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 PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS
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Release, Reactivate

“When the Advocate comes,....”
 “And when [the Advocate] comes,”
 “When the Spirit of Truth comes,”

In the days leading to Ascension last Thursday, we have been reading from the Gospel of St John during weekday masses. Jesus had promised the Holy Spirit to his Disciples, and Jesus told them all the Holy Spirit was going to do for them and in them. This promise Jesus kept repeating. The Disciples believed, prayed and waited. But they were not sure when the Holy Spirit would come and what he would bring. We know the answers: Ten days after Jesus ascended into Heaven, the Holy Spirit came on Pentecost. He came as wind and descended as tongues of flame. The Holy Spirit inspired and emboldened the Disciples. He gave them various charisms and gifts to preach - with conviction and without fear - the Good News of the Risen Christ. And so began the early church.

But what struck me was what Father had said in a recent sermon: Unlike the Disciples, we, who are baptized, do not have to wait for the Holy Spirit. We already have the Holy Spirit in us. We just need to reactivate him!

I recalled our Holy Father’s Homily at Pentecost 2016: “We keep the Holy Spirit as a ‘luxury prisoner’ in our hearts; we do not allow the Spirit to push us forward, to move us. The Spirit does everything, knows everything, reminds us what Jesus said, can explain all about Jesus”.

The Pope had also observed: “early theologians used to say that the soul is a kind of sailboat, the Holy Spirit is the wind which fills its sails and drives it forward, and the gust of winds are the gifts of the Spirit. Lacking his impulse and his grace, we do not go forward”. He encouraged us to “be open to God’s surprises”. In preparation of Pentecost Sunday, the Pope said: “This is what we must do this week - think of the Spirit and talk to him”.

I intend to release and reactivate the Holy Spirit in me, and let him lead me. I want to be surprised! While I am excited, there is also some trepidation in my heart as to what surprises are in store for me. What will the Lord want of me? But one thing has convinced me in the days leading to Ascension, and now to Pentecost: I am not alone. I will not be alone. God is with me. God is in me. As I read how following his Resurrection, Jesus showed himself to his Disciples and continued to teach, guide and encourage them, I know Jesus is always with me. And when he ascended to heaven, he sent the Holy Spirit. I am comforted that I will never be let alone to struggle on my own understanding, strength and abilities. The Holy Spirit is with me. The Holy Spirit is in me!

I can do all things through him who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)

Reflection by Ros

Novena notes



7th Sunday of Easter
 Year B
 13 May 2018

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 13 May	Ac 1:15-17,20-26; 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 17:11-19 The Lord has set his sway in heaven.
Mon, 14 May St. Matthias, Apostle	Ac 1:15-17,20-26; Jn 15:9-17 The Lord sets him in the company of the princes of his people.
Tue, 15 May	Ac 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11 Kingdoms of the earth, sing to God.
Wed, 16 May	Ac 20:28-38; Jn 17:11-19 Kingdoms of the earth, sing to God.
Thu, 17 May	Ac 22:30;23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26 Preserve me, Lord, I take refuge in you.
Fri, 18 May St. John I, Pope & Martyr	Ac 25:13-21; Jn 21:15-19 The Lord has set his sway in heaven.
Sat, 19 May	Ac 28:16-20,30-31; Jn 21:20-25 The upright shall see your face, O Lord.

WEEKDAY MASS (MON - FRI)
 Time: 6.30am, 12.15pm, 6.30pm
 Confession: Half an hour before Mass

SUNSET MASS (SAT)
 Time: 6.30pm

SUNDAY MASS
 Time: 8am, 10am, 12noon, 5.30pm

PUBLIC HOLIDAY
 Time: 8am, 6.30pm

SATURDAY MORNING MASS
 Time: 7am

SATURDAY NOVENA DEVOTION
 English: 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 1pm, 4pm, 5.30pm
 Mandarin: 2.30pm
 Confession: After every Novena Service except after the 11am service.

DAYS OF OBLIGATION
 Time: 7pm (Eve of Day of Obligation)
 6.30am, 12.15pm, 7pm

The Apostles :

In response to many who have asked about the 12 Apostles featured on the stained-glass panels above the Sanctuary, we will be presenting 4 of them each week in the Novenanotes. Today we have :



(Below Our Lady of Ransom - from Left to the Right) :

St. Thomas St. Bartholomew St. Philip St. Andrew

Praying The Rosary

There will be the praying of the Rosary immediately after the 6.30pm evening Mass from Monday to Friday in the month of May.

First Profession

Melandro Pera, will make his First Profession in the Redemptorist Congregation at the 5.30pm Mass on 20th May 2018.

All are welcome to join the Redemptorists for this joyous celebration as we welcome one more confrere into our community.

We thank you for all your prayers and generosity in support of our seminarians.

NOVUM - Novena Church Volunteers in the Media Ministry

We are looking for volunteers in the following specialized areas to help in the outreach efforts of the Church. Please go to our website

www.novenachurch.com.sg to download a form or obtain one from the Reception. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Josephine Ee at 97926549 for more details.

1. Photographers
2. Videographers
3. Designers
4. Shrine Visual Tech Support
5. Computer programming specialists for Website/ Apps Maintenance and Updating
6. Social media specialists
7. Communications Specialist

DAWN Skill Development Programme for foreign domestic workers

Registration is open for Courses on Baking, Cooking, Cake Decoration, Sewing and Handicraft from July 2018 till December 2018.

The 2nd Batch 2018 Care-giving Course which is scheduled to begin on Sunday 15 July 2018.

Classes will be conducted on 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month.

Dates : Sundays, 13th, 20th and 27th May 2018, 3rd, 10th & 17th June 2018.

Time : 10 am to 2 pm

Venue: DAWN,
Good Shepherd Place,
9, Lorong 8, Toa Payoh,
Singapore 319253.

Contact: 96702880 (Suzeth)
or 82333728 (Sr. Barbara)

Safety and Security in the Church

When the Church is full, please do not enter. For safety and security no standing along the aisles on Sundays and Days of Obligations. Thank you.