

LIVINGTHEWORD

- ❖ A New Year: The 1st Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new 'season' – and a new Year (the Gospel of Matthew). Advent prepares and challenges us to be ready to welcome the Second Coming of Jesus, while also tuning us to celebrate and remember with joy the *first* coming of Jesus. How will you celebrate both Advent and Christmas? What do you do to prepare to welcome someone special? How could you apply those ideas to the four Advent weeks of preparing and waiting?
- ❖ Healing of the World: The scripture passage from Isaiah *“they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks”* was used in establishing the United Nations following the two World Wars. A large and famous bronze statute called “Let Us Beat Swords into Plowshares” was created in 1959, to express the hope of stopping wars and building peace, seeking human cooperation rather than violence. Ponder this image of Advent longing and waiting. What does it stir up for you in prayer?
- ❖ Shaking Us Awake: Jesus uses 3 short parables to wake his hearers. Celebrating a marriage and then suddenly experiencing a flood; working side by side a fellow worker and they get taken while you are left behind; a burglar entering your house while you are all asleep. We are invited to interrupt our normal daily life, to get ready as if Christ were coming again at Christmas time. How could you prepare over the next four weeks to be ready?
- ❖ Stopping a Thief: To stop a thief entering your house you would put in place certain practices or habits (locking doors and windows, turning lights on, having mail collected by a friend...) so that you are always ready, 'awake'. What spiritual practices for preparing and waiting could you commit to this Advent to help you be spiritually awake?
- ❖ An Advent Story—Hands Up: A famous retreat leader had hundreds of excited people waiting for very wise words and deep insights into their problems. He arrived at the microphone and asked: *‘Hands up who wants to go to Heaven?’* Everyone put their hand up. *‘Hands up those who are ready to go now?’* No one put their hand up. He said... you may consider asking yourself *why* you are not ready...

**Pope Leo has gone to Türkiye and Lebanon,
to mark the Council of Nicaea and to work for peace and unity.
*What better way to start a new Church Year!***

"The Council of Nicaea is not merely an event of the past but a compass that must continue to guide us towards the full visible unity of all Christians." Pope Leo XIV expressed this when receiving at the Vatican participants in the Symposium *“Nicaea and the Church of the Third Millennium: Towards Catholic-Orthodox Unity,”* which took place in June, at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas in Rome.

In 2025, the Catholic Church is commemorating the 1,700th Anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea, convened in AD325 by Emperor Constantine I, in the city of Nicaea. This Ecumenical Council aimed to address theological disputes and establish a unified Christian doctrine, and its outcomes included affirming Christ's divinity and formulating the Nicene Creed.

Pope Leo called the First Ecumenical Council "foundational" for the common journey that Catholics and Orthodox have undertaken together since the Second Vatican Council. For the Eastern Churches, which commemorate its celebration in their liturgical calendar, the Council of Nicaea, he recognised, *“is not simply one Council among others or the first in a series, but the Council par excellence...”*

On the faith of Nicaea, he reiterated that this anniversary represents “an invaluable opportunity to emphasise that, what we have in common is much stronger, quantitatively and qualitatively, than what divides us. ... Together, we believe in the Triune God, in Christ as truly human and truly God, and in salvation through Jesus Christ, according to the Scriptures read in the Church and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit,” as well as “in the Church, baptism, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal life. ... By returning to the Council of Nicaea and drawing together from this common source, we will be able to see in a different light the points that still separate us,” and that “through theological dialogue and with God’s help, we will gain a better understanding of the mystery that unites us.”

(Vatican News – Deborah Castellano Lubov – 7th June 2025).

A Context: *In the early Church, there were disputes about the identity of Jesus the Christ. These disputes were central, because they questioned the identity of Jesus as truly human and divine. They even became quite virulent. Within the Roman Empire that had recognised the Christian religion, with the Edict of Milan (AD313), the arising division was unacceptable for the Emperor, Constantine I, who chose to deal with it, through calling the Council of Nicaea. The issue at hand was two-fold: the centrality of holding to right doctrine, and maintaining unity. Both aims remain constant until this day and will continue to be so. We profess our belief in both God and Church. However, we may ask ourselves. Do we ever enquire into our belief and deepen it? Do we live our belief or is it mere words on a Sunday?*



CALENDAR

MONDAY

December 1
Advent Weekday

Is 4:2-6
Mt 8:5-11

TUESDAY

December 2
Advent Weekday

Is 11:1-10
Lk 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY

December 3
*St. Francis Xavier,
Priest*

Is 25:6-10a
Mt 15:29-37

THURSDAY

December 4
Advent Weekday

Is 26:1-6
Mt 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY

December 5
Advent Weekday

Is 29:17-24
Mt 9:27-31

SATURDAY

December 6
Advent Weekday

Is 30:19-21,
23-26
Mt 9:35-10:1,
5a, 6-8

SUNDAY

December 7
*Second Sunday
of Advent*

Is 11:1-10
Rom 15:4-9
Mt 3:1-12

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, Sun : Closed
& public holidays

Dear Padre

November 30, 2025

Is Advent a penitential season?

Strictly speaking, the penitential times in the Church are "every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent" (*Code of Canon Law*, 1250). Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas when Christ's First Coming is remembered, and this remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. (See *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*, 39.) While Advent is more anticipatory than penitential, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops states, "Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas." Although, historically, Advent was similar to Lent as a forty-day period of prayer and fasting, it was less severe than the season preceding Easter, and it lacked uniformity in the Western Church. The Eastern Church still begins the Nativity Fast on November 15, while in the Western Church, Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas.

Regardless, the significant focus of Advent is our Lord's coming (*adventus* in Latin). The Church reflects this anticipation of Advent through such practices as limiting floral arrangements in the sanctuary, simpler liturgical music, and omitting the Gloria at Mass until Christmas. We can also reflect the anticipation of Advent through such spiritual practices as participation in works of charity, moderation in shopping, celebration of the sacrament of penance, fasting on Fridays, and prayerful contemplation on our Savior's Incarnation. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

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

Amen. Amen.

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

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, 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: MARANATHA, LORD MESSIAH (No. 397)

FINAL: COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS (PLEASE SEE INSERTION)

PLEASE STAND

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)**

Sunday, 30 November 2025

ENTRANCE: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL (No. 395) 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.

KÝRIE, ELÉISON

Kýrie, eléison, (2); Christe, eléison, (2); Kýrie, eléison, (2).

FIRST READING: Is 2:1-5**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:**

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come, the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say: "Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths." For from Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 122: LET US GO REJOICING

1. I rejoiced because they said to me, "We will go up to the house of the LORD." And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R)
2. Jerusalem, built as a city with compact unity. To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD. (R)

3. According to the decree for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
In it are set up judgment seats, seats for the house of David. (R)
4. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May those who love you prosper!
May peace be within your walls, prosperity in your buildings. (R)

SECOND READING: Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans:

Brothers and sisters: You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and lust, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA: PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

All: Show us, Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.

GOSPEL: Mt 24:37-44

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the Good News according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: "As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

Priest: The Good News of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PLEASE BE SEATED

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.

PLEASE BE SEATED

PLEASE STAND

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

RESPONSE TO THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

"Lord, hear our prayer."

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY: WAIT FOR THE LORD (No. 406)

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

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

1 Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child and yet a king,

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

from our fears and sins re-lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for-ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Am Dm7 Gm C7 Dm7 C7 F Dm Am Gm Csus C

Is-ra-el's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e-ter-nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a-lone;

F Bb C7 F G7 C Bb C7 F F7 Bb F Bb F C7 F

dear De-sire of ev-ery na-tion, Joy of ev-ery long-ing heart.
by thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

1 Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child and yet a king,

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F Gm Dm C F

from our fears and sins re-lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for-ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Am Dm7 Gm C7 Dm7 C7 F Dm Am Gm Csus C

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By thine own e-ter-nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a-lone;

F Bb C7 F G7 C Bb C7 F F7 Bb F Bb F C7 F

dear De-sire of ev-ery na-tion, Joy of ev-ery long-ing heart.
by thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.