

LIVINGTHEWORD

- ❖ **Eastertide Invitation** — In the 50 days after Easter the Church listens continuously to the Acts of the Apostles (the ‘Gospel’ of the Church as it is sometimes called). It is filled with stories of the Holy Spirit moving disciples from Jerusalem out into the world. You may like to consider an invitation to read the complete Acts of the Apostles during these days, to inspire and let the Easter mission completely subsume into your heart and mind. What do you think the ‘mission’ is in your own country, parish, family?
- ❖ **Shaking Off the Dust** — Shaking one’s sandals was a ritual action Jews performed when returning from Gentile (non-believing) lands. When Paul and Barnabas did this action to the Jews and went to the Gentiles it would have been interpreted as a great insult. Sometimes it requires great courage to move outside traditional boundaries. Have you experienced a missionary zeal to go further than what is normal and acceptable, to live and bring Christ to others? What happened? Do you know a missionary or a special project in your local community? How could you help?
- ❖ **Garments Washed White In Blood** — The Book of Revelation ‘unveils’ the future and provides a heavenly image of those who have endured great persecution and sacrificed their life for peace, justice and freedom. Their white robes symbolise these inner virtues. It is a picture of all the faithful – saints in Heaven who have ‘survived the time of great distress’. Have you recognised the freedom (and religious freedom) of your country and your life has been won at great cost by those who have gone before you? What do you think this great multitude of ancestors would say to you today? Consider what religious truths you would be willing to endure great distress for to defend?
- ❖ **Salvation: Soldier or Shepherd?** — The context of John 10 is the great Jewish Feast of Dedication. It was a celebration of the military victory of Judas Maccabeus, who led an army (in 164 BCE) against occupying Greeks who had desecrated the Jewish Temple by putting the Greek god Zeus on the altar, making it unclean (see Dan 8:13). They killed and chased out their oppressors, destroyed false idols, built a new altar and rededicated the Temple. In John 10 they ask Jesus if he is the promised Messiah, and will raise up arms and inspire an army to overcome the occupying Roman forces. He simply responds he is the Good Shepherd. Salvation and healing of the world will come through listening to his voice, not the taking up of arms. A soldier or shepherd: what are the similarities and differences of these two images?
- ❖ **Sheep and Shepherds** — A striking image in contemporary Jerusalem and nearby Bethlehem is young and old shepherds daily walking their small flock of 15-20 sheep to grass or water. Tender and watchful care is given to the sheep. So familiar are the sheep with their shepherd they know his voice. In what ways do you listen to God? Have you experienced a desire to love and care so deeply for God’s family that you are willing to lay down your life and become a shepherd?



— How do I become one of your workers? —

Recently, I was asked this question by one of our number, of our 10 am Mass faith community. I was intrigued. My workers? I don’t employ staff. *“Oh, you mean to be a reader at Mass, or a commentator, or a welcomer?”*, I asked. *“Yes, that’s it”*, was the reply. *“They are not my workers”*, I stressed. *“They are the faithful People of God, the laity, exercising their ministry. They are ministers, serving the community, gathered at worship; and know that our ministry reaches much further than church on Sunday.”*

Ministry in the Church belongs to all the baptised, arising out of the dignity of our baptism. Listen carefully to the words within the baptism we celebrate at Mass today. At the anointing with Chrism Oil, the ritual of the Church clearly states: *“God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ ... now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet and King, so may you live always as a member of his body”*.

Just ponder these words. Isn’t it just incredible, awe-inspiring, whom we become through baptism? Can we even fathom the greatness we are called to in this life? This is true mystery, freely shared with us, thanks to the grace of God. Through our baptism, each of us is truly called to ministry. The priesthood of the laity calls forth every member of the Body of Christ to ministry. What an honour and privilege for us to share in furthering the mission of Jesus to build the Kingdom of God. I then smile to myself as I remember being told more than once from among our number: *“Father, when I retire or have time, I will help you”*. Is that how we reduce ministry?

Today is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. For this day, Pope Francis wrote us a message. Let us listen to him. *“A vocation – our call to ministry – is a precious gift that God sows in our heart, a call to leave ourselves behind and embark on a journey of love and service. Every vocation in the Church, whether lay, ordained or consecrated, is a sign of the hope that God has for this world and for each of his children.”* He further shared: *“Realise that the gift of life calls for a generous and faithful response. ... In a particular way, the lay faithful are called to be the ‘salt, light and leaven’ of the Kingdom of God through their social and professional commitments.”*

Finally, he reflected: *“A vocation is never a treasure stored away in the heart; rather, it grows and is strengthened within a community that believes, loves and hopes. No one can respond to God’s call alone, for all of us need the prayers and support of our brothers and sisters.”*

Does this not inspire us to stand up and join in Jesus’ mission, in the Church’s mission, and live out the Gospel? Jesus is ever our friend and companion. God is our boss.

— John P Murray osa

CALENDAR

MONDAY
May 12
Easter Weekday
Acts 11:1-18
Jn 10:1-10

TUESDAY
May 13
Easter Weekday
Acts 11:19-26
Jn 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY
May 14
St. Matthias, Apostle
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26
Jn 15:9-17

THURSDAY
May 15
Easter Weekday
Acts 13:13-25
Jn 13:16-20

FRIDAY
May 16
Easter Weekday
Acts 13:26-33
Jn 14:1-6

SATURDAY
May 17
Easter Weekday
Acts 13:44-52
Jn 14:7-14

SUNDAY
May 18
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 14:21-27
Rv 21:1-5a
Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

PRAYER SEEKING THE INTERCESSION OF
THE EIGHT BLESSED MARTYRS OF THAILAND
AND THEIR CANONISATION

Almighty God, You called the eight Blessed Martyrs of Thailand to serve our Lord Jesus Christ, as priest, religious and lay people, laity leading as young disciples, and as a catechist. These eight Blessed Martyrs responded faithfully to Your call, dedicating themselves to Your redemptive mission for all. For the sake of this mission and their faith in You, they followed Your Son, Jesus Christ, in sacrificing their lives.

May the example of these eight Blessed Martyrs of Thailand inspire us to live our Christian faith today in the Catholic Church, ever giving witness to that faith in our daily life.

According to Your will, we pray that Your servants, the eight Blessed Martyrs of Thailand, may be canonised. We ask this as we seek to strengthen our own faith. So, if it is Your will, bless us with their canonisation, thus giving glory to Your Name.

Through the intercession of the eight Blessed Martyrs of Thailand, grant what we now humbly request in prayer (*take a silent moment*).
Amen.

Leader: The eight Blessed Martyrs of Thailand
Response: Pray for us

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

May 11, 2025

When is it OK to medicate for pain? If my relative is in hospice, should I permit the use of drugs that hasten his or her death?

When someone we love is dying, we do not want him or her to be in pain. It is only natural to want to ease or end all suffering. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* offers these guidelines: “The use of painkillers to alleviate the sufferings of the dying, even at the risk of shortening their days, can be morally in conformity with human dignity if death is not willed as either an end or a means, but only foreseen and tolerated as inevitable” (CCC 2279). In other words, it is permissible to medicate for pain, but you must not use narcotics as an end or means to hasten someone’s death—only to alleviate pain and minimize a person’s suffering. To give medication to cause death rather than merely to relieve pain is not allowed.

It is important to have a discussion about the types of treatment a person would want when they are dying. It is also important to have a discussion with your pastor or another priest or chaplain—someone who can help you discern whether the action, the intention, and the circumstances are consistent with Church teaching. Many times, one is forced to make very difficult decisions about medical care, and it is always good to have someone we trust who can help us make the best choice. ●

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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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**

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: ON EAGLE'S WINGS (No.691)

FINAL: ALLELUIA NO. 1 (No. 524) PLEASE STAND

4th Sunday of Easter (Year C)

Sunday, 11 May 2025

ENTRANCE HYMN: SING TO THE MOUNTAINS (No. 519) 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: Acts 13:14, 43-52

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Paul and Barnabas continued on from Perga and reached Antioch in Pisidia. On the sabbath they entered the synagogue and took their seats. Many Jews and worshipers who were converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to remain faithful to the grace of God.

On the following sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and with violent abuse contradicted what Paul said. Both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first, but since you reject it and condemn yourselves as unworthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, *I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth.*"

The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this and glorified the word of the Lord. All who were destined for eternal life came to believe, and the word of the Lord continued to spread through the whole region. The Jews, however, incited the women of prominence who were worshipers and the leading men of the city, stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in protest against them, and went to Iconium. The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 100: WE ARE HIS PEOPLE



1. Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful song. (R)
2. Know that the LORD is God; he made us, his we are; his people, the flock he tends. (R)
3. The LORD is good: his kindness endures forever, and his faithfulness, to all generations. (R)

SECOND READING: Rv 7:9, 14b-17

A reading from the Book of Revelation:

I, John, 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.

Then one of the elders 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.

"For this reason they stand before God's throne and worship him day and night in his temple. The one who sits on the throne will shelter them. They will not hunger or thirst anymore, nor will the sun or any heat strike them. For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA (No. 326) PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

**All: I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.**

GOSPEL: Jn 10:27-30

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the Good News according to John

All: Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

Priest: The Good News of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES PLEASE STAND

The Priest addresses the Community, who make their responses together.

Priest: Do you reject sin so as to live in the freedom of God's children?

All: I do.

Priest: Do you reject the glamour of evil, and refuse to be mastered by sin?

All: I do.

Priest: Do you reject Satan, father of sin and prince of darkness?

All: I do.

Priest: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

All: I do.

Priest: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

All: I do.

Priest: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

All: I do.

The priest concludes:

Priest: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church.

We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

RESPONSE TO THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

"Shepherding God, hear our prayer."

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY: THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS (No. 712)