

## LIVINGTHEWORD

- The Book of Sirach is also known as "*Ecclesiasticus, or the Wisdom of Jesus, Son of Sirach*." It teaches ethical and theological topics and ideas. It talks a lot about the tongue and speech, and the author indicates here that a person's thoughts and words are a mirror of what lies in the soul. People can be 'smooth talkers' until they are shaken or put through tribulation and the 'husks' they try to hide are revealed. How true do you think it is that a person's talk reveals who they really are? How attentive are you to your own speech?
- The revolutionary hope of Christianity is in these words of Paul. Corinth was a major cosmopolitan sea-trading city. Idolatry and immorality were rife. Paul insists we can overcome sin through Christ (15:57). What do you think Paul means when he says God gives us 'victory' through Jesus? How have you experienced this 'victory' or a degree of mastery over sin? In which area of your life do you most need 'victory'?
- Paul acknowledges our 'corruptible' bodies, but states we will be clothed in Christ's 'incorruptibility' and 'immortality'. How does that make you feel?
- Most of us know someone with physical, mental or emotional disabilities. Many times, the vulnerable are gifted with a differently abled way of seeing, hearing or sensitivity, which is both gift and challenge to us all. Pope Benedict stated: "It is not by sidestepping or fleeing from suffering that we are healed, but rather by our capacity for accepting it, maturing through it and finding meaning through union with Christ, who suffered with infinite love" ... "Man is worth so much to God that he himself became human in order to suffer with us in an utterly real way—in flesh and blood—as is revealed in ... Jesus's Passion." (Spe Salvi, 37, 39) How do you reconcile suffering with the promises of Christ? What encourages you most about Paul's words?
- Paul says that the Resurrection means that nothing we do is wasted. We often don't see the results of our efforts, but if we truly believe Christ has won the victory, then as the saying goes: we may lose the battle but win the war. In God's case the war is already won. Paul's perspective calls us not to idly 'hope' for some future heaven, but to live right now in God's reign. We are called to do all the good we can today, knowing everything we do matters to God. How do I let that truth impact my daily life?
- The Gospel links strongly with the first reading. What are the connections for you? Jesus challenges us to not 'talk the talk' but to 'walk the talk'. St Augustine asked, "Suppose that God wishes to fill you with honey [a symbol of God's tenderness and goodness]; but if you are full of vinegar, where will you put the honey?" When did you last seriously review your own talk, habits and reactions for 'vinegar'? How hard is it for you to trust others? How is testing others different from criticising? What help do you need from God to fill your heart with honey and 'a store of goodness'?... *'Every tree is known by its own fruit'* ... God has equipped us to bear good fruit. How are you tending the fruit tree of *your* life? How do others experience you as a person, and as a Christian? Is there a difference?

## An Introduction to the Bible

Dear Tarsus Scripture School Supporters,

We're delighted to finally share some news with you about our latest project: **Opening the Bible: Getting Started**, an introductory programme to the Bible for newcomers, or those who are unsure where to begin.

It has long been our hope to publish something that focuses upon the fundamentals of Scripture and we envision this programme as a resource not only for Parishes and communities of believers, but to anyone who wishes to learn more about the Bible: what it is, what it says, and how it came to be.

The programme consists of **six presentations** on topics of the Bible, such as **Bible in the Life of the Church Today**, the **Old Testament**, and the **New Testament**.

Most importantly, the programme is **free to access** and—to coincide with "Sunday of the Word of God"—**available right now** on our website!

[www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie](http://www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie) >>> **Go to** >>> *Opening the Bible – Getting Started*.

*I offer this as an invaluable opportunity and tool for enjoying a prayerful and nourishing Lent and for deepening our faith. It is offered by a skilled and learned team of Scripture scholars in Ireland. **Erin go bragh!***

— John P Murray osa



## CALENDAR

### MONDAY

March 3  
Weekday  
Sir 17:20-24  
Mk 10:17-27

### TUESDAY

March 4  
Weekday  
Sir 35:1-12  
Mk 10:28-31

### WEDNESDAY

March 5  
Ash Wednesday  
Jl 2:12-18  
2 Cor 5:20-6:2  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

### THURSDAY

March 6  
Thursday after  
Ash Wednesday  
Dt 30:15-20  
Lk 9:22-25

### FRIDAY

March 7  
Friday after  
Ash Wednesday  
Is 58:1-9a  
Mt 9:14-15

### SATURDAY

March 8  
Saturday after  
Ash Wednesday  
Is 58:9b-14  
Lk 5:27-32

### SUNDAY

March 9  
First Sunday  
of Lent  
Dt 26:4-10  
Rom 10:8-13  
Lk 4:1-13

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**1. Bishop Francis Xavier Vira will be installed as the new Archbishop of Bangkok, during mass this evening, here at the Cathedral, beginning at 5.30pm.**

**2. Lent begins this coming Wednesday with Ash Wednesday. This is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics.**

**For members of the Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.**

**In addition, Fridays during Lent are days given to abstinence and acts of charity.**

**Approach this time as a time for spiritual growth.**

*(refer to United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)*

**Our website:**  
**[www.assumptioncathedralbkk.org](http://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

March 2, 2025

**Does pregnancy qualify as an exemption from abstinence and fasting in Lent?**

Yes, it does. Just to be clear, abstinence is not eating meat on the Fridays of Lent and applies to Catholics over the age of fourteen. On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine are obligated to fast, that is, eat only one full meal and two smaller meals that do not add up to a full meal. In addition to children and elders, exemptions from these disciplines include pregnant or nursing women and the physically or mentally ill, including those with chronic illnesses, like diabetes.

It is presumed that mature Catholics will seek balance and integration in the practice of the faith and will routinely make careful, informed decisions and apply them to spiritual practice. Obviously, being informed and aware of what the Church teaches, why the Church teaches something, and how it is to be applied and understood will only enhance a person's discernment.

The health of an unborn baby is a clear responsibility and of the utmost importance. Maintaining a healthy and balanced diet during pregnancy and adjusting any habitual practices that may endanger the health of the baby should be a primary concern. While exempt from fasting and abstinence, a pregnant woman may want to observe Lent by adopting another penitential discipline, something that would do no harm to the baby but would still be in the spirit of Lent. ●

*Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org*

© 2025 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in USA. Imprimatur: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on May 28, 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.

**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: I RECEIVE THE LIVING GOD (No. 916)**

**FINAL: PILGRIMS OF HOPE PLEASE STAND**

**8<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)**

*Sunday, 2 March 2025*

**ENTRANCE: ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL (No. 853) 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)**

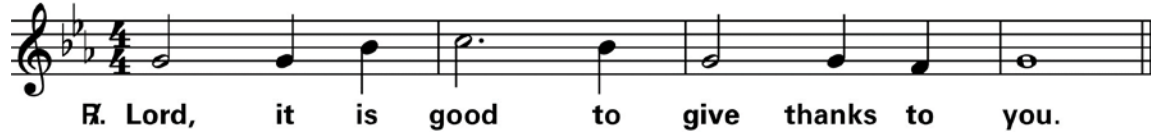
**FIRST READING: Sir 27:4-7**

**A reading from the Book of Sirach:**

When a sieve is shaken, the husks appear; so do one's faults when one speaks. As the test of what the potter molds is in the furnace, so in tribulation is the test of the just. The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had; so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he speaks, for it is then that people are tested.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 92: LORD, IT IS GOOD TO GIVE THANKS TO YOU**

1. It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, Most High, To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night. (R)
2. The just one shall flourish like the palm tree, like a cedar of Lebanon shall he grow. They that are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God. (R)
3. They shall bear fruit even in old age; vigorous and sturdy shall they be, Declaring how just is the LORD, my rock, in whom there is no wrong. (R)

**SECOND READING: 1 Cor 15:54-58****A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians:**

Brothers and sisters: When this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about:

*Death is swallowed up in victory.*

*Where, O death, is your victory?*

*Where, O death, is your sting?*

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA (No. 326) PLEASE STAND**

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)**

**All: Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the word of life.**

**GOSPEL: Lk 6:39-45**

**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.**

Jesus told his disciples a parable, "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher. Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye.

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not pick figs from thornbushes, nor do they gather grapes from brambles. A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks."

**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:**

**"Compassionate God, hear our prayer."**

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

**OFFERTORY: OPEN MY EYES (No. 651)**

**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 (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**



# Pilgrims of Hope

## Hymn for the Jubilee Year 2025

Original text: Pierangelo Sequeri

English translation: Andrew Wadsworth

Music: Francesco Meneghello

With Confidence (♩ = c. 69)  
INTRODUCTION

Organ

REFRAIN

Like a flame my hope is burn - ing, may my song a - rise to you: Source of

life that has no end - ing, on life's path I trust in you.

## Pilgrims of Hope

VERSES

1. Ev - 'ry na - tion, tongue, and peo - ple find a light with - in your Word. Scat - tered  
2. God, so ten - der and so pa - tient, dawn of hope, you care for all. Heav'n and  
3. Raise your eyes, the wind is blow - ing, for our God is born in time. Son made

to Refrain

1. frag - ile sons and daugh - ters find a home in your dear Son  
2. earth are re - cre - a - ted by the Spir - it of Life set free  
3. man for you and man - y who will find the way in him