is ever ready to be of assistance.

Throughout the text, it is clear that Paul wants to stress that love is more than a mere feeling. Rather, it should be understood along the lines of the Hebrew verb “to love”: it is “to do good”. As Saint Ignatius of Loyola said, “Love is shown more by deeds than by words”. It thus shows its fruitfulness and allows us to experience the happiness of giving, the nobility and grandeur of spending ourselves unstintingly, without asking to be repaid, purely for the pleasure of giving and serving.

Love is not jealous (95-96)

Saint Paul goes on to reject as contrary to love an attitude expressed by the verb *zelóí* – to be jealous or envious. This means that love has no room for discomfiture at another’s good fortune. Envy is a form of sadness provoked by another’s prosperity; it shows that we are not concerned for the happiness of others but only with our own well-being. Whereas love makes us rise above ourselves, envy closes us in on ourselves. True love values the other person’s achievements. It does not see him or her as a threat. It frees us from the sour taste of envy. It recognises that everyone has different gifts and a unique path in life. So it strives to discover its own road to happiness, while allowing others to find theirs.

Love inspires a sincere esteem for every human being and the recognition of his or her own right to happiness. I love this person, and I see him or her with the eyes of God, who gives us everything “for our enjoyment” (1 Tim 6:17). As a result, I feel a deep sense of happiness and peace. This same deeply rooted love also leads me to reject the injustice whereby some possess too much and others too little. It moves me to find ways of helping society’s outcasts to find a modicum of joy. That is not envy, but the desire for equality.

CALENDAR

MONDAY

November 4
*St. Charles
Borromeo, Bishop*

Phil 2:1-4
Lk 14:12-14

TUESDAY

November 5
Weekday

Phil 2:5-11
Lk 14:15-24

WEDNESDAY

November 6
Weekday

Phil 2:12-18
Lk 14:25-33

THURSDAY

November 7
Weekday

Phil 3:3-8a
Lk 15:1-10

FRIDAY

November 8
Weekday

Phil 3:17-4:1
Lk 16:1-8

SATURDAY

November 9
*Dedication of the
Lateran Basilica*

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12
1 Cor 3:9c-11,

16-17

Jn 2:13-22

SUNDAY

November 10
*Thirty-second Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

1 Kgs 17:10-16
Heb 9:24-28

Mk 12:38-44
or 12:41-44

SAVE THE DATE!

On **Saturday, November 23rd**, Fr John will lead a pilgrimage to the **Shrine of Blessed Nicholas Bunker** in Sam Phran, Nakhon Pathom. Blessed Nicholas was a Thai Catholic Priest and martyr from the early 1900s.

We will visit the Shrine and celebrate Mass there. Transportation will be organised and will depart from Assumption Cathedral in the morning and return at approximately 2:30 in the afternoon.

More to follow ... we will have a detailed announcement and sign-up sheets in the coming weeks.

We hope all can join us for this special day!

Our website:
www.assumptioncathedralbkk.org

ASSUMPTION CATHEDRAL

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Rev. Ignatius Adisak Somsaengsuang

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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

November 3, 2024

Do saints ever smile? That question comes to me every year on the feast of All Saints (November 1) as I look at the pictures and statues in church. The faces are so somber and serious. What are the saints really like?

Artists through the centuries may have portrayed sanctity in very subdued tones. The saints, however, and their biographers tell a different story. The holy men and women who make up the communion of saints are an incredibly fascinating array of diverse personalities. The feast of All Saints celebrates our universal call to holiness. Our challenge is to imitate the characteristics these unique individuals have in common.

Saint Irenaeus (125–202) said that the glory of God is the human fully alive which reflects Jesus' own words, "I came so that they may have life; and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Saints enjoy life! The nearsighted St. Alphonsus Liguori (1696–1787), founder of the Redemptorists, sat in the back row of the Naples theater with his glasses off so he could enjoy the music he loved without the distraction of the half-naked chorus line. Saint Teresa of Ávila (1515–1582), caught devouring partridge in the convent kitchen, said, "When I pray, I pray; when I eat partridge, I eat partridge!" Saint Joan of Arc (1412–1431) loved horses, and St. Charles Borromeo (1538–1584) loved chess. Indeed, saints do smile. They even laugh. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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[4]

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. (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: BE NOT AFRAID (No. 683)

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)

ALL SAINTS DAY

Sunday, 3 November 2024

ENTRANCE: FOR ALL THE SAINTS (No. 884) 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: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14

A reading from the Book of Revelation:

I, John, saw another angel come up from the East, holding the seal of the living God. He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels who were given power to damage the land and the sea, "Do not damage the land or the sea or the trees until we put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." I heard the number of those who had been marked with the seal, one hundred and forty-four thousand marked from every tribe of the children of Israel.

After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb."

All the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They prostrated themselves before the throne, worshiped God, and exclaimed:

"Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

Then one of the elders spoke up and said to me, "Who are these wearing white robes, and where did they come from?" I said to him, "My lord, you are the one who knows." He said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb."

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 24: LORD, THIS IS THE PEOPLE



R. Lord, this is the peo - ple that longs to see your face.

1. The LORD's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it. For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. (R)
2. Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD? or who may stand in his holy place? One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain. (R)
3. He shall receive a blessing from the LORD, a reward from God his savior. Such is the race that seeks him, that seeks the face of the God of Jacob. (R)

SECOND READING: 1 Jn 3:1-3

A reading from the Letter of Saint John:

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure, as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA: PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

**All: Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
And I will give you rest, says the Lord.**

GOSPEL: Mt 5:1-12a

Priest: The Lord be with you.

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

All: And with your spirit.

All: Glory to you, Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

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:

"Hear our prayer."

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY: ONLY THIS I WANT (No. 782)

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