

LIVINGTHEWORD

- ❖ 40 days have passed since Easter. What is a significant memory, learning, faith experience you have had since Holy Week? Has the Easter Mystery become clearer in any way? Have you learnt something new about what Christ has done for our salvation?
- ❖ Restoring the 'Kingdom to Israel' is still a theme and question of the Apostles. They may still be holding on to a military hope of salvation, with a clear and convincing victory of God by power. What is your understanding of the idea of 'Kingdom of God? What does it look like? How is it achieved?
- ❖ The Feast of the Ascension celebrates Jesus' place now in Heaven, promising the Holy Spirit (1st reading), acting as the Heavenly Priest (2nd reading) and sending his disciples to witness to all nations (Gospel). The Angels challenge the disciples (and us): *'Why are you standing there looking at the sky?'* Where is the focus of your energy and attention as a disciple: looking upward to heaven, or looking sideways to mission?
- ❖ Ascension Sunday has 2 options for the second reading. The letter to the Hebrews teaches how Jesus replaces all the sacrifices, offerings and prayers of the Temple priests. A picture is created of the High Priest acting on the Day of Atonement (Lev 16) with blood (symbol of life) to rub on the mercy seat (God's resting place) in the Holy of Holies (the sanctuary / tabernacle). Jesus' sacrifice of himself is the one eternal sacrifice to fulfill and replace all sacrifice offerings for the forgiveness of sin. This great act is complete. Jesus now gives us confidence that our relationship with God is made clean. Jesus acts now and intercedes for us as our heavenly priest. What strikes you from this image in the reading from Hebrews?
- ❖ Jesus sends his disciples as witnesses to all the world. This is our job description. The early Christian community, so heavily persecuted, linked witness with martyrdom. In what ways do you consider yourself a witness to Jesus? If people were to 'watch' your life what would they 'see'?
- ❖ The Holy Spirit is *'the Promise of the Father upon you'*, giving disciples a power from on high. What is your image and experience of the Holy Spirit? Have you ever earnestly prayed for the Spirit? Awaiting Pentecost this coming week, create a simple phrase that you could pray frequently – e.g. *'Promise of the Father, come'* or *'Power from on high, fill me'*.

— THEY RETURNED TO JERUSALEM WITH GREAT JOY —

The Ascension is an imaginative way of portraying Jesus' leaving us and the world, while maintaining his presence with us, from heaven. Thus, the Risen Lord is seated in glory, in the Kingdom, while yet ever so close to us. Quite the mystery!

This doctrine of faith can be recognised as a model of 'moving on'. It is a real gift in life to know when to move on. It is like the parent knowing when to let the child be an adult, or like the risk-taking moment of our relinquishing a long-held role or task in life. A part of life is our facing those 'moving on' moments in life to take up a new challenge, and the fact is they are never easy.

The story of Christ's Ascension can be seen as Jesus' taking his leave of his friends and disciples, at the right moment, so that he can take up a new, more purposeful role. There is this, but it is about something much deeper, as the Risen Lord is entering into a lasting intimacy with his Church, with his disciples and friends – **US!** Quite the mystery!

In his Lenten message this year, Pope Francis spoke to us as "Pilgrims of Hope", during this Jubilee Year, challenging us – *"Am I really on a journey, or am I standing still, not moving, either immobilised by fear and hopelessness or reluctant to move out of my comfort zone?"*

In a press conference on 9th May, following the Conclave, Cardinal Nichols, of Westminster, spoke of the two Popes – Francis and Leo XIV. His point was that Francis' vision and spirit for a missionary Church is now being put into practice through Leo XIV.

Inspired by Leo XIV, a son of Augustine, Cardinal Nichols shared a deep insight of St Augustine: *"When a man throws himself into the water, from a bridge, to commit suicide, the mercy of God will catch him between the bridge and the water, and bring him home."*

The theology of St Augustine is straight from the heart. Quite the mystery!

There is a Byzantine icon of the Ascension. In it, you see the disciples drawn below the Christ, letting go, sorrowing as well as hoping. That is where we tend to be when moving on. Note that this Feast is to focus on that main image of the glorified Christ who goes away physically, but ever remains, staying with us in intimacy and taking us to Himself. There is a destiny for humanity, for each of us. It takes us on an adventure in mission to the fullness of life. May the Ascension be for us all a day of hopeful joy!

— John P Murray osa



CALENDAR

MONDAY

June 2
Easter Weekday
Acts 19:1-8
Jn 16:29-33

TUESDAY

June 3
St. Charles Lwanga
and Companions,
Martyrs

Acts 20:17-27
Jn 17:1-11a

WEDNESDAY

June 4
Easter Weekday
Acts 20:28-38
Jn 17:11b-19

THURSDAY

June 5
St. Boniface, Bishop
and Martyr
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11
Jn 17:20-26

FRIDAY

June 6
Easter Weekday
Acts 25:13b-21
Jn 21:15-19

SATURDAY

June 7
Easter Weekday
Acts 28:16-20,
30-31
Jn 21:20-25

SUNDAY

June 8
Pentecost
Acts 2:1-11
1 Cor 12:3b-7,
12-13 or
Rom 8:8-17
Jn 20:19-23 or
Jn 14:15-16,
23b-26

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

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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

June 1, 2025

What does the Catholic Church teach about miracles?

Miracles are extraordinary occurrences without natural explanation that manifest the presence and power of God. We believe in miracles “because of the authority of God himself who reveals them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 156).

Christ’s multiplication of the loaves is the only miracle recorded by all four evangelists. He performed many other natural miracles—calming the storm, walking on water—and numerous healings as well—curing the deaf and mute, the woman with a hemorrhage. These signs attest that the Father sent Jesus and “they invite belief in him” (CCC, 548). Moreover, Jesus’ miracles “also confirm that the kingdom has already arrived on earth...” (“Dogmatic Constitution on the Church,” 5).

Today, God still manifests his presence in the Church through miracles. For example, potential medical healings are rigorously investigated by the Vatican for sainthood causes. Other supernatural occurrences—such as apparitions and eucharistic phenomena—are likewise thoroughly and prudently investigated with caution to maintain the Church’s credibility and prevent confusion among the faithful.

To that end, in May 2024, the Vatican updated its guidelines for assessing apparitions, visions, and alleged revelations, and reaffirmed that a bishop cannot rule on the validity of a particular case before the pope formally deems it to be “supernatural” for pastoral value. (Search “Norms for Proceeding in the Discernment of Alleged Supernatural Phenomena” at Vatican.va.) ●

Fr. Byron Miller, 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: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY (No. 932)

FINAL: PILGRIMS OF HOPE (Please see insertion) PLEASE STAND

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (Year C)

(Solemnity)

Sunday, 1 June 2025

ENTRANCE: HAIL THE DAY THAT SEES HIM RISE (No. 543) 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 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

When they had gathered together they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven."

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 47: GOD MOUNTS HIS THRONE



God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trum-pets for the Lord.

1. All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness, For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth. (R)
2. God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the LORD, amid trumpet blasts. Sing praise to God, sing praise; sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R)
3. For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne. (R)

SECOND READING: Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews:

Christ did not enter into a sanctuary made by hands, a copy of the true one, but heaven itself, that he might now appear before God on our behalf. Not that he might offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters each year into the sanctuary with blood that is not his own; if that were so, he would have had to suffer repeatedly from the foundation of the world. But now once for all he has appeared at the end of the ages to take away sin by his sacrifice. Just as it is appointed that men and women die once, and after this the judgment, so also Christ, offered once to take away the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to take away sin but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since through the blood of Jesus we have confidence of entrance into the sanctuary by the new and living way he opened for us through the veil, that is, his flesh, and since we have "a great priest over the house of God," let us approach with a sincere heart and in absolute trust, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope, for he who made the promise is trustworthy.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA (No. 326) PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

**All: Go and teach all nations, says the Lord;
I am with you always, until the end of the world.**

GOSPEL: Lk 24:46-53

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: "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven. They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God.

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:
"Make your home within us, O God."**

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY: BLESS THE LORD (No. 620)

Pilgrims of Hope

Hymn for the Jubilee Year 2025

Original text: Pierangelo Sequeri

English translation: Andrew Wadsworth

Music: Francesco Meneghello

Pilgrims of Hope

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.

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