LIVINGTHEWORD

- **A Feast for the Heart —** The Feast of Christ the King was created by Pope Pius XI in 1925, responding to the ills of the time: the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917, the spread of facism, the Church's loss of political power and the decadence of the 1920's. Instead of simply writing a Church document, which is read by only a few, Pius XI recognised that a 'Feast' of the Church would be celebrated by the whole Church every year, and speak not only to the mind but also to the heart. At first, it was celebrated at the end of October, but it now rests at the very end of the Liturgical year, to enhance the experience of meeting Christ at the end of time.
- **God the Shepherd:** In a farming culture, the image of a shepherd and sheep was extremely special. Israel saw it as an image of God looking after them. Ezekiel uses this image and creates a picture of what God 'will' do — 11 times! … Tend. Rescue. Pasture. Rest. Seek out. Bring back. Bind up. Heal. Destroy. Judge.
  [Q]: *What word speaks most to your life at the moment? Have you experienced a call to be a shepherd to others?*
- **Under His Feet:** St Paul provides an image of the vital role the Church plays in history today. The 'absence' of Christ after his resurrection, and our waiting for his final 'return' actually involve Christ working through the witness and works of the Church. Through our following 'the way of Christ', various powers and authorities are 'overcome' so that everything will eventually fall 'under his feet'.
  [Q]: *What powers and sovereignties do you see at work in the world today which require Christians to 'do battle'?*
- **Life's Final Exam:** The Gospel of Matthew this year finishes with the scene of the Final Judgement. Interestingly, the final scene refers to something going on *right here*, *right now*. It is a judgement according to works and care of the poor (*not* faith and attendance at Mass).
  [Q]: *If you knew life's final exam question for entry to heaven and it required showing practical experience of care of the poor, what would you do? Are you doing it now? Does the final question of life shock or surprise you? Matthew is pointing, finally, to Jesus' command to love your neighbour as yourself. Is your love truly extending to your neighbour in need?*
- **Honour and Shame:** Separating sheep (honourable) from goats (shameful) was a daily end of the day task for shepherds. Goats were not as strong and did not manage the cold well. Goats allowed male goats to access other female goats which was also considered shameful behaviour. An honourable life is a righteous life – where we show, by our actions, a care for those in need. Interestingly, the title 'righteous' was a title given by the poor to those who helped them.
  [Q]: *At the end of time would any of the poor stand in your defence and give you the title 'righteous'?*

** Pray, Reflect, Grow with the Sunday Readings at www.livingtheword.org.nz

THE END OF ANOTHER YEAR, TIME SURELY DOES FLY.

It is a cliché, but it is ever worth reminding ourselves that time does fly, so that we don't waste the time we have given to us. This theme is especially placed before us, as we face the end of another Church Year. The mass readings at this time aptly focus on the end time, poignantly reminding us of the fragility and temporality of life.

Here, I am reminded of the great wisdom of my first teacher in theology, Sr Maria Goretti. She would explain to her class of seven-year-olds that God exists in the Eternal Now, while we mortals exist within a past, a present and a future. Big stuff for ones so young!

In line with Sr Maria Goretti's classes, the Gospels challenge us to live in the present, but a present enriched by the Vision of God, which God freely shares with all of us mortals. It is a vision that assures us of our shared, human destiny. It is a vision that nourishes our present moment. It is a vision to be lived here and now. Yes, it is a vision for all of Creation, lasting all of eternity, but the great miracle is that God offers this to us now, to take and live. So, with God's help and grace, we walk the journey of faith and life, a journey we share with God, our one, true companion.

With God as our companion, hope is always alive, no matter what may befall us. Hope is not the same as optimism, for it goes much deeper than optimism. To have Christian hope is to have confidence that everything has a purpose, a meaning, thus leading us to our promised destiny that comes to us from God.

So, as we reach the end of another year, may we ask ourselves how we approach our world. Do we approach our world in the light of Christ, who not only defines our world, but offers us the way to transform it? Transformation is not defined by simple change. It is about our grasping the very essence of human life and dignity; it is about our appreciating the precious treasure of our faith in God and allowing it all to blossom forth in the midst of everyday reality. Sounds fanciful?

We make it sound fanciful, for we are so determined by a world whose existence lacks substance. The Reign of God points us to plunge into the depths of life and come back up to the surface with renewed energy, purpose and vitality, so as to be people who engage the world with a real sense of mission. Our life purpose is simple – live God's love as God loves us. Thus, let us ponder what has been, so that we may enrich what will be.

— John P. Murray osa

CALENDAR

Monday
November 23
Weekday
Rv 14:1–3, 4b–5
Lk 21:1–4

Tuesday
November 24
Saint Andrew Dũng-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
Rv 14:14–19
Lk 21:5–11

Wednesday
November 25
Weekday
Rv 15:1–4
Lk 21:12–19

Thursday
November 26
Thanksgiving Day (USA)
Sir 50:22–24
1 Cor 1:3–9
Lk 17:11–19

Friday
November 27
Weekday
Rv 20:1–4, 11–21:2
Lk 21:29–33

Saturday
November 28
Weekday
Rv 22:1–7
Lk 21:34–36

Sunday
November 29
First Sunday of Advent
Is 63:16b–17, 19b; 64:2–7
1 Cor 1:3–9
Mk 13:33–37

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

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS

EVERY SUNDAY AFTER MASS, **EVERYONE IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A SIMPLE MORNING TEA OR COFFEE, IN THE ASSUMPTION SUKSA SCHOOL ASSEMBLY AREA** *(on the right-hand side of the cathedral)***. DO ENJOY, HAVE A CHAT AND MEET YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS.**
ALL ARE WELCOME. **ALWAYS.**

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 10:30 hrs.**

BAPTISM:

Thai	:	First Sunday during 8:30 am mass.
English	**:**	**Second Sunday during or after 10:30am mass.**

CONFESSION:

Sundays	:	Before all masses (Thai).
	:	**English before 10:30 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!

November 22, 2026
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)
Ezekiel 34:11–12, 15–17 / 1 Corinthians 15:20–26, 28 / Matthew 25:31–46

MIGUEL DULICK

For his last sermon, Jesus revisits his first. In the Sermon on the Mount, if you are poor, or in mourning, or meek; if you hunger and thirst for righteousness; if you are merciful or clean of heart or a peacemaker or even persecuted, you are blessed! Now, Jesus reframes the Beatitudes as blessings bestowed, ultimately, on Jesus himself, in the persons of his "least brothers" with very specific needs: I was hungry; I was thirsty; I was a stranger; I was naked; I was sick; I was in jail. "Whatever you did, you did for me!"

Indeed, Jesus may be anticipating the last few days of his own life, when he will himself know every need: he will be hungry, thirsty, displaced, naked, hurt, and jailed, at least for one wicked night. Who "did" for him?

Once, I visited friends with their first baby. They said, "Oh, Miguel, we admire you so much. You're always helping people." This—while they're holding their newborn!

I just laughed and quoted Jesus: "When I was hungry, when I was thirsty, homeless, naked, sick, in prison…. You do *all* of this every day with your baby—except for the jail thing! Who is more 'least' than a newborn?"

"We never thought of it like that."

"Yes! Your baby is Jesus!"

And maybe Jesus is always a baby. Even Michelangelo's *Pieta* depicts Jesus as the size of a child in a teen mother's lap. ●

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PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY: THE SERVANT SONG (No. 751)

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS **PLEASE STAND**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.**

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. 387)

COMMUNION RITE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (No. 387)

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. 390)

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: SHEPHERD OF SOULS (No. 910)
YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART (No. 940)

FINAL: CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS (No. 574) **PLEASE STAND**

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (Year A) Sunday, 22 November 2026

ENTRANCE: TO JESUS CHRIST, OUR SOVEREIGN KING (No. 573) **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.

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 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 prayers;
   you are seated at 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: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel:

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will look after and tend my sheep. As a shepherd tends his flock when he finds himself among his scattered sheep, so will I tend my sheep. I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered when it was cloudy and dark. I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest, says the Lord GOD. The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy, shepherding them rightly.

As for you, my sheep, says the Lord GOD, I will judge between one sheep and another, between rams and goats.

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 23: THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD



1. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
   In verdant pastures he gives me repose. (R)
2. Beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul. He guides me in right paths for his name's sake. (R)
3. You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes;
   you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. (R)
4. Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life;
   and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come. (R)

SECOND READING: 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians:

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father, when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ALLELUIA **PLEASE STAND**

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

All: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

GOSPEL: Mt 25:31-46

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: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

Priest: The Gospel 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:
"Be the King of our heart, mind and soul, O Christ."

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST