

LIGHT PRODUCES GOODNESS & TRUTH 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Paul's letter to the Ephesians, with images of light and waking from sleep, sounds almost like an Advent reading. It connects us powerfully to an Advent theme during Lent: we welcome the Messiah, the light of the world come to dwell among us. In Lent, we remind ourselves that the Messiah's message of light in the darkness has been passed on to all disciples. Testify to the Good News. Produce goodness, righteousness, and truth. Reject sin. Live in the light. In today's Gospel, we hear the powerful story of the man born blind.

Considered a sinner all his life because of his blindness, he is led to conversion and faith. And we might notice in the story that it is not he who asks for healing, but the disciples who make an example of him. Nonetheless, he follows Jesus' instructions and begins a journey that ends with his proclamation of Jesus as the Messiah. Light entered the darkness of his blindness and his world was changed. The blind man's faith in God led him to the truth.

SHARING FAITH

- How can the Second Reading renew your Lenten commitment to conversion?
- What does God invite us to see with new eyes?

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LIVING THE LITURGY

- Look back on key moments in your life to find times where your relationship with God developed or stalled.
- Do you have any relationships or areas of struggle in your life that seem to be in darkness? How does God ask you to bring light to these places and situations?

DAILY READINGS

Mon 4 Apr: 4th Week of Lent (St. Isidore, Bishop & Doctor)
Isa 65:17-21 Ps 30 John 4:43-54

Tue, 5 Apr: 4th Week of Lent (St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest)
Ezek 47:1-9, 12 Ps 46 John 5:1-3a, 5-16

Wed, 6 Apr: 4th Week of Lent
Isa 49:8-15 Ps 145 John 5:17-30

Thurs, 7 Apr: 4th Week of Lent (St. John Baptist de la Salle, Priest)
Exod 32:7-14 Ps 106 John 5:31-47

Fri, 8 Apr: 4th Week of Lent
Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Ps 34 John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Universal Day of Penance & Abstinence (Canon Law §1252)

***Sat, 9 Apr: 4th Week of Lent**
Jer 11:18-20 Ps 7 John 7:40-53

PARISH SECRETARIAT

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MASS & PRAYER TIMES

Weekday

6:30am, 6:15pm

Saturday

5:30pm

7:30pm Tagalog Mass
(Every 3rd Saturday of the month)

Sunday

7:00am, 9:00am, 11.30am, 5.30pm
Confessions 15 min before Mass.

Divine Mercy Devotion

Daily at 6.45pm (Chapel)
Every 1st Sat of the month at
4.45pm (Main Church)

Prayer for Priests @ Parish Chapel

Every Thursday at 5.15pm,
followed by 6.15pm Mass.

SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY (SCC)

5th Lenten Reflection

When Thurs, 7 April

Time 8.30pm

Venue Blk 252 #06-217
Pasir Ris St 21

Host Julie Goh
Contact Julie (96493447)

5th Lenten Reflection

When Thurs, 7 April

Time 8.30pm

Venue Blk 710 #02-69
Pasir Ris St 72

Host Nicole & Magdalene
Contact Nicole (98459286)

Lent is the springtime of our life in the Spirit

Read more on Page 2 about purifying our hearts for Lent.



From Our Priest

Dear Sisters and Brothers-in-Christ,
Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
Was blind, but now I see.

This spiritual song is a favorite among many, not only for its beautiful lyrics but also for its haunting melody.

Actually it was written by John Newton in the late eighteenth century. He was an educated man, who had been the captain of a ship in the African slave trade business. After his conversion, he became an ordained minister of the Church of England. This hymn could well be his personal testimony to his time of blindness when he was engaged in the exploitation and forced transportation of captured African slaves. Indeed he was a spiritual wretch. Through an amazing grace, his eyes were opened and he could see clearly God's will for his life, just like the blind man in St John's gospel story.

This Lent we are invited to examine our areas of blindness and to proclaim, "One thing I know I was blind but now I see!"

Your parish priests,
Father Johnson Fernandez and Father Ignatius Yeo

CDM RCIA FIRST SCRUTINY



Last Sunday was the first of three consecutive Sundays in Lent where our catechumens will receive the ancient prayers of the Church, called “the Scrutinies.” In these prayers, the Church asks the Lord to read (Acts 1:24), search (Ps 139:23), and purify (Ps 51:12) the hearts of the catechumens. We should all pray “the scrutinies” for the Lord to purify our hearts in unimaginable ways.

“Lent means ‘springtime’ and is a gift from God to us. Amid our own preparations to rejuvenate our spiritual connection with the Lord, let us not forget to journey in prayer with the catechumens as they prepare for their big day: receiving the sacrament of Baptism and their first ‘spring’.”

Feast of Divine Mercy and the Beatification of Pope John Paul II

To celebrate our feast day and commemorate the Beatification of Pope John Paul II, there will be Divine Mercy novenas, Masses, and a Feast Day Dinner. Details of the dinner are as follows:

Venue

Bliss Garden Restaurant, Singapore Expo Centre, Foyer 1, Level 2.

Dinner Tickets: \$50 each

Ticket Sales: From 26 March at the foyer during weekend Mass times. One-way bus tickets from CDM to Singapore Expo are also on sale at \$2.

Purifying our hearts this Lent

The question we might ask ourselves this Lent is, “What is God gracing me to change? Where is God’s love calling me to grow?”

Lent is a time to look gently into our heart, praying that we may have the grace to renew our lives with God. Each day God calls each one of us closer. Let us resolve to listen to the call and to follow and experience once again and more profoundly the grace of new life in Christ – the grace of Easter.



Hurry as tickets are expected to be snapped up! Stay tuned for more exciting news about our double celebrations! For more information about dinner ticket sales, you can e-mail cdmrsvp@gmail.com

Please note that a special beatification Mass will be held on 1 May, 5.30pm (NOT 5pm, as published last week) at CDM, which will be celebrated by our Archbishop, Nicholas Chia.

CDM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stations and ‘At the Foot of the Cross’

There will be an evening of Lenten prayer, reflection and song at:

Venue Church of Divine Mercy

Date Friday, 8th April

Time 8.15pm-9.30pm (after 7pm Mass & 7.30pm Stations of the Cross)

Presented by CrossCulture and CANA

The Catholic Centre. Please register with CANA at cana@catholiccentre.com.sg or call 63364815/ 63364467.

Divine Mercy Devotion Team (English) - Recruitment

Have you been touched or experienced healing through the Divine Mercy? Come join our Divine Mercy Devotion Team. We are looking for more volunteers who have a desire and passion to lead the Chaplet to the Divine Mercy, which is recited after 6.15pm mass in the Chapel, during the 1st Saturday Devotion at 4.45pm and for the Novena to the Divine Mercy and Feast to Divine Mercy. Meetings every 1st Thursday and last Friday of each month. Training will be provided. Contact Nicole at 98459286 or nicogwen@gmail.com for more information.

Choral Music Ministry Canteen Day

Tasty local dishes such as chwee kueh & nasi lemak will be complemented by performances of popular sacred and secular songs in the canteen. For those who want to find out more about joining the Ministry as singers or musicians, please do so at the canteen.

CDM Jumble Sale

Come participate in this fundraising effort and find too-good-to-be-true bargains!

Date Sunday, 10 April

Time 8am to 2.30pm

Venue Canteen

Drinks and light snacks will be sold.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Carmel's Siege of Jericho

144 Hours of continuous Eucharistic Adoration & Prayers comprising Daily Mass, Liturgy of the Hours (Divine Office), Eucharistic Contemplation, Holy Rosary, and other prayers.

Venue Carmelite Monastery, 98 Bukit Teresa Road S(099750)

When Continuous from April 2 (6:30am) to April 8 (6:30am)

Liturgy Workshops for Children's Liturgy & Youth Choirs

A workshop conducted by Christopher Walker, an internationally renowned music composer and lecturer: Music for Children's Liturgy:

Wed, 6 April (7.30pm to 9.30pm) OR

Sat, 9 April (3.00pm to 5.30pm)

For Youth Choirs & Leaders:

Fri, 8 April (3.00pm to 6.00pm)

Organised by the Catholic Schools Office for schools and parishes.

All events will be at 2 Highland Road, off Upper Serangoon Rd. Call Louis Oo at 6858 7085 or email louis_oo@catholic.org.sg for more information or to register.

Charities Week 2011

Charities Week 2011 funds our work for the poor, families and children, youths, prisoners, migrant workers, persons with HIV/AIDS, persons with physical challenges and mental health conditions. Our outreach to the needy has increased and your contributions will help our service programmes. Make cheques payable to “**Caritas Singapore**”. Send us your envelope (for cheques only) or drop them at your parish. Your donations are tax-deductible. Please note that Charities Week collections do not go towards disaster situations overseas. Visit www.caritas-singapore.org or call 6337 3711 for more information.