

LIVINGTHEWORD

- David and around 600 men are living in caves in the desert of Ziph. King Saul brings 3,000 elite troops to hunt and kill him (*consider reading 1 Samuel as a short story*). After David killed Goliath, Saul kept David close, made him chief commander and his son-in-law. But soon, filled with fear and jealous insecurity, he plots to kill David. In this episode, David and Abishai have the chance to kill Saul but David refuses; “*I would not harm the Lord’s anointed.*” Contrast David’s wisdom, constraint and wit with Abishai, who, though brave and faithful, is quick to act rashly, without thought. Have you ever felt condemned by someone you trusted? How does David deal with his desire for revenge? What qualities does David use that might help us in our relationships with people in authority?
- Continuing his teaching on Resurrection St Paul says that when Jesus rose from the dead, he became ‘life-giving spirit’, releasing the Holy Spirit for the salvation of the world. Our human body grows throughout life. While not describing our resurrected bodies, Paul makes it clear that real transformation takes place. Remember Paul encountered the resurrected Christ on the road to Damascus and was never the same again. When we enter into relationship with God, a real encounter takes place and in some way the mystery of becoming part of the Body of Christ transforms us, while also allowing for us to continue to grow more deeply into the perfect image of the ‘heavenly one’. As you reflect on that mystery, what do you most want to ask God for? What area of your life needs transforming? How do you need to grow in order to become more like Christ?
- The Sermon on The Mount continues with very challenging teachings from Jesus. The Gospel is in some sense acted out in the story of David and Saul. What links do you see between the two readings?
- When you reflect on the Gospel, what teaching stands out most for you? Talk with God about why that strikes you and what area of your life God is inviting you to open to His transforming, life-giving Spirit.
- The so called ‘Golden Rule’ says — “*Do to others as you would have them do to you.*” Abuse in any form is an abomination. How can we adhere to these radical teachings of Christ and still stay safe, respecting our own bodies and needs in the face of violence or abuse? How can we be merciful to those enduring violence and ill treatment?
- The Jews listening to Jesus despised the Romans because they were occupying their land and controlling their freedom. Soldiers routinely insulted Jews, demanding they carry their loads, give up their cloaks and worse. So the teaching to ‘love your enemies and do good to them’ was profoundly shocking. Jesus explains that our mercy needs to be abundant like God’s. A merchant who gives a ‘good measure’ pours grain into your container, presses it down, shakes it, presses, shakes and fills again. As a result, your contents are compressed. You continue receiving grain until your container is literally running over the sides ‘into your lap.’ You only pay for that one container, but it gets filled with far more than seems possible. Use your imagination in prayer and see yourself receiving from God like that. How does it feel? Ask God for the grace to give and forgive like that?

Dilexit Nos — an Encyclical from Pope Francis (continued)

Chapter 1 – The Heart Unites the Fragments

The heart makes all authentic bonding possible, since a relationship not shaped by the heart is incapable of overcoming the fragmentation caused by individualism. A society dominated by narcissism and self-centredness will increasingly become “heartless”. This will lead in turn to the “loss of desire”, since as other persons disappear from the horizon we find ourselves trapped within walls of our own making, no longer capable of healthy relationships. As a result, we also become incapable of openness to God.

In the heart of each person there is a mysterious connection between self-knowledge and openness to others, between the encounter with one’s personal uniqueness and the willingness to give oneself to others. We become ourselves only to the extent that we acquire the ability to acknowledge others, while only those who can acknowledge and accept themselves are then able to encounter others.

The heart is also capable of unifying and harmonising our personal history, which may seem hopelessly fragmented, yet it is the place where everything can make sense. The Gospel tells us this in speaking of Our Lady, who saw things with the heart. She was able to dialogue with the things she experienced by pondering them in her heart, treasuring their memory and viewing them in a greater perspective. What Mary “kept” was not only her memory of what she had seen and heard, but also those aspects of it that she did not yet understand; these nonetheless remained present and alive in her memory, waiting to be “put together” in her heart.

This profound core, present in every man and woman, is not that of the soul, but of the entire person in his or her unique psychosomatic identity. Everything finds its unity in the heart, which can be the dwelling place of love in all its spiritual, psychic and even physical dimensions. In a word, if love reigns in our heart, we become, in a complete and luminous way, the persons we are meant to be, for every human being is created above all else for love. In the deepest fibre of our being, we were made to love and to be loved.

Whenever a person thinks, questions and reflects on his or her true identity, strives to understand the deeper questions of life and to seek God, or experiences the thrill of catching a glimpse of truth, it leads to the realisation that our fulfilment as human beings is found in love. In loving, we sense that we come to know the purpose and goal of our existence in this world.



CALENDAR

MONDAY

February 24

Weekday

Sir 1:1-10

Mk 9:14-29

TUESDAY

February 25

Weekday

Sir 2:1-11

Mk 9:30-37

WEDNESDAY

February 26

Weekday

Sir 4:11-19

Mk 9:38-40

THURSDAY

February 27

Weekday

Sir 5:1-8

Mk 9:41-50

FRIDAY

February 28

Weekday

Sir 6:5-17

Mk 10:1-12

SATURDAY

March 1

Weekday

Sir 17:1-15

Mk 10:13-16

SUNDAY

March 2

*Eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

Sir 27:4-7

1 Cor 15:54-58

Lk 6:39-45

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 : 08:30 – noon
Sun & public holidays : Closed

Dear Padre

February 23, 2025

My ex broke up with me. I find myself hoping he gets subjected to the same emotional pain as I have. I hate feeling this way, so how do I ask God to take away this pain and help me forgive my ex?

What you are sharing is your hurt and confusion. Although your boyfriend was ready to end the relationship, you were not. It seems you are still not ready to move on. That is OK. Everyone has his or her own manner of dealing with disappointment, and there is no perfect timeframe.

More than your boyfriend's suffering, you desire freedom for yourself and a return to a healthy sense of your own personhood. You perceive him as happy and perhaps wonder how that's possible while you are still struggling. This is all very normal, and it's part of the process we all experience when an important relationship changes.

You will work through this. You will love again. You will no longer be triggered by strong feelings when you encounter him in the future. But you are going to have to do the hard work of growing, maturing, and learning to let go. Begin by praying for his well-being. And if you can't do that, ask God for the grace to want to pray for his well-being. Certainly, the Lord will help you, but he won't magically take away your pain. There are no shortcuts. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

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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 (No. 263)

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. **PLEASE KNEEL**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (No. 264)

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 (No. 374)

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 (No. 391)

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. **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: AMAZING GRACE (No. 645)

FINAL: THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS (No. 835) **PLEASE STAND**

7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

Sunday, 23 February 2025

ENTRANCE: HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE THY NAME (No. 615) **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 / LORD HAVE MERCY

**Kýrie, eléison. Kýrie, eléison. Christe, eléison. Christe, eléison.
Kýrie, eléison. Kýrie, eléison.**

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: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

A reading from the first Book of Samuel:

In those days, Saul went down to the desert of Ziph with three thousand picked men of Israel, to search for David in the desert of Ziph. So David and Abishai went among Saul's soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade, with his spear thrust into the ground at his head and Abner and his men sleeping around him.

Abishai whispered to David: "God has delivered your enemy into your grasp this day. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need a second thrust!" But David said to Abishai, "Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the LORD's anointed and remain unpunished?" So David took the spear and the water jug from their place at Saul's head, and they got away without anyone's seeing or knowing or awakening. All remained asleep, because the LORD had put them into a deep slumber.

Going across to an opposite slope, David stood on a remote hilltop at a great distance from Abner, son of Ner, and the troops. He said: "Here is the king's spear. Let an attendant come over to get it. The LORD will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness. Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the LORD's anointed."

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 103: THE LORD IS KIND AND MERCIFUL



1. Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. (R)
2. He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion. (R)
3. Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
nor does he requite us according to our crimes. (R)
4. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him. (R)

SECOND READING: 1 Cor 15:45-49

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

Brothers and sisters: It is written, *The first man, Adam, became a living being*, the last Adam a life-giving spirit. But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, earthly; the second man, from heaven. As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA (No. 326) PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

**All: I give you a new commandment, says the Lord:
love one another as I have loved you.**

GOSPEL: Lk 6:27-38

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.

Jesus said to his disciples: "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

Priest: The Good News of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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:

"Loving God, hear our prayer."

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY: UBI CARITAS (No. 696)

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS PLEASE STAND