

LIVINGTHEWORD

- ❖ **Someone for the Samaritans:** Persecution in Jerusalem saw many Christians go out to other towns and cities. Samaria was in the northern part of Israel, the home of the Samaritans. Because of history and religious differences, Samaritans and Jews did not associate with one another. Samaritans waited for the Messiah to come to Mount Gerazim instead of Jerusalem. Phillip, who was Greek-speaking and most likely from this cultural group, did not have the baggage of being Jewish and anti-Samaritan.
[Q] *In your workplace or parish, do some barriers need to be broken down? Who could be a 'Philip', without the baggage from the past, to work in this area? What is most needed to dissolve cultural clashes?*
- ❖ **A Christian Lifestyle:** Philip's whole life won people over to his message. It was not only his words but the signs he was doing.
[Q] *Does your lifestyle help or hinder people to hear and accept the Gospel?*
- ❖ **The Advocate-Comforter:** The Eastertide readings are still dwelling upon the farewell speech of Jesus to his disciples in the Gospel of John (Jn 14-17). He promises to send to them another Advocate. 'Advocate' comes from a Greek legal word, meaning someone who will give good advice and stand alongside you to speak for you; like a lawyer in a courtroom. In trials and troubles, the Holy Spirit will lead into truth. John will also use the words 'Paraclete' (one standing alongside) and Comforter as words to explain the role and experience the Holy Spirit will bring.
[Q] *Ponder the words 'Advocate', 'Paraclete' and 'Comforter'. Does this expand your appreciation of the Holy Spirit?*
- ❖ **Not Orphans:** Many consider the Holy Spirit difficult to know and experience. Ponder the phrase "I will not leave you orphans".
[Q] *What is the feeling of being an orphan. Then, what is the feeling of being adopted? How could the Holy Spirit connect with this experience for you?*
- ❖ **Praying for the Spirit:** There is a long prayer tradition of repeating and feeling the words of a scripture phrase. Our mind focusses upon the words, and our heart feels its truth. John shares some beautiful phrases today.
[Q] *Pray for 5 minutes with a phrase ... take one with you for your car journey, lunchtime prayer or personal quiet time ...*
 - 'I am in you and you are in me'
 - 'Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father'
 - 'I will love you and reveal myself to you'

Are we fixated on bad news? We live in a Culture of Contempt that builds up hatred, anger, division. Here is a reflection.

(The Tablet – 4th April, 2026 – The Future of Religion.)

In this culture of contempt, what is the future of religion? It must return to the basics of the goodness of creation and the love that binds all things together. And this brings us back to Thomas Merton. The "point of nothingness" that he identified as "at the centre of our being" is untouched by contempt, by sin and by illusion. "This little point of nothingness is, so to speak, His name written in us," Merton wrote. "It is like a pure diamond, blazing with the invisible light of heaven. It is in everybody, and if we could see it, we would see these billions of points of light coming together in the face and blaze of a sun that would make all the darkness and cruelty of life vanish completely." The goal of religion is to awaken and nurture our capacity to live from the centre of our being so we might see and act toward others as pure diamonds blazing with the invisible light of heaven.

Meister Eckhart (Dominican and mystic of 14th Century) frames it this way: "The eye with which I see God is the same eye with which God sees me." Merton, a student of Eckhart's, challenges us to reorient the way in which we see. Not *what* we see, but *how* we see. Eckhart is reminding us that we can see not just wholeness in the universe or in the world, but the Gate of Heaven. Religion is a different way of seeing – seeing with the eye of love.

With an awakened centre and the eye of love, we can practise the religious basics of what it means to stay connected. The calling of religion is not primarily personal. We are not seeking a more beautiful, narcissistic worldview. We are seeking to heal, to hold, to be as one. This is God's grace acting within and through and among us. It is experienced by faith much more than by achievement. We consent to God's presence; we don't earn it. We sense God's presence in ourselves, and "we see the light in others", as Merton wrote. Without our willingness to consent, how would we ever come to love? As Richard Rohr wrote, "Love is the goal, faith is the process of getting us there, and hope is the willingness to stay there. Having faith has to do with staying in relationship. Hanging in there, holding on to each other as tightly as God holds on to us."

We live in a culture that has no idea where it is going. It has no ultimate truth to guide it. Our faith in mystery, in the "point of nothingness", allows us to have a direction. Each person is born with inherent dignity. Each person with inherent worth. In faith and love, we treat everyone with dignity. What's at stake is not our group or our economy. What's at stake today is our heart. Our faith in each other. Our tenderness in times of grief. Our solidarity to stand up for our neighbour, whoever that may be. Without dignity, we can't solve our problems. With it, we can solve any.

Here, we have an Easter response to a culture of contempt.



CALENDAR

MONDAY

May 11
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:11-15
Jn 15:26-16:4a

TUESDAY

May 12
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:22-34
Jn 16:5-11

WEDNESDAY

May 13
Easter Weekday
Acts 17:15,
22-18:1
Jn 16:12-15

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

May 15
Easter Weekday
Acts 18:9-18
Jn 16:20-23

SATURDAY

May 16
Easter Weekday
Acts 18:23-28
Jn 16:23b-28

SUNDAY

May 17
*The Ascension
of the Lord*
Acts 1:1-11
Eph 1:17-23
Mt 28:16-20

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

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PASTOR:

Rev. Ignatius Adisak Somsaengsuang

ASSISTANTS:

Rev. Peter Somphop Ruengwuthichanapuech
Rev. Peter Kittisak Kitsamret

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!

May 10, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 / 1 Peter 3:15-18 / John 14:15-21

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

The church celebrates again and again during the Easter season a core truth of Christian thought and belief: “the already and the not yet.” Jesus has already saved us, but we have not yet experienced the fullness of the kingdom. In this belief, there is tension, the experience of standing in the middle, where the tension is lived, and hopefully where balance is achieved.

What makes the tension bearable is that we know we have not been left as orphans. We are not on our own. The Spirit of God is sent to us and enables us to hold fast to what we have known and experienced and what is still unknown to us. Scripture and tradition, dogmas and doctrines, sacraments and sacramentals, practices and disciplines, all inspired by the Spirit of God, provide us with the necessary support and direction and help us remain balanced.

As wonderful as each of these gifts of the Spirit may be, each gift must be received, encountered, enabled, and lived. If the gifts are given but never received—and, even more important, used and shared—we not only refuse a gift freely given by our God but also deprive ourselves of the means to maintain our balance and remain on the path that leads to life and light. ●

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) PLEASE KNEEL

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (No. 264)

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) 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: TAKE AND EAT THIS BREAD (No. 928)

FINAL: LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING (No. 641) PLEASE STAND

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year A)

Sunday, 10 May 2026

ENTRANCE: ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS (No. 949) 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

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

Kýrie, eléison. Kýrie, eléison.

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 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Christ to them. With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing. For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice, came out of many possessed people, and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured. There was great joy in that city.

Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 66: LET ALL THE EARTH CRY OUT TO GOD WITH JOY



1. Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise. Say to God, "How tremendous are your deeds!" (R)
2. "Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you, sing praise to your name!" Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam. (R)
3. Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare what he has done for me. Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or his kindness! (R)

SECOND READING: 1 Pt 3:15-18

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Peter:

Beloved: Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who defame your good conduct in Christ may themselves be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be the will of God, than for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA: PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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 14:15-21

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: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

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:
"Teach us to love as you have loved us."**

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY: IF YOU BELIEVE AND I BELIEVE (No. 818)

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS PLEASE STAND