

Reference to Singapore' Date: 4 Jun '19 (Tue) Time: 7.30 - 9.15pm. Venue: CANA The Catholic Centre (55 Waterloo Street #02-01) Please direct your enquiries and registrations to theology.sg@gmail.com or call/SMS Nick at Mobile: 97843682. Please RSVP early as seats are limited. Thank you for your continuous support.

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION will be organising a dinner hosted by His Grace, Archbishop William Goh to raise the needed funds to fulfil the vision of our archdiocese. Tables are available for sale at this fully sponsored dinner. It will be held at the newly-opened The Commune, Village Hotel at Sentosa on 11 Sep '19 at 7.00pm., Registration, cocktail reception and FaithWorks: a Christian themed art exhibition at 5.30pm To

book a table or for more information, please contact Caroline Kung at 6338-0348 or email cfddinner@catholic.org.sg. Alternatively, visit www.catholicfoundation.sg/cfdinner

YOUTH CONVERSION EXPERIENCE RETREAT #16 (YCER) Calling all youths and young adults aged 18 to 29 years! Come as you are. Our hope is that the YCER will allow you to experience the unconditional love of God in an intimate and tangible way and empower you to face difficult challenges and live a life driven by God's purpose and meaning. Conducted by His Grace Archbishop William Goh. 13 - 16 Jun '19 (Thu-Sun) @ Catholic Spirituality Centre. Registration will be done via balloting. More details can be found at <http://www.csctr.net/retreats-events/youth-cer/>

SPP Columbarium - To all the niche applicants & other persons concerned. The Parish Building is closed to the public for extensive renovation works which will include the columbarium. For the safety of the public, the columbarium will be closed, the next period when it will be accessible for visits is on **All Souls' Day period: 27 Oct - 10 Nov '19. Visiting Hours: 9.00am to 5.00pm.** Subsequent niche blessings and interment of urns will take place on Saturdays (1.00pm to 3.00pm), on appointment basis only. For your safety, a maximum of 2 family members will be allowed to witness the niche blessing and interment (with the priest and the niche contractor), and will be required to put on personal protection gears when they enter the columbarium.

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
Intercensory 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
Secretariat's Operating Hours : Mon - CLOSED, Tues to Fri - 10.00m to 7.30pm, Sat & Sun - 9.30am to 1.30pm
 Lunch hours: 11.45am - 12.45pm. Closed on Public Holidays.
Columbarium Opening Hours : Please refer to SPP Columbarium announcement stated above.

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, **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 Friars (S) Ltd** - for contributions/donations to the Friars Formation and Community;
- (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



READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year C) Pg 879
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Let the people praise you, O God; Let all the peoples praise you.
READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 27 May 2019 - SAT 1 June 2019
MON: ACTS 16:11-15, JN 15:26—16:4A **TUE:** ACTS 16:22-34, JN 16:5-11 **WED:** ACTS 17:15, 22—18:1, JN 16:12-15 **THU:** The Ascension of the Lord **FRI:** ZEP 3:14-18A, LK 1:39-56 **SAT:** ACTS 18:23-28, JN 16:23B-28

John's Gospel offers us comfort and peace in a very direct way for the 6th Sunday of Easter. Jesus says "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid."

On Thursday in some dioceses, we celebrate The Ascension of the Lord. In the rest of the world it is celebrated on Sunday.

Our Easter season readings from Acts of the Apostles continue this week. We read of Paul converting a wealthy cloth trader, Lydia; of the dramatic conversion and baptism of the jailer and his family; Paul's bold speech to the crowd at the Areopagus and his fearless preaching in Corinth, despite the growing threat from the Jews. We also see how followers of Paul catch the fire of his faith and now begin to convert others.

In John's Gospel, we realise we are approaching Pentecost in a few weeks as Jesus begins to speak of his leaving the earth and of the coming of the "Advocate" - the Spirit of Truth. The image of the Trinity is clear: "when the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father..." To his disciples, the idea of his leaving fills their hearts with grief but Jesus reassures them, "it is better for you

that I go" so that the Spirit can come to them. The Spirit "will guide you to all truth." Jesus promises, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy." "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you." "Whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you."

Whether the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated this Thursday or on Sunday, it is a stirring story from Acts of the Apostles of Jesus leaving his disciples and promising them the support of the Holy Spirit. The Gospel of Luke tells of Jesus as he led his disciples out "as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven."

On Sunday, those dioceses celebrating the Ascension on Thursday will celebrate the Seventh Sunday of Easter. As if in preparation for Pentecost Sunday, we read in Acts of the stoning of Stephen, who is "filled with the Holy Spirit." In John's Gospel the poetic words of Jesus are a love song to us as he prays to his Father, "Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me..."

Information is correct at time of publication.

Daily Prayer This Week

We sometimes keep the idea of the Trinity firmly in our heads, rather than move it to our hearts. Our logical, practical minds cannot make sense out of three persons in one God.

But clearly this week Jesus wants us to have some sense of what the Trinity is - a continuation of the seamless love and identity between him and the Father. It is the Spirit of that love between them that lives on in us today, guiding us and helping us to follow the message of Jesus' life. It is that Spirit of Jesus that is with us in each of the difficult and joyous moments of our days.

Jesus invites us to discover the power of the Spirit in our lives through an awareness of "the Advocate" supporting us each day. Jesus encourages us in the same kind of intimate relationship he has with the Father. The startling idea of this close, personal conversation one might have with a parent, models for us how we can speak to him.

If we feel tongue-tied or don't know where to begin, that is exactly the place to start. Each morning as we awaken, we can speak from our hearts.

Loving Jesus, I'm not sure how to do this. I can feel in my heart an emptiness or longing for something deeper in my relationship, but I don't always know where to begin. Help me to open my heart to you this day, and to carry with me the sense of how much you love me and how much you want this kind of personal relationship with me.

Let me feel your Spirit present with me as I face the challenges of the day and let me live my life this day as your follower, in the peace of your love.

It is a simple prayer and one that we can

remember as we go about our day, head to a meeting, stand in the kitchen or fold laundry. It is not complicated to have a closer relationship with God but it takes focus. And always, we can end our day with a simple prayer of thanks for the many blessings of the day.

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.

Daily Reflection

Talk about problems in the Church. It started early, as we read in the First Reading for the Eucharistic liturgy for today. The ancient question throughout human history is still with us these days and is about who belongs and who does not.

For Jews, any contact with "pagans" was a form of impurity and now they are thinking that perhaps they can belong. The Jews who have been moved by Jesus and the preaching of His apostles are confronted by another problem. Circumcision was their religious and physical symbol of belonging to the Abrahamic covenant and community. The Jews were feeling that they were not quite in their tradition and so they wanted clarity about belonging.

We read today of the first major conference to solve very important issues and they publish the first kind of Pastoral Letter. Three quite exact requirements are listed which are reflective of the Jewish laws and tradition, but circumcision, as an exact religious requirement is not one of them.

In the Gospel for today's liturgy the theme of belonging continues. The term "Circumcision of the heart" is referred to in the Hebrew Scriptures and Paul, in the second chapter of Romans, relies on it as well. Belonging to Jesus is more than a physical symbol, though loving Jesus is expressed through our physical bodies. Loving Jesus is more than an emotional sensation of course, though emotions are

blessed and quite of the human experience.

I do reverence the young students here who tell me about their being in love. Their expressions of their feelings are spoken as if they are absolutely unique and never have been said out loud before. They just love the other, because, "being in her presence changes me." Not a thing wrong with that for a while, I muse to myself. If "he" loves "her" that love will be moved out beyond "her". "He" will be moved, because "her" love for "him" will move "him" beyond "her" to others while remaining deeply in love with "her". Otherwise that love is ego-centred and destined for sterility. I usually enjoy the excitement and make sure "he" makes another appointment for next month. How "he" is living beyond the loving is what loving is really about.

PARISH NEWS

NO EVENING MASS on 5 June '19 – Hari Raya Puasa falls on Wed, 5 June '19. Being a public holiday, there will be no evening mass.

CATECHISTS NEEDED Thinking of embarking on a spiritual journey? Why not grow in faith with our young ones - you'll never know what you'll discover through the eyes of a Catechists. Join us today! No experience required. For more information, email sppccdministry@gmail.com or call 9664-5839

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD. Day of Obligation, Wed, 29 May '19 (Anticipated Mass): 5.30pm (English). Thurs, 30 May '19: 7.20am (English), 12.15pm (Mandarin), 5.30pm Infant Jesus Devotion followed by English Mass.

CANTONESE RCIA (2019/2020) will be commenced on 28 June '19 at 7.45pm. Please contact our office at 63372585 for registration.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

Jesus loves each of us and how we love Jesus is both accepting that love, unearned by us and of course, how we live being so loved. The "peace" Jesus leaves with us is not exactly satisfaction as the world gives peace. The peace which Jesus offers frees us from the necessity of self-satisfaction. Being so loved frees us from the fears and heart-toubles of not belonging, not being loved enough and not doing enough to be loved.

The promised "Advocate" will be sent to remind us, not merely of this teaching or that document or those practices, but of Who Jesus is for us and with us and within us. We are reminded by this Holy Spirit of our belonging to Him and to ourselves as a loved gift to others. The "Circumcised Heart" beats to the rhythm of "yes" and "now" and "amen".

Source: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/052619.html>

GOSPEL OF JOHN by Msgr. Ambrose Vaz 16 Jul - 8 Oct '19 from 9.30am - 11.30am (Tues)(no session on Sep 10) at 2 Highland Road, #03-17 CAEC Building, S549102. Fees: \$70 if paid by 16 Jul '19. \$80 from July 17. Register via <https://bit.ly/2VFZg3R>. Organised by Archdiocesan Biblical Apostolate. Email: aba_secretariat@catholic.org.sg. Tel: 62800354 Office: Mon-Fri, 9.00am-1.00pm

CATHOLIC TEACHING ON LAW & MORALITY: with Reference to Singapore Jesus makes the distinction between rendering to Caesar and to God. Catholic tradition has often held in tension the distinction between law and morality, recognizing that not everything immoral need be illegal but insisting that law continues to have an educative value. Analyzing contentious issues like the debate over Section 377A through this lens, this talk seeks to help form Catholics to make judgments on such issues in the light of Catholic teaching. As seating is limited, please RSVP at theology.sg@gmail.com for seat reservation. Talk: 'Catholic Teaching on Law & Morality: with