

(Saturdays X4) Time: 6.30pm-9.00pm. Venue: Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street, 02-01, S 187954. Love Offering, All are Welcome. Details and Registration at www.catholic.sg/act. For enquiries only: (Andrew) SMS 96493893

UNDERSTANDING OUR YOUTHS: LOVE AND ADDICTION. Date: 15 Sep '18 (Sat). Time: 2.00pm to 4.30pm. Venue: Level 1, Multi-purpose Halls, Agape Village (7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh Singapore 319264). The event will see presentations from Boys' Town and a close partner, WE CARE Community Services. To register, please email: agapevillage@caritas-singapore.org or call 6801 7400 (Mon-Fri, 10.00am-6.00pm). Registration is free and on a first-come-first-serve basis!

NEW WINE CONFERENCE 2018 - What does it mean to be holy in today's world? Speakers at the conference include Msgr Ambrose Vaz, Fr Ignatius Yeo, and Fr Luke Fong. The conference will spotlight on the communal nature of our baptismal call to holiness. For PPC and its EXCO, Ministry leaders and members, and Small Christian Communities. When: 15 Sep '18.

Time: 9.30am - 4.00pm. Where: SJI International School, 490 Thomson Rd S298191. Organised by: Office for the New Evangelisation. For more info and to register: www.one.org.sg/events

YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT OF DISCUSSION – CREED ON THE STREET (COTS 10) The purpose of the Creed On The Street (COTS) session is to invite young adults to join in a conversation with each other, to lend perspective of their faith on social issues. This session will be on 5 Sep '18 (Wed); 7:30pm. to 9:30pm.; level 3, Agape Village, 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh, Singapore 319264. **Topic: "Education - how level is the playing field?"** For more information and registration, please refer to the Caritas Singapore website: www.caritas-singapore.org or email to youngadults@caritas-singapore.org

FAMILY MISSION TRIP - 1-7 Dec '18. Always wanted to have a meaningful holiday with your family? Join the Verbum Dei Missionaries on a family mission trip to Tagaytay, Philippines, specially designed for families with children aged 7 years and above. For details, please contact Diana Ho @ 9689 0919.

Sunset Mass	: 5.30pm
Rosary	: 4.30pm (Saturday)
Sunday Masses	: 8.30am (Mandarin), 11.00am (English), 2.00pm (Cantonese), 4.00pm (English)
Weekday Masses	: 7.20am and 5.30pm
Intercessory Prayer	: 7.15pm (English, Thursday)
Infant Jesus Devotion	: 5.30pm (Thursday, followed by Mass)
Divine Mercy Devotion	: 12.30pm (Sunday Mandarin)
Sion Adorers - Holy Hour	: 7.45pm - 8.45pm (Saturday)
Hour of Mercy	: 3.00pm daily
Adoration Chapel	: 8.00am - 9.00pm (Mon to Sat), 8.00am - 7.00pm(Sun)
Secretariat's Operating Hours	: Mon - Fri: 9.30am - 9.30pm, Sat: 9.30am - 5.30pm, Sun: 9.30am - 5.00pm; Lunch hours: 1.00pm - 2.00pm. Closed on Public Holidays.
Columbarium Opening Hours	: Mon - Sun: 7.00am - 7.00pm.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be administered from 5.00pm - 5.20pm on weekdays and Saturday at the confessionals at the baptistery (back of the church). On Sunday, it will be available 30 minutes before each mass.

Parish Priest: Rev Fr EDWARD LIM, OCD, **Asst Parish Priest:** Rev Fr THOMAS LIM OCD, **Priests in Residence:** Rev Fr TOM CURRAN, OCD, Rev Fr GREGORY HON, OCD and Rev Fr JOSEPH KOH, OCD, **General-Delegate:** Rev Fr JOHN CHUA OCD, **Parish Secretariat:** Jannie Lui, Teresa Wong Sok Mun, **Liturgical Co-ordinator:** Alex Wong, alexdominic@gmail.com

Church Donations - Please make your cheque payable to:

(i) **Church of Sts Peter & Paul** - for contributions/donations for general maintenance of our Church and Mass offerings; (ii) **Carmelite Fathers** - for contributions/donations to SPP Friars Community, Friars Formation; (iii) **Soc of St Vincent de Paul (Conf St Peter)** - for donations to the Society of St Vincent de Paul for the poor and needy.

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READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year B) Pg 774

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 3 September - SAT 8 September 2018

MON: 1 COR 2:1-5, LK 4:16-30 **TUE:** 1 COR 2:10B-16, LK 4:31-37 **WED:** 1 COR 3:1-9, LK 4:38-44 **THU:** 1 COR 3:18-23, LK 5:1-11 **FRI:** 1 COR 4:1-5, LK 5:33-39 **SAT:** MI 5:1-4A, MT 1:1-16, 18-23 OR 1:18-23

On the Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Gospel flows from the readings this past week. When Jesus is challenged because his disciples don't follow the ritual washings, he defends them, quoting Isaiah: "This people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me." Jesus calls us to an inner cleanliness: "From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile."

Monday is the Memorial of Saint Gregory the Great, pope and doctor of the church. Saturday is the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with its own special readings.

Our first weekday reading for the next several weeks will be from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, offering a look at the struggles and joys of the early life of the Church in Corinth. Paul admits, "I came to you in weakness and fear and much trembling, and my message and my proclamation were not with persuasive words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of spirit and power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God."

This week we begin reading from Luke's Gospel, which brings us the vivid stories of Jesus' early public ministry. We will continue

with Luke until Advent. Jesus teaches in the synagogue in his hometown of Nazareth. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor," he reads from Isaiah, but his listeners wanted only to see the miracles they had heard about him. He cleanses a man of an unclean spirit - a spirit who recognizes Jesus as the "Holy One of God" when those around Jesus did not. He cures Simon's mother-in-law and then tells the crowds he must leave to spread the good news to other towns. As Jesus comes upon Peter, James and John, he invites the weary fishermen to lower their empty nets one more time. When they bring up nets overflowing with fish, Peter says, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man" but Jesus reassures him not to be afraid and says Peter will be catching people now. He tells them, "No one pours new wine into old wineskins." Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins, and it will be spilled, and the skins will be ruined. When he is criticized for allowing his disciples to pick grain to eat on the sabbath, Jesus is compassionate toward their hunger and defends them saying, "The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath."

On the Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Isaiah offers comforting words: "Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you." In Mark's Gospel, Jesus heals a deaf and mute man. The people are astonished

and say of Jesus, “He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

Daily Prayer This Week

Among the many healing stories in this week’s gospels is the story of the call of Peter. It is powerful for us because we see the very human moment of Peter’s self-doubt: he realises the power of Jesus, falls down in an awareness of his own sinfulness and wants Jesus to turn away from him because he is too sinful.

All of us can have moments of feeling we are unworthy - and the truth is that we can never be worthy of the unending love Jesus offers us. But how blessed we are if we realise that we are loved without limits even though we have done nothing to deserve that kind of love.

Knowing in a balanced humility that we are sinful is not a bad thing - but if we get stuck there, and are tempted to turn away from Jesus as Peter did, then we have become more focused on ourselves than on the love we are being offered. This week is a week to rejoice in that love and healing Jesus wants to give us. It is a prayer we can carry throughout our days.

Each morning as we awake, we can ask the Lord to open our hearts in gratitude for what we will be offered this day. We might pause to imagine ourselves being healed and touched by Jesus. For just a moment, we might see Jesus in front of us, his eyes filled with such love, reaching out to give our ears and tongue a healing touch; to lift us from an invalid’s bed or to drive the unclean spirits from us.

Throughout the day we can remember that gentle touch from Jesus and ask him to continue drive out any of those unclean spirits we may be carrying today. What is Jesus calling me to? Who am I being invited to listen to and speak on behalf of today? Who will come across my path today that needs Jesus’ healing through my own care and kind words?

Dearest Jesus, be with me in this day. I can feel how much I long for a deeper connection with you, and yet I am ashamed of my weaknesses.

Touch my heart so that I might be open to your healing love.

Let me be open to all of those you put in my life today and let me be aware of their needs and care for them before I worry about my own. Give me an awareness of the love that is already there for me and a generosity of heart that allows me to share it with others.

Taken from the “Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer” on the Creighton University’s Online Ministries web site: <http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>. Used with permission.

Reflection

Once again, we find Jesus being confronted by religious authorities; in this case he is approached by some Pharisees and scribes. They came from Jerusalem and thus carried weight in the matter they questioned Jesus and the disciples about. The gathered around Jesus and observed negatively that Jesus’ disciples did not do the prescribed ritual washing of the hands before they ate. Mark’s gospel explains that “for the pharisees and, in fact, all Jews, do not eat without carefully washing their hands, keeping the tradition of the elders.”

They ask Jesus why this happens and he pushes back calling them “hypocrites” for their question; he refers to a passage from the Prophet Isaiah that they are people who honor God only with their lips and that they choose to disregard God’s commandment and cling to merely human tradition.

The human tradition Jesus refers to (“the tradition of the elders”) was not found in their Scriptures but they were part of human tradition. This tradition by the time of Jesus was understood to be peripheral and burdensome to understand and to implement. They were derived from good practices but were applied in an extreme manner and seemed to have missed the ultimate purpose of a good life flowing out of the Hebrew Scriptures. Thus, the tradition of the elders seems to have become more important to the Pharisees and scribes than God’s own commandment.

The point Jesus is making to the inquirers is that the defilement they seek to avoid in their

accusing the disciples of not ceremonially washing their hands is not a cause of ritual defilement. That comes out of the very core of a person. An action is good or not because it is an external violation, but both goodness and defilement flow out of that core, one’s heart.

How might we receive and react to the Pharisees’ reactive criticism and Jesus’ response to their questioning?

Jesus here affirms in the dialogue with the Pharisees that one’s interior attitude is clearly

PARISH NEWS

INFANT BAPTISM – The next Infant Baptism service will be held on 14 Oct ‘18 (Sun) at 11.00am within Mass. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a preparatory session on 13 Oct ‘18 (Sat) at 3.30pm. Application Forms can be obtained from the Parish Office and must be submitted by 17 Sep ‘18 (Mon).

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK - 30 Sep ‘18 at 8.30am (Sun) Mandarin Mass. Kindly note the following Canonical Conditions for Anointing: Can. 1004 §1. The anointing of the sick can be administered to a member of the faithful who, having reached the use of reason, begins to be in danger due to sickness or old age. §2. This sacrament can be repeated if the sick person, having recovered, again becomes gravely ill or if the condition becomes more grave during the same illness. For the sick who satisfy the Canonical Conditions and wish to receive the Anointing, please approach the Parish Secretary’s Office to furnish the details. Deadline: 16 Sept ‘18 (Sun)

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

DISCERNMENT IN DAILY LIFE - 14 - 16 Sep ‘18. Venue: Choice Retreat House, 47 Jurong West Street 42, S 649368 “God speaks to us in a language we can understand.” This weekend programme will offer ways of learning this “language” so that we can live mindfully and meaningfully. Discernment will be presented as a habitual way of responding to God in everyday life. By Sr. Linda Lizada, rc and Team. Contribution: \$250.00/ person

far more important than merely fulfilling an external command. The ritual washing pales against the meal that is being prepared and shared together by the disciples.

Gracious God, you know us at the core of our being, our heart. Help us to serve you with generosity and peace. Be with us as we seek you with sincere hearts. We are grateful for your care for us and your call that invites us to be women and men of joy and concern for others.

Source: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/090218.html>

(on twin-sharing) For registration: Email: cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com; Tel: 6565-2895, 9722-3148; Website: www.cenaclemission.com

‘LIVE THE GOSPEL IN THE WORLD’. This is a 2-part Formation Series facilitated by Fr David Garcia, OP. This retreat and the follow up sessions bring participants on a journey of discovery of how we are called to live our faith more intentionally in our daily lives. **Part 1: Weekend Retreat** Dates : 27 - 28 Oct ‘18. Venue: San Damiano Spirituality Centre, 5 Bukit Batok East Ave 2. **Part 2: 3 Evening Sessions.** Dates: 9, 16 & 23 Nov ‘18. Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm. Venue: Agape Village, 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh. For more information and registration, please refer to the Caritas Singapore website: www.caritas-singapore.org or email to formation@caritas-singapore.org.

THE COR NOVUM CHOIR is back to raise funds for Caritas Singapore under the auspices of Holy Family Church. Join us for Lux Nova: New Light, for a night of sacred music and contemporary favourites. At \$15 a ticket, 100% of proceeds will benefit Caritas Singapore. Lux Nova: New Light. 21 Oct ‘18 (Sun), 8:00pm. Church of the Holy Family. For tickets, please make your donation at <https://www.giving.sg/campaigns/luxnova> and drop us an email at cornovum8@gmail.com to confirm your donation and number of tickets needed. E-tickets will be provided via Whatsapp or Email. Clergy and Religious Orders enter for free.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY COURSE (10 hours). Dates: 15, 22, 29 Sept, 6 Oct 2018