

LIVING THE WORD

- As Christmas arrives, special passages of Scripture are used to guide our understanding of Christmas. This Sunday is the only time that the Prophet Micah is used for our Sunday readings. A prophecy 700 years before Jesus points to the little town of Bethlehem, famous as it was the home of Jesse, King David's Father. It was from this royal line the Messiah would arrive. Ephrathah was a little and insignificant clan / tribe. Consider for a moment just how extraordinary is God's power to guide history and prophecy to fulfillment. How might this help you trust in God?
- The Letter to the Hebrews teaches about the significance of Jesus. Holocausts, sin offerings and sacrifices were experiences of Jewish worship in the Temple that were to bring people into union with God 'according to the Law'. Jesus is shown as following the will of God and bringing forgiveness and union with God 'through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all' on the cross. Why Jesus has come among us is pointed out. Do you keep Christmas separated from Easter? Have you noticed cards and decorations easily identify with the joy of a new-born child and the hope of peace, but prefer to leave out the next step, of the sacrifices involved in 'I come to do your will, O God'? What is the will of God inviting you to do?
- This Gospel scene of Mary visiting Elizabeth aims to show us more than the greeting of two expectant mothers, or that Mary is a caring young woman to her older cousin. Behind this scene are layers of stories. Mary, a new mother – New Testament – stands before Elizabeth, an old mother – Old Testament. Behind Elizabeth is her husband, Zechariah, the High Priest of the (old) Temple. Within the Temple rests the Ark of the Covenant, in which the Ten Commandments were kept, housed in a special 'box' (Ark) called the Mercy Seat. Mary bears within her the Saviour child – *God with us* – and is now the *New Ark of the New Covenant*. The little boy John the Baptist leaps for joy within the womb of Elizabeth, like King David leapt for joy and danced before the Ark of the Covenant (2 Sam 6,14). The deepest and true response to God being enfleshed among us is to leap for joy! When was the last time you leapt for joy? Why is little baby John leaping for joy? How could you show the experience of joy more this Christmas?
- The Gospel of Luke focusses upon Mary, who always acts on what she hears. Her visit to Elizabeth is a response to hearing God's voice – through the Angel. Mary is blessed, but firstly it is because she believed what was spoken to her. Christmas becomes so much more for us than simply a historical story, when we recognise we too are called to allow the Word to become Flesh. Today. Now! In the world. What words have you heard from God, in prayer, through others? How could you act on them so that they *become flesh*? Real? Acted out? Bring God's presence? What words or promises have you made that have *not* been fulfilled?
- Advent is a time of joyful preparation. In the final days before Christmas how could you achieve a balance – writing Christmas Cards and the Call to Conversion. Christmas Parties and Prayerful Preparation. Christmas Presents and Christmas Presence?

MERRY CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT ASSUMPTION CATHEDRAL

Tuesday, December 24th 2024 (Christmas Eve)
20.30 hrs. Confession
22.00 hrs. Mass
> The Mass will be in Thai with English booklet for foreigners.
> Around 17.00 hrs. onwards there will be Christmas market, games, etc., all proceeds will be for charity activities.
> Please use public transportation or park your vehicles at Assumption College.

Wednesday, December 25th 2024 (The Nativity of the Lord)
09.00 hrs. Thai Mass
10.30 hrs. English Mass

Sunday, December 29th 2024 (The opening of the Jubilee Year)
17.30 hrs. Thai Mass

Tuesday, December 31st 2024 (New Year's Eve)
21.30 hrs. Eucharistic Adoration
22.00 hrs. Thai Mass

Wednesday, January 1st 2025 (Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God)
09.00 hrs. Thai Mass
10.30 hrs. English Mass

Contact us
0 2233 7120, 0 2234 4592, 0 2234 8556
www.assumption-cathedral.com

Facebook :
[QR Code]



CALENDAR

MONDAY

December 23
Advent Weekday
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24
Lk 1:57-66

TUESDAY

December 24
Advent Weekday
2 Sm 7:1-5,
8b-12, 14a, 16
Lk 1:67-79

WEDNESDAY

December 25
*Nativity of the
Lord (Christmas)*
Is 52:7-10
Heb 1:1-6
Jn 1:1-18
or 1:1-5, 9-14

THURSDAY

December 26
*St. Stephen,
First Martyr*
Acts 6:8-10;
7:54-59
Mt 10:17-22

FRIDAY

December 27
*St. John, Apostle
and Evangelist*
1 Jn 1:1-4
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

SATURDAY

December 28
*Holy Innocents,
Martyrs*
1 Jn 1:5-2:2
Mt 2:13-18

SUNDAY

December 29
*Holy Family
of Jesus, Mary
and Joseph*
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
or 1 Sm 1:20-22,
24-28
Col 3:12-21 or
3:12-17 or
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24
Lk 2:41-52

APPEAL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Assumption Cathedral is organising the 2024 edition of its “**Christmas Market**”. This will take place on Christmas Eve, December 24th, from around 5:00 pm onwards, in the front courtyard and surrounding areas of the Cathedral. The event will include many different games and a host of other fun activities.

Tickets for this event will be sold right after Mass this morning at Bht 200 per booklet. Members of our Lay Ministry Team will approach you for your contributions. Money collected from the ticket sales will be used entirely to support the charitable activities of the Church, so please **dig deep** and give **generously** and **joyfully**.

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

December 22, 2024

Where does the Hail Mary prayer come from?

The Hail Mary owes its origin to the rosary. The traditional story of the rosary was that Mary herself appeared to St. Dominic in the twelfth century and gave him the rosary with the promise that if he spread devotion to the rosary, his religious order would flourish. In the twelfth century, religious orders recited together the 150 psalms as a way to mark the hours of the day and the days of the week. In order to pray the psalms, though, people had to know how to read. People who didn't know how to read wanted to share in the practice, so the rosary, or praying on beads, began as a parallel prayer practice. It was a way that illiterate people could remember the Lord and his Mother throughout the day.

The first rosaries consisted of a string of 150 beads, and, much as we do now, a person would pass over each bead after saying a prayer, usually the Our Father. Later, people added the Archangel Gabriel's greeting—"Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee"—and later still, Elizabeth's prayer we hear in today's Gospel—"Blessed art thou among women." Finally this prayer was added in the sixteenth century: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death." ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

© 2024 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in USA. Imprimatur: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on January 25, 2024, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivituso, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved.

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: JESUS, HOPE OF THE WORLD (No. 909)

FINAL: COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS (PLEASE INSERTION)

PLEASE STAND

POSTLUDE: SAVIOUR OF THE NATIONS, COME by J.S. Bach (BWV 661)



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year C)

Sunday, 22 December 2024

PRELUDE: HOW LOVELY SHINES THE MORNING STAR by Paul Manz

ENTRANCE: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL (No. 395) 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: Mi 5:1-4a

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah:

Thus says the LORD: You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; whose origin is from of old, from ancient times. Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time when she who is to give birth has borne, and the rest of his kindred shall return to the children of Israel. He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic name of the LORD, his God; and they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 80: LORD, MAKE US TURN TO YOU



- 1. O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse your power, and come to save us. (R)

2. Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven, and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted the son of man whom you yourself made strong. (R)
3. May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name. (R)

SECOND READING: Heb 10:5-10**A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews:**

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God.'" First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in." These are offered according to the law. Then he says, "Behold, I come to do your will." He takes away the first to establish the second. By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA: PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

**All: Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word.**

GOSPEL: Lk 1:39-45

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

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

All: Glory to you, Lord.

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

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:

"Incarnate Lord, hear our prayer."

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

OFFERTORY: O SANCTISSIMA (No. 895)

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 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

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

1 Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child and yet a king,

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

from our fears and sins re-lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for-ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Am Dm7 Gm C7 Dm7 C7 F Dm Am Gm Csus C

Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e-ter-nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a-lone;

F Bb C7 F G7 C Bb C7 F F7 Bb F Bb F C7 F

dear De-sire of ev-ery na-tion, Joy of ev-ery long-ing heart.
by thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

1 Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child and yet a king,

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

from our fears and sins re-lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for-ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Am Dm7 Gm C7 Dm7 C7 F Dm Am Gm Csus C

Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e-ter-nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a-lone;

F Bb C7 F G7 C Bb C7 F F7 Bb F Bb F C7 F

dear De-sire of ev-ery na-tion, Joy of ev-ery long-ing heart.
by thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.