

date of the Church wedding one-year in advance. The booking will be confirmed upon the couple signing the acknowledgement of the necessary requirements that the priest will explain to them.

PRAYER INTENTION FOR SOULS. Our parish will be specially praying for souls in the month of November. Everyone is welcome to write the names of their deceased friends and/or loved ones in the book of remembrance.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

Qualified therapists from **FAMILY LIFE SOCIETY** is providing counselling service on Tue & Wed nights at Cana, 55 Waterloo Street, #02-01, S(187954). Counselling is strictly by appointment. If you need help on issues like marital, relationship, grief, loss, parenting, anxiety, stress etc, please call 64880278 during office hours.

BOOK OF PSALMS by Fr Ferdinand Purnomo OCD. 22 Jan to 28 May. Time: 9.30am-11.30am (Tues). Venue: 2 Highland Road, #03-17 CAEC Building, S549102. Organised by Archdiocesan

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 **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.

Church of Saints Peter & Paul: 225-A Queen Street, Singapore 188551
Tel: +65 6337 2585 Fax: +65 6334 5414 email: sts_peterpaul@singnet.com.sg www.spchurch.org.sg

Biblical Apostolate. Info and registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/ooXUGzFcXAD5gpG63>. Email: aba_secretariat@catholic.org.sg, Tel: 62800354 Office: Mon-Fri, 9.00am - 1.00pm

JESUS 4 EVERYONE - How can I evangelise at the workplace? Try this: Be encouraging and positive towards others at your workplace Never take part in gossip or speaking ill of others

PERSONAL MORAL COMPASS COURSE 2019 By Rev Fr David Garcia, OP. The Personal Moral Compass Course is for all Catholics and all people of goodwill interested in formation in the foundations of Ethics and Moral Theology. It is a one-year-long systematic course in Moral Theology consisting of 6 individual modules. This course is organised under Caritas Singapore This course is starting on 11 Jan '19 and will be held weekly on Fridays, 7:30pm to 9:30pm, in Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street. For more information and registration, please refer to the Caritas Singapore website: www.caritas-singapore.org or email to formation@caritas-singapore.org



READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year B) Pg 813

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 26 November - SAT 1 December 2018

MON: RV 14:1-3, 4B-5, LK 21:1-4 **TUE:** RV 14:14-19, LK 21:5-11 **WED:** RV 15:1-4, LK 21:12-19 **THU:** RV 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9A, LK 21:20-28 **FRI:** ROM 10:9-18, MT 4:18-22 **SAT:** RV 22:1-7, LK 21:34-36

Daily Prayer This Week

This week we might be inspired by the gospels to ask God to help us be attentive for the signs of God's presence in our lives each day.

We can ask Jesus to help us open our hearts and be more generous in our daily lives. Inspired by the poor widow, we can ask ourselves, in faith, "How willing am I to share? Do I give from my surplus or is it a real sacrifice?" Are we generous with our time and talents? Perhaps we spend too much time at the computer or at work or in various other projects, neglecting our family or other relationships. Are there places where we could give more of ourselves to people who need us?

When Jesus speaks of the "tribulations" that are ahead for all Christians, this might prompt me to ask myself how willing I am to live my faith courageously. Caring for the poor, seeking justice and self-giving love are basic elements of following Jesus, but they are not valued by our culture. Am I willing to face the objections of family and friends for being so "counter-cultural" in following the gospel? Perhaps we are distracted by the pressures of daily life, or as Jesus says so aptly, we allow our hearts to grow drowsy from "carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise..." What is it in our lives that keeps us from recognising God's Kingdom here on earth? Maybe we abuse

alcohol, are greedy or know deep inside there is a basic selfishness we don't even want to recognise in ourselves. We can only rely on Jesus for an "awakeness" that will help us to see ourselves as Jesus sees us, with love and forgiveness. It is in that moment, when we recognise that we are "loved sinners" that we can ask for the strength to make changes in our lives.

As we "awake" each morning and sit by the side of the bed before we begin our day, we can ask Jesus for the grace to see his presence in our lives in this day, and beg him for the help that we need. And in all of the smallest moments of the day, we can ask him from the deepest part of our hearts for the mercy and grace that will keep our eyes and hearts open this day. Then we can say, from our hearts, Thank you.

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

When we celebrate "Christ, the King", we might want to have a neat, exhaustive idea of what that means. Not because we would then go all out to celebrate it, but because we would want to know what we are up against. Understanding clearly its meaning would give us some sense of control: we would know how far Christ's claims on us might go and we could devise a system of "checks and balances" to protect ourselves. We almost spontaneously think in terms of familiar structures of political power.

What we are called to celebrate today is not a concept, but our recognising Christ as the rule/norm of our daily living, our letting his values/preferences/choices be also our values/preferences/choices. Obviously, this is not the rule/norm of our society, as the craze of Black Friday and the shopping season show us. But if, contrary to how we desire to be ruled, this is how our society is in fact ruled, the question could occur to us: are we normal?

Of course, the answer to such question will depend on what we mean by “normal”. If we understand “normal” statistically as the most frequent occurrence in our society, then no, we are not statistically “normal”... just look around. By the way, it should be clear that in his own society Jesus was also statistically ab-normal. As it happens, though, the word “normal” already existed long before statistics became a discipline. According to its strict etymology, “normal” meant – and still means– “according to a norm”. Whatever is done according to a norm of acting is normal. If we declare Christ’s teachings to be the norm of our living, then everything done according to that norm is totally, absolutely normal, regardless of frequency of occurrence. This “normalcy” is what we celebrate today: Christ as the norm of our living.

Source: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/112518.html>

Preparing for Advent - What am I experiencing in my life, as Advent begins?

Many of us are in an ideal place to begin Advent, but we don’t know it. It can be tempting to think that, because we are struggling these days, we can’t enter into Advent without a big change in our mood or without distancing ourselves from our real experience. Nothing could be further from the truth. Advent is about letting God come to us. We do the letting and God does the coming. And, the whole mystery of our faith is that God is not reluctant to come into an unusual relationship (like Mary and Joseph’s) or to be born in the poverty of a makeshift stable. We are tempted to prepare for Advent by cleaning everything up first – by, in effect, saving ourselves first. Our opening to Advent is to realize we need saving and to accept the saving love of our God.

So, what are we experiencing? That is the first Advent question. If we chew that question, then the Isaiah reading will sound so good to our ears. Are we the people “who walk in darkness” or have “thick clouds” over us? Is the way before us full of valleys and hills? Does it seem like we are in a desert? Are there wild beasts out there who are ready to devour us? Have we been guilty of some things we aren’t proud of? Have we lost touch with who we really want to be? Has our fidelity become a bit shabby? Then, Isaiah proclaims that our God is ready to come and save us. And, none of the things that I see as barriers even matter to God.

Then, is Advent a passive season? No, we have work to do, but it is different from what we first think it is. It starts with understanding what our preparation is. If we haven’t prepared our hearts to be open to asking for salvation, we’ll never shout, beg, plead, “Come, Lord, Jesus!” Our work is to become who we are. Advent is a humble season, a season of self-awareness. To say it another way, before we decorate our homes for Christmas, we have to clear away some of the false masks we might wear. These made up identities help us be more “presentable” to others, and at times they even fool us. When I look in the mirror, which “me” do I see? There is nothing wrong with putting our best foot forward in public, and it is quite understandable when we want others to see our best selves. But, before our own consciences and before God, we want to be transparent and real. We want to have no illusion. If there is struggle in my life – and there has to be some struggle in all our lives – then we want to acknowledge that before our God and to let that struggle be the door into Advent’s graces.

How can we have hope and expect God will come to us? The readings of Advent open up a whole series of promises, full of powerful images, that keep reminding us that our God will come to save us. They free our imaginations to see and experience that coming with drama and joy – a banquet with “choice wines and rich, juicy food.” They invite us to imagine when “a time will come for singing.” They give us the opportunity to hope beyond our wildest hopes in

the past – “the lion will lie down with the lamb” and “they will prepare for war no more.” They open our hearts to imagine the love of our God embracing us in the coming of one like us, who knows our life and its struggles and offers us the hope of the Spirit’s presence with us every day, in every moment.

What are the key first steps to enter into Advent? We can all slow down. We can all breathe more deeply. We can all begin to trust that this will be a blessed time. Then, when we let ourselves be who we are, and hear the Scriptures, we can begin to quietly pray, “Come, Lord, Jesus.” We might expand that prayer, in quiet moments of our days ahead, “Come into my life. I trust you don’t mind if it is still messy. I believe you love me, because I need your love. I don’t fear you can’t find

PARISH NEWS

LAUDAMUS TE - an evening of praise for the gift of Christ. on 31 Dec ‘18. Programme are as follows: 4.00pm - Reflection on the ‘Gloria’, 4.15pm - Vivaldi’s ‘Gloria’ RV589. 5.30pm Mary Mother of God (Vigil Mass) **THANKSGIVING MASS AND DINNER** - 31 Dec ‘18. Dinner: 7.00pm. Venue: Grand Banquet Restaurant (Hotel Royal @ Queens). **Thank you for your support. All dinner tickets is sold out.**

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

- Calling all designers!! Join the SPP Logo Design competition as we prepare for our 150th Anniversary Celebrations in the Year 2020. Attractive prizes for top 3 designs. The winning logo will be used in the 150th Anniversary activities and collaterals. For Guidelines, Terms & Conditions, please collect them from the Parish Office from 1 Dec ‘18 onwards and follow the instructions to submit your entry by 31 Jan ‘19.

JOIN THE SPP SECURITY TEAM - If you are physically fit, passionate about keeping the Parish secure and safe, we welcome you to join the Parish Security Team. You do not need to have experience (best if you have). All you need is the willingness to serve the people, and to commit to occasional meetings and trainings conducted by

the way to my heart. Come and fill me with peace and the love only you can give.” Some of us will want to open our hands on our laps or hold up our arms in the privacy of our rooms and say out loud, “Come, Lord, Jesus, come into this house, into my family, into our struggles. Come and heal us, and give us joy again. Come and unite us and let us experience, each in our own way, a bit of the joy you are offering me now.”

And, before a single decoration goes up, we have prepared for Christmas’ message with the foundation of faith, with the mystery of Advent’s gift. God wants to be with us. Advent is letting God’s will be done in our hearts and in our everyday lives.

Source: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/beginning-Advent.html>

the Parish Emergency Preparedness Taskforce (PEPT). Some responsibilities of a Security Team member include: looking out for unattended bags, suspicious characters, station at important locations around the Church or patrolling the compound during important Masses and Event. Please leave you name and contact details with the Parish Office.

SPP YOUTH CAMP 2018: SEARCH - The youth of SPP are organising a stay-in camp on 14-16 Dec (Fri-Sun). We invite all youth 13-25 years old to join us for some fellowship, faith and fun. For more details, WhatsApp Phoebe 91903788.

ADVENT 2018 - City District Penitential Services at 8.00pm

10 Dec Church of Sts Peter & Paul
11 Dec Church of Our Lady of Lourdes
12 Dec Church of St Teresa
13 Dec Church of St Michael
14 Dec Church of St Bernadette
17 Dec Church of The Sacred Heart
18 Dec Church of St Alphonsus (Novena Church)

BOOKINGS FOR WEDDINGS in the Catholic Church. As of this announcement, dating couples intending to enter into marriage in the Catholic Church will be required to book the