

## LIVINGTHEWORD

- Circumcision was physical and symbolic – an outward sign of an inner consecration and being a nation set apart. It was a physical part of oneself offered to God like a sacrifice. Jewish Christians wanted gentile Christians to follow their Mosaic practice (given by Moses) and be circumcised. This question resulted in the first Council of Jerusalem meeting. How do we know what is important to keep practising? Are external markings important? Do you show / wear a sign of belonging to God? Why? Why not?
- Jewish / Gentile conflict happened in the very early days of the Christian community. Declining numbers of Jewish Christians were faced with increasing numbers of Gentile Christians. The loss of culture and influence caused tension. How was the tension resolved? What are the lessons for us today?
- Pagan temples often used animals for sacrifices. This meat was cut up and sometimes sold in the market. What are modern idols, practices, institutions, that could affect true worship of God today?
- The Book of Revelation was written during a time of great persecution. A vision is painted of the future being secure in the ultimate victory of the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb. We all need a vision and story to lead and call us forward in our current pain and struggle. It is the essence of hope. In your difficult times, what keeps you going? What is the story and vision of the future that gives you hope?
- The gates of God's City have three gates open in all directions. If you were to picture your church community, how could it be seen to have its doors open and welcoming to all? What is something you would be willing to try to make your parish more welcoming?
- Jesus teaches his disciples there is a link between loving Him and keeping his Word. Reflect on an experience of listening to His Word. What is the difference between listening and keeping? Have you had an experience of feeling at home with the Word? What is it like?
- In John's Gospel, the Holy Spirit is called the Advocate; a translation of the Greek 'Paraclete' – literally, the one who stands by the side of a defendant in the courtroom. It is also translated as counsellor, comforter, encourager. What image do you have of the Holy Spirit in your life?
- Peace is the trademark and presence of the Holy Spirit in the tradition of Christian spirituality. *'Not as the world gives do I give it to you'*. What sort of peace does the world seek to give? Where is peace found?

### — IT IS LAUDATO SI WEEK —

It is also the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pope Francis' launching this Encyclical. To honour this epochal work of our late Pope, I share my reflection on a brief visit I made to a friend's farm. In going there, I had a simple task on hand – to prepare my presentation on the theme, *"Hearing the Cry of the Earth"*, for an Augustinian Spirituality course. I had wondered, "How can I hear the cry of the earth, when I live in my big, busy, crowded, noisy Bangkok?" So off I went upcountry. And what did I hear there?

Firstly, I was struck by and enjoyed the silence. I had to become still so as to listen to the earth's cry. Coming from My Bangkok, this took time. As I quietened the pace of my life, I quickly became aware that I was not setting the conversation.

All the animals on the farm – the dogs, the ducks, the geese, the chickens – looked so cute. On the surface, they lived together happily in harmony. In fact, the very opposite was true, as the dogs would slyly attack and kill the defenseless others. In order to protect these poor animals, the dogs were given their own, comfortable home. Fact is, while life on the farm is peaceful, it can also be ruthless, with the stronger ones in the chain dealing harshly with their weaker brothers and sisters. So, tread carefully and wisely.

While farm life may seem easy, fact is no matter how hot it may be, there is work to be done. When something goes wrong, it is up to you to act on it. So, the realities make you more aware of your dependency on and interdependency with both nature and humanity. You know your farm and you work with it. You know the earth and you care for it. And you know you cannot do it alone.

Life may seem simpler in the country, but it is not. To be successful, you work with the earth, not against it. This is a learnt skill. You get your hands dirty. Anything can go wrong at any moment. The harshness of the climate and the land remind you who is in control. *Not you!*

The land is neither tame nor conquered. Rather, you connect with it and relate with it, like dealing with another person. Show it respect and give it the dignity it deserves. In the big city, we make things happen, taking so much for granted. In the country, you achieve knowing and respecting nature. It is about you and the land cooperating together, with those around you. In the end, that is it. We learn so much from the earth. Our planet is our *"common home"*.

— John P Murray osa



## CALENDAR

### MONDAY

May 26  
St. Philip Neri,  
Priest  
Acts 16:11-15  
Jn 15:26-16:4a

### TUESDAY

May 27  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 16:22-34  
Jn 16:5-11

### WEDNESDAY

May 28  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 17:15,  
22-18:1  
Jn 16:12-15

### THURSDAY

May 29  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 18:1-8  
Jn 16:16-20

### FRIDAY

May 30  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 18:9-18  
Jn 16:20-23

### SATURDAY

May 31  
The Visitation  
of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary  
Zep 3:14-18a  
or Rom 12:9-16  
Lk 1:39-56

### SUNDAY

June 1  
The Ascension  
of the Lord  
Acts 1:1-11  
Eph 1:17-23  
or Heb 9:24-28;  
10:19-23  
Lk 24:46-53

## 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](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

May 25, 2025

## ***I know Catholics with spouses who cheat and abuse them. What should they do?***

If someone is in an abusive marriage, the Church wants you to help that person reach safety. The Church doesn't tolerate anyone staying in a place where physical or mental abuse occurs. Separation is often a first and necessary step. However, there is always hope for reconciliation. If a husband is abusive, and his wife leaves, but he then seeks treatment and changes his ways, the Church hopes that the marriage could be saved.

The same is true for an adulterous spouse. If he or she is repentant and takes steps to change and make amends, the Church hopes for and encourages reconciliation. But if a spouse refuses treatment or continues the adulterous behavior, the next step would be a civil divorce. It is only after separation and a civil divorce that the annulment process can begin. However, even after a civil divorce, there is still hope of reconciliation.

It's important to remember that when a couple gets married, they marry for better and for worse. This means there is a call and an expectation to work things out, to forgive, to repair the hurt, and to not rush to divorce. But, to be sure, if you are dealing with addiction, abuse, or infidelity in your relationship, the Church supports your need to be secure. ●

*Fr. Patrick Keyes, 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 July 9, 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.

**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: THERE ARE MANY ROOMS (No. 867)**

**I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE (No. 945)**

**FINAL: LOVE DEVINE, ALL LOVE EXCELLING (No. 641) PLEASE STAND**

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Year C)**

*Sunday, 25 May 2025*

**ENTRANCE: ALLELUIA No. 1 (No. 524) 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 15:1-2, 22-29**

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:**

Some who had come down from Judea were instructing the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice, you cannot be saved." Because there arose no little dissension and debate by Paul and Barnabas with them, it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and some of the others should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders about this question.

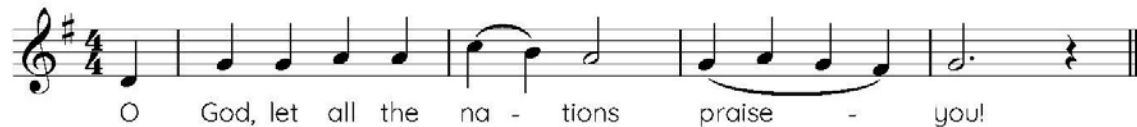
The apostles and elders, in agreement with the whole church, decided to choose representatives and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. The ones chosen were Judas, who was called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers. This is the letter delivered by them:

The apostles and the elders, your brothers, to the brothers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia of Gentile origin: greetings. Since we have heard that some of our number who went out without any mandate from us have upset you with their teachings and disturbed your peace of mind, we have with one accord decided to choose representatives and to send them to you along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we are sending Judas and Silas who will also convey this same message by word of mouth: 'It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities, namely, to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, from meats of strangled animals, and from unlawful marriage. If you keep free of these, you will be doing what is right. Farewell.'

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 67: O GOD, LET ALL THE NATIONS PRAISE YOU!**



1. May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us. So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation. (R)
2. May the nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity; the nations on the earth you guide. (R)
3. May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you! May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear him! (R)

**SECOND READING: Rv 21:10-14, 22-23**

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

The angel took me in spirit to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. It gleamed with the splendor of God. Its radiance was like that of a precious stone, like jasper, clear as crystal. It had a massive, high wall, with twelve gates where twelve angels were stationed and on which names were inscribed, the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites. There were three gates facing east, three north, three south, and three west. The wall of the city had twelve courses of stones as its foundation, on which were inscribed the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw no temple in the city for its temple is the Lord God almighty and the Lamb. The city had no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gave it light, and its lamp was the Lamb.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

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

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

**All: Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.**

**GOSPEL: Jn 14:23-29**

**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 to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.

"I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, 'I am going away and I will come back to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe."

**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:  
"Lord of glory, hear our prayer."**

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY: UBI CARITAS (No. 500)**