

During the coming Sundays of Lent, we will offer the opportunity to pray the Stations of the Cross. This is a long-held prayer within the Church. My understanding is that this devotion arose within the Church in the Middle Ages, as a way of allowing the faithful to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, without actually, physically going there. So, for us, the Stations of the Cross are a pilgrimage we can make this Lent in faith.

## LIVINGTHEWORD

- ❖ **Lenten Call:** Abram (later to be given a new name – Abraham) experiences the first ‘call’. It becomes the pattern for each person God continues to call ... move ... inspire. God seems to want each one of us to move from our current place; this could be psychologically, spiritually or geographically. In this season of Lent, what would it mean for you to ‘Go forth from the land of your family, your home’? A new place and space? What attachments may be stopping you from hearing God’s call?
- ❖ **Be a Blessing:** God promises a response to those who heed his call – blessing! The word is mentioned 5 times. How could your life become more of a blessing for others? Have you considered the name ‘Christian’ is honoured or dishonoured through your life and example. How could those who bear the name *Christ-ian* make an impact on the world during Lent? The Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are meant to transform us. What will you try?
- ❖ **Bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News:** Do you know anyone or any project that is experiencing hardship in trying to bring God’s love into the world? It often requires great sacrifice and walking in faith – like Abram, ‘into unclear territory’. In this season of Lent, how could you ‘bear the hardships’ – *give generously* – to bring God’s blessing upon the world? If you decided to give, would you be willing to give so that you share in a little insecurity and discomfort in order to bring others into security and comfort?
- ❖ **Closer Companions:** Peter, James and John are three disciples Jesus frequently chooses to give special companion experiences. A mountain or high place was symbolic of a place where one can be in touch with God. Where is a place where you feel close to God? How could you listen to him more?
- ❖ **Waiting for the Messiah:** Jewish people remembered living in tents for 40 years while wandering in the desert. They believed God would come among them and look after them again with the coming of the Messiah. They thought Moses or Elijah would come again. Peter acknowledges it has happened in seeing Jesus’ true identity. White symbolises divinity and Jesus being truly God among us. What are you waiting for God to ‘do’ for you? Can you reflect and see ways in which God is showing himself present and active now in your life?
- ❖ **Stand Up:** The disciples were full of fear and afraid. In this journey of Lent, how could you identify your fears and what you are afraid of? What would it mean to respond to Jesus’ words: ‘stand up’?

### I Believe in Miracles

As you know, I have had a bad right knee, which needed an operation. As I was approaching that ultimate inevitability, I was praying for a miracle that my knee would heal, so that I would not need that operation. Well, I have now had my operation. The next day, when the doctor came and got me up to take my first steps on a walker, I cried as I realised that the operation was the miracle.

This struck me immediately and powerfully as, for the first time in 18 months, I could take a step without the pain that had been with me for all that time; and was getting worse. I knew it was the amazing care and skills of doctors, nurses and chaplaincy team that was the medium for my miracle. I thank them and think they are all just amazing people; heroes.

All along, my journey with my knee has been a spiritual journey. I know that God has been with me through it all, and remains with me. All along, I aimed never to complain, reminding myself that I am not suffering in Gaza and praying for all those suffering so terribly, in war and conflict throughout our world. God has been and is my constant companion, transforming my suffering until the end, through an operation. God had gotten me through each day that I faced with my painful knee. Together, we journeyed. I would plan each day with God and then, at the end of that day, I would thank God for getting me through it. We had done it together.

I knew I was not alone. God always provided such good and kind people to be with me each day. You were part of the miracle. I am thankful for your prayers and support. I made it, but not alone, as I made it with God and with all the people who have been part of this journey.

Thus, I experienced that suffering is transformative. The love of God, the companionship of God transforms us, as we are in communion together as members of the Body of Christ. This is true. Miracles do happen. I experienced one. They just do not necessarily happen as we predict or want.

We read today’s Gospel story of the Transfiguration of Our Lord. His face shone like the sun. His disciples were overwhelmed by the experience. We think that this is a story for then and for them, in Jesus’ physical company. No, this story is real for us today. Our lives are truly transformed by our experience of Jesus’ presence and friendship, by a God who is our most intimate companion.

Are we open to this transformation? Do we believe it can happen or are we ruled by a world that tells us only what is possible and what must happen? The Gospel transforms our lives into living with meaning and purpose, at a depth that we can only imagine. God’s love is with us. God’s vision and hope for us open us up to untold possibilities for good and love.

God loves you – John P Murray osa

\*\* Pray, Reflect, Grow with the Sunday Readings at [www.livingtheword.org.nz](http://www.livingtheword.org.nz)



## CALENDAR

### MONDAY

MARCH 2

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 9:4b-10

Lk 6:36-38

### TUESDAY

MARCH 3

*Lenten Weekday*

Is 1:10, 16-20

Mt 23:1-12

### WEDNESDAY

MARCH 4

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 18:18-20

Mt 20:17-28

### THURSDAY

MARCH 5

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 17:5-10

Lk 16:19-31

### FRIDAY

MARCH 6

*Lenten Weekday*

Gn 37:3-4,

12-13a, 17b-28a

Mt 21:33-43,

45-46

### SATURDAY

MARCH 7

*Lenten Weekday*

Mi 7:14-15,

18-20

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

### SUNDAY

MARCH 8

*Third Sunday*

*of Lent*

Ex 17:3-7

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

Jn 4:5-42 or

4:5-15, 19b-26,

39a, 40-42

## 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

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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 : 08:30 – noon

Public holidays : Closed

# Good News!

March 1, 2026

*Second Sunday of Lent (A)*

Genesis 12:1-4a / 2 Timothy 1:8b-10 /

Matthew 17:1-9

ANN M. GARRIDO

Have you ever noticed that mountains and clouds seem to “go together”? When I was a child, I thought it was because the mountains’ height pierced the sky. Turns out, it’s a bit more complicated. Mountains “create” their own clouds. When moving air comes across a mountain front, it forces the warm air to rise to cooler zones and water droplets in the air to condense. The phenomenon is so common that these clouds have their own name: lenticular. They are known for being bright—even colorful—with rays of light peeking out from behind.

It’s no wonder why, throughout history, people have sought to ascend mountains as part of their spiritual journey. It was a way to get closer to the “heavens”—to those radiant clouds. Recall the prophet Elijah, who climbs Mount Sinai seeking a face-to-face encounter with God. Or Moses, who, with three of his closest friends, ascends Mount Sinai to meet God in a radiant cloud that hovers over the top of the peak.

So, it’s also no wonder why Jesus, with three of his closest friends, might also climb a mountain and meet Elijah and Moses there. No wonder why that mountain would be covered in a bright cloud that thunders with God’s voice, and why, in that moment, Scripture describes heaven and earth as mysteriously yet visibly mingling in the person of the transfigured Jesus.

The story of the transfiguration reminds us that just like mountains and clouds were meant for one another, heaven and earth were meant for one another. Jesus stands at the point where the two meet. ●

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**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 – Belmont Mass**

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 – Belmont Mass**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
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: MERCIFUL GOD (No. 489, Lent Communion Refrain)****FINAL: HOSEA (No. 484) PLEASE STAND****2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A)**

Sunday, 1 March 2026

**ENTRANCE: THE GLORY OF THESE FORTY DAYS (No. 481) 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 – Belmont Mass**

**Kýrie, eléison. Kýrie, eléison. Christe, eléison. Christe, eléison.**

**Kýrie, eléison. Kýrie, eléison.**

**FIRST READING: Gn 12:1-4a****A reading from the Book of Genesis:**

The LORD said to Abram: “Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you.

“I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you.”

Abram went as the LORD directed him.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 33: LORD, LET YOUR MERCY BE ON US**

- Upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy. He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full. (R)
- See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness, To deliver them from death and preserve them in spite of famine. (R)

3. Our soul waits for the LORD, who is our help and our shield.  
May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us who have put our hope in you. (R)

**SECOND READING: 2 Tm 1:8b-10**

**A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy:**

Beloved: Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA: PLEASE STAND**

**Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**All: From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
This is my beloved Son, hear him.**

**GOSPEL: Mt 17:1-9**

**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 took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

**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.

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**RESPONSE TO THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:  
"Lord, lead us through the desert."**

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY: THE CROSS OF JESUS (No. 482)**

**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 – Belmont Mass**

**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.**

**PLEASE KNEEL**

**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION – Belmont Mass**

**Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**