Assumption University of Thailand



Investiture Ceremony
of
the New President of Assumption University
on Thursday 14th November 2002
at St. Louis Marie de Montfort Church
Bang Na campus



The Seat of Wisdom, Bang Na Campus

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Programme

- 2.00 p.m. Distinguished guests, the faculty, staff and students are assembled in the Church
- 2.15 p.m. Ceremony begins
 Liturgy of the Word
- 2.45 p.m. Investiture
- 3.00 p.m. Tea Party at John XXIII Hall

Entrance Song:

Assumption University Anthem

(All stand)

Lyric by : Thomas Khng Music by : Lian Sek Lin

Arranged by : Capt. Veeraphan Vawklang





Liturgy of the Word:

Chaplain: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Chaplain: May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

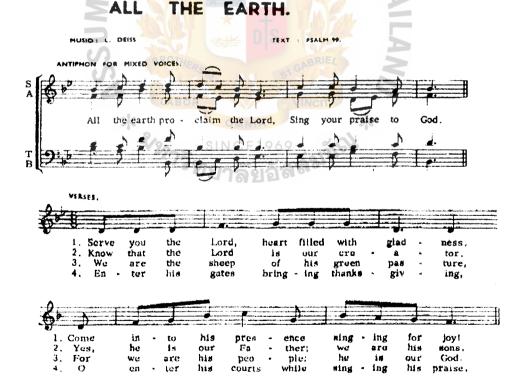
All: And also with you.

Amen.

Chaplain: Let us pray.

Father, you guide and govern everything with order and love. Look upon the assembly of our University Leaders and fill them with the spirit of your wisdom. May they always act in accordance with your will and their decisions be for the peace and well-being of all. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever.

All:



Reading: From the Book of Proverbs Ch.3, 1-6

(Please be seated)

Leader:

"MY SON, NEVER forget the things I've taught you. If you want a long and satisfying life, closely follow my instructions. Never forget to be truthful and kind. Hold these virtues tightly. Write them deep within your heart. If you want favor with both God and man, and a reputation for good judgment and common sense, then trust the Lord completely; don't ever trust yourself. In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success."

Leader:

This is the word of the Lord

Response:

Thanks be to God

Intercessions

Chaplain:

Brothers, Sisters and Guests, let us acknowledge the presence of God among us through our praises and thanks on this special occasion. Let us ask the Lord of all to listen to our prayer and to grant us a greater friendship through a more sincere understanding and love. We ask this through

our Lord. AMEN

Leader:

We are gathered here this afternoon to ask to shower on us all the graces we need to perform our duties as administrators. Vice Presidents, lecturers, staff and students united with our outgoing President, Brother Prathip Martin Komolmas and the newly appointed President, Brother Bancha Saenghiran. May the Holy Spirit make our hearts and wills ever at the service of one another for the greater glory of God. Let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader:

On this occasion, Lord, we thank you for having given us Brother Prathip Martin Komkolmas as the President of Assumption University for nearly 25 years. Also, we want to thank you, Lord, for all the good things that he has done all these years for all and everyone coming into contact with him. We ask our Lord to bless him and to continue to give him a good health so that he could carry on the work assigned to him in the future. Lord help him to be always dedicated to his work as he has ever been in the different situations he was. For all this, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray now for the new President. May the Good Lord help him be the President whom everyone will love and

respect. Shower on him all the favors he needs to direct Assumption University so that everyone will be ready to help him, encourage him, shoulder him. We ask you to give him the love that is necessary to understand the Vice Presidents, the lecturers and the students without forgetting the staff. May you help him work towards a greater unity among everyone at Assumption University and so bring joy and happiness to all those around him. For all this, let

us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: And now, we pray that Assumption University may always

be the Cathedral of Learning, and it could be added of understanding, of friendship, of good relationship, of listening to one another, of happiness and a 'land of smile'. For that purpose, let ask the Lord and our Lady of Wisdom to be strong in our convictions to love all those around us.

For all this, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Chaplain: Let us the prayer which should unite all of us in a friendly

family.

Response: Our Father, who are in heaven, holy be your name, your

kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in

heaven.

Give us today our daily bread, forgive us our sins as we forget those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil. AMEN.

(All stand)

Chaplain: Let us pray.

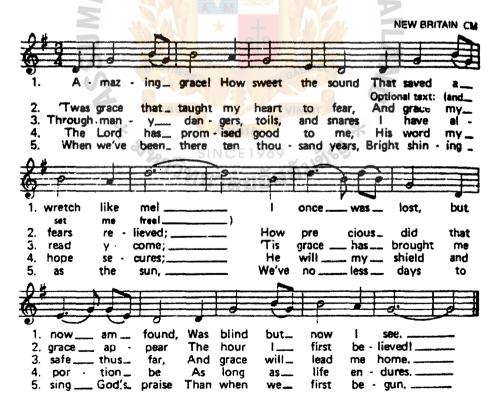
Almighty God we adore you and we thank you for the great love you show to all of us here. May your blessings accompany us and help us to live happily together being sure that we will never be short of your help to achieve our aims in life.

Bless our former President and bless our new President. Heavenly Father, we ask you to give us the strength that is necessary, for each of us, for the good of Assumption University. May your fatherly love come on us all as we are certain that you care for your children.

We ask you these through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Brother.

Response: AMEN

Amazing Grace



Investiture

Announcement by Chairman of the University Council.

In exercise of the powers invested in me under the Charter of the University I, Bro. Sakda Kitcharoen hereby announce, with the unanimous approval of the members of the University Council, the appointment of:

Rev. Bro. Bancha Saenghiran
as the President of Assumption University
and
Rev. Bro. Martin Prathip Komolmas
as the President Emeritus

These appointments will, God willing, usher in a new phase of development of Assumption University which, hopefully, will maintain the successes, values and traditions achieved so far and at the same time will auger well for further progress, growth, maturity and stability of the institution.

The new President accepts the Presidential Gown from the Chairman and outgoing President.

Oath of Office

- I, Bancha Saenghiran, a Montfort Brother of St. Gabriel, Vice President for Academic Affairs, on being nominated to the Presidency of Assumption University hereby promise, in the presence of the Chairman and members of the University Council and the assembly of distinguished guests the faculty and staff, to undertake and perform the following duties and responsibilities.
 - 1. I shall uphold and maintain the sanctity of the provisions as enunciated in the Charter of the University
 - 2. I shall endeavour to make Assumption University as an incomparable centre of creativity and dissemination of knowledge for the good of humanity.
 - 3. I shall engage myself in the ardent search for truth and its unselfish transmission to youth and to all those learning to think rigorously, so as to act rightly and to serve humanity better.
 - 4. I shall continue to lead the Assumption University to be an academic community which in a rigorous and critical fashion, assists in the protection and advancement of human dignity and of a cultural heritage through research, teaching and various services offered to the local, national and international communities.
 - 5. I believe that knowledge is meant to serve the human person and research in a university must be carried out with a concern for the ethical and moral implications both of its methods and of its discoveries. It is essential that we be convinced of the priority of the ethical over the technical, of the primacy of the person over things, of the superiority of the spirit over matter.
 - 6. I shall attempt to point out the urgent need to examine and evaluate the predominant values and norms of modern society and culture in a Christian perspective, and the responsibility to communicate to society those ethical and religious principles which give full meaning to human life.

Hymn:

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Speech by the New President

Chairman and members of the University Council, President Emeritus, Vice Presidents, Deans, President of ABAC Alumni Association, faculty and staff, friends, honorable guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I am deeply honored to be officially recognized and invested as the 5th President of Assumption University at this Inauguration Ceremony. Allow me to thank St.Gabriel's Foundation and the University Council for having every confidence in me and entrust me with a great mission. According to the Old Testament, the Anointed One was considered to be the servant of Yaweh, the Chosen One, the representative of God who acted in the ways of God. I am fully aware that this ceremony is deeply spiritual, mandating of me to perform the duties and responsibilities as the leader of this distinguished institution. I, hereby, do accept the charge, and the challenge, to lead Assumption University with all humility and with full understanding of the burden I have to carry.

To many, being a president, means getting to the top position: a better salary, a bigger room, higher status, and many other privileges. It's a time to offer congratulatory messages and good wishes, with bouquets of flowers. Symbolically, well-wishers want to give moral support, and, whatever may happen, they want you to know that they are here to stand by you. I do appreciate the first, but I desire more of the second.

As you know very well, many problems currently plague the country and its institutions. They come from different directions, and are unpredictable. We bear witness to the great turmoil created by downsizing, mergers, and acquisitions. Many institutions are in a state of flux. This is an age of transformation, with global competition and a fast-moving business environment with zero tolerance for stagnation and lack of acuity. The challenges present both more threats and more opportunities, forcing us to make dramatic decisions, not only to compete and prosper, but also to survive. Globalization is being driven by a broad and powerful set of forces associated with technological change, international economic

integration as well as domestic market maturation. No one is immune to these forces.

But then, why do I dare to face such challenges?

I stand before you, as the University president, with its rights and responsibilities, not to enjoy the rights, but rather to take on all the responsibilities that come with this position. As a member of Montfort Brothers of St.Gabriel in Thailand, my first obligation is to the religious Congregation which finds expression in this educative mission. I do not claim this position on my own merits. It is with a spirit of obedience and service that I take up this presidency. The task assigned to me seems to be insurmountable considering the accomplishments of my predecessors.

Yet, I am confident that I will be able to overcome all problems and difficulties that may come my way. I am at peace with myself since above me, before me, with me, and behind me there are those who support me and wish me well.

Above me: By "above" I mean the Supreme Being together with His angels and saints. I always draw my strength from Our Lord, Jesus Christ, the good Shepherd, in whom I put my trust and confidence, who accompanies me all the way and in all situations. I firmly believe that He who made Peter, a simple fisherman, to be fisher for all men and the cornerstone of the Church, will be able to assist me in all my endeavors. I also wish to thank God for all the graces He has bestowed on me.

Before me: I find my guidance and consolation from my predecessors. As many of you know that Bro. Martin, Bro. Simeon, and Bro. Cyril were my teachers in high school. Moreover, I have spent many years with them in this community. Through their lives and work, they have set many precedents, and I can rely on their advices from their varied experiences. In particular, I have learned a lot from Bro. Martin who patiently instructed me and counseled me in many aspects of university management. I am, and will remain grateful, to all of them.

With me: I have my colleagues who always work with me. We all have a shared vision of our responsibilities. By boarding the same ship, we vow to stick together through thick and thin. We may have different ideas and opinions, yet we remain united and loyal to the University. We are committed to the task ahead.

Behind me, are staff members who are ready to lead and to follow. Though we have been assigned different tasks, we work for the same goals: to guide our students to become qualified graduates, competent in their jobs and to be just and sincere in dealing with others, and to strive to become mature individuals who can make contributions to the society in which they live.

There are other people I cannot ignore, such as members of the Alumni Association who are instrumental in organizing activities for the alumni. They are living witnesses of the success of the University, the mouthpiece for our quality.

In addition to all the personnel of the University, we have the students who are at the heart of the institution. Though they come from different backgrounds and are with different personalities, they are all here to undergo change and transformation. They are willing souls to cooperate with the University for their own good. Without them, their efforts and endeavors, the University would be meaningless.

As times change, so the University of the 21st century must change. Together, we must stand up for our values and quality where they can give the University the power to make a real difference in our everyday lives. We will stand together for unity, quality, peace and harmony. Our students must feel the warmth of our care and concern for them. They must have confidence and assurance in our commitment to the tasks and responsibilities assigned.

With each and every member of Assumption University working together as a team, I am confident that I am prepared to handle the inevitable challenges that lie ahead.

Once again, I confirm the acceptance of this mandate of the University Council with commitment and devotion. I will continue to adhere to Vision 2000 for the University and for our graduates. I will devote my time and effort in the building of this institution in the way and in the manner God wants it to exist and prosper. We will work together and look to the future with confidence. Hand in hand, we will stand and be united to bring Assumption University to its proper place, to uphold its fame and dignity as an educational institution of Montfort Brothers of St.Gabriel.

This investiture is hopefully an event for us to reflect on our lives as a whole. While we may be unhappy with something, we can remain united and be of one mind and heart in the face of all adversities.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you for being present and especially for honoring me on this occasion. I am grateful to all of you for the support and the promise to stand by me at all times. I will conclude with prayers to God to shower His choicest blessing on us and also on all the members of our families, to protect us from all harm, to keep us healthy and harmonious, and to grant us prosperity in life, together with peace and happiness, both now and always.

I will ever remain the servant leader of the University.

November 14, 2002

Concluding Rite

(All stand)

Chaplain: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Chaplain: May Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son and

the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Recession Song:

สดุดีอัสสัมชัญ

คำร้อง

: ชิลเตอร์บุญเรือน หมั้นทรัพย์

วิลุทธิพร สั้นตศิริ

ท่านอง

: แม้นรัตน์ ศรีกรานบท์ เรียบเรียงเลี้ยงประสาน : น.อ. วีระพันธ์ วอกลาง





The Cathedral of Learning, Bang Na Campus



St. Louis Marie de Montfort Church, Bang Na Campus