

Trinity News

November 14, 2010

Pentecost 25 Remembrance Sunday

The 1957 movie *Bridge on the River Kwai* was highly acclaimed and won many awards. The performance of Alec Guinness in that movie brought him more clearly onto the world stage. He played Col Nicholson, who was officer-in-charge of prisoners building the Burma Railroad under the harsh tutelage of the Japanese. The film was shot in Kitugala, 60 miles from Colombo. The heat, humidity, the poisonous snakes and centipedes, and the strained logistics in the middle of the jungle made it an unpleasant experience. One of the assistant directors was killed in a car smash. The make-up man, Stuart Freeborn, had his back broken in the accident. Guinness comments in a typical understated English manner with its sardonic humour: "He survived the accident, but left hospital an inch or two shorter than when he had gone in." The most unforgettable scene is when Nicholson emerges from his tin prison sunk in the ground after many days of incarceration in stinking heat. Blinking, half blinded by the sun after being in steaming darkness, he painfully and slowly walks to the line of his men in front of the Japanese commandant. His steely resolve had broken the commandant. The walk to the line of men seems to take forever: An unforgettable moment of resurrection. That walk was unconsciously modelled on his son Matthew's attempts to walk when he was recovering from polio at age 12. Perhaps that's why it looks so real.

When World War II ended in 1945 I asked my father whether there would be any more news, because the news was always about the war. It was slanted towards our victories and silent about our losses, but we had our ears to the static-laden speakers of the old Kreisler radio, hanging on every word.

My father replied to my question about the news by saying, "They'll think of something." The remainder of the twentieth century would continue to be tainted with violence and unspeakable cruelty. At the end of the 20th century it was described as the bloodiest of all.

The New Testament has visions with Christ's imprint on them about "wars and rumours of wars" and the fears that they would generate. Augustine and Aquinas spelled out the theory of a Just War and it held sway for a long time. We are less convinced today because of our vastly different circumstances, eg., the so-called "nuclear deterrent". But some of the criteria will always stand.

Aquinas and the Just War

1. Justifiable cause based on authentic criteria
2. Retaliatory rather than overt invasion
3. Non-use of excessive force
4. Particular care of non-combatants

As Fr Taylor says “While these are ‘just criteria’ — they still are wrenching. It seems paradoxical that the Christian religion which promotes love justifies a violent action to establish justice. No person of good and reasonable intentions wants war. Yet at times we — as an individual, community, or nation — must confront and stop an evil. Pope John Paul II in an address to a group of soldiers stated, ‘Peace, as taught by Sacred Scripture and the experience of humanity itself, is more than just the absence of war. And the Christian is aware that on earth a human society that is completely and always peaceful is unfortunately a utopia and that the ideologies which present it as easily attainable only nourish vain hopes. The cause of peace will not go forward by denying the possibility and the obligation to defend it.’”

Bishop Arthur Jones

TO PLAN:

Today.

- Sunday school, 9:15

Nov. 16, Tuesday.

- National & Non-working holiday.

Office closed.

- Bible Study, 10am
- Bible Study, 7:15 pm @ the Tutton Residence (#3 Sta. Potenciana, Urdaneta Village, Makati)

Nov. 18, Thursday.

- Midweek Eucharist, 10am, Chapel
- Bible Study, 7:15pm @ the Malpass Residence (Apt 7-C Twin Towers, West Tower, Ayala Avenue, Makati City)

Nov. 20, Saturday.

- Christmas Pageant rehearsal, 10am

Nov. 21. NEXT SUNDAY

- **ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE,** 6:00pm, Union Church of Manila, Rada corner Legaspi St., Legaspi Village, Makati

Your prayers are asked in our

healing ministry for Diana Croyston, JPeter, Beryl Tanner, Ron Thoburn, Suzanne Jacobson, Cena Quiapos, Ron Jacob, Bonnie SyCip, Fidelia Matthews, Jovel Llagas, Ted Whale, Ema Duhaylongsod, Loy Solasco, Emerinciana Gatela, Amy Gonzales, Carrie Angus, Augusto Natividad, Avelina Collado, Eric Williamson, Susan Dalmas, Carlyn-Fern Manning, Richard Kendall, Jaqueline Acquiatan, Johnny Manning Jr, Sunny Cabanang, Valerie Jones, Gloria Domingo, Katsi Araneta, Emilie Nauntofte, Marian Kermanshahchi, Rosaline Soulsby, Fr. Barry Cumberland, Divinagracia Benitez, Les Vye-Parminter, Wilson Teh

Next week’s readings:

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46;
Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:35-43

	Last Sunday	Year-to-date	Proportionate Budget	2010 Budget
Pledge	P144,850.00	P3,216,991.80	P3,375,000.00	P3,900,000.00
Loose Plate	P21,583.00	P745,696.73	P813,461.54	P940,000.00

The church’s monthly **Sources & Uses** report is available for viewing in the Church Office. Please look for Maricel. For questions, feel free to email Edison at edisonyap@gmail.com