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 PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS
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Peace be with You

Today, as we light the Second Advent Candle of Peace, I reflect on two truths. First, we know when we are have no Peace. Secondly, we know when we are at Peace. Peace is a state of mind. Peace is a Gift - a grace from God.

Last month, I attended a Retreat conducted by a religious nun from India. After every session, she would invite us to go to the small chapel, sit comfortably, and then, just to be still. Keep still - both the body and the mind. No prayers. No chants or mantras. No words. Just focus on the breathing.

God breathes into us the breath of life. (Genesis 2:7). (Breathe out.) Jesus breathes into us the Holy Spirit (John 20:22). (Breathe out.) Repeat. And in that stillness - even if it was just for a few minutes, I experienced a calmness. The worries, the stress, the frustrations, all seem to fade away. Only the breath of God - gently coming in and out. I felt the Spirit of the Lord come and fill me with His Peace.

So I have started to 'Go Quiet'. It is not easy, as I am a person who is so easily distracted. There are so many things happening at home, work and in my Ministries at Church. I am always planning in my head - what I am going to say or do next. Every morning, I try and sit quietly in a quiet corner of my room, but it is then that all the thoughts come crashing in. But I will persevere because I hope in the Lord, and I want to experience His Peace.

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. (Psalm 62:5)

It is a nice way to be with the Lord. Not talking always. Not praying, where we are just asking and petitioning for certain things and outcomes. But just waiting quietly and patiently for Jesus to talk to us. And He does speak. He reveals. He consoles. He inspires. He strengthens.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him (Psalm 37:7)

When the Lord speaks, I know that He is letting me know His will for me. So I listen and allow God to be God. This is tough, as it requires a spirit of humility. But the reward is His Peace.

Be still and know that I am Lord (Psalm 46:10)

And I know what God is telling me. He is asking me to love more. He is asking me to examine my actions and words, and see where I could have been more generous, more merciful, more forgiving, and less judgmental. He is promising His Peace if I can be more life-giving.

And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. (Isaiah 32:17)

So it is when I am still, that the Lord will come and breathe into me, saying, "Peace be with you."

Reflection by Ros

Novena notes



2nd Sunday Of Advent
 Year C
 9th December 2018

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 9 December	Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6,8-11; Lk 3:1-6 What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.
Mon, 10 December	Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26 Look, our God is coming to save us.
Tue, 11 December St. Damasus I, Pope	Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14 Here is our God coming with power.
Wed, 12 December Our Lady Of Quadaalupe	Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30 My soul, give thanks to the Lord.
Thu, 13 December St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr	Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15 The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love.
Fri, 14 December St. John Of The Cross, Priest & Doctor	Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19 Anyone who follows you, Lord, will have the light of life.
Sat, 15 December	Eccles 48:1-4,9-11; Mt 17:10-13 God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

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

Novena notes

Advent Novena

Our Advent Novena to prepare for Christmas has begun. We are now in the 7th week. The Theme for this special Novena is, **“His Name shall be.....”** All are welcome. Bring along your family and friends.

27 Oct : Jesus (Introduction)

3 Nov : Son of David

10 Nov : Son of the Most High

17 Nov : Mighty God

24 Nov : The Christ

1 Dec : Wonderful Counselor

8 Dec : Prince of Peace

15 Dec : Saviour

22 Dec : Immanuel

Advent Penitential Services for City District at 8pm

10th December - Church of Sts. Peter and Paul

11th December - Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

12th December - Church of St Teresa

13th December - Church of St Michael

14th December - Church of St. Bernadette

17th December - Church of St Alphonsus (Novena Church)

18th December - Church of the Sacred Heart

16th December, Simbang Gabi Mass

There will be a Simbang Gabi Mass organized by the Novena Filipino Community on 16th December at 8pm in the Main Church. All are welcome.

A Biblical Walk Through The Mass

An invitation from Novena Bible Apostolate to this study on 4 Wednesdays.

Dates: 9 Jan 2019 - 30 Jan 2019

Time: 7.45pm - 9.30pm

Venue: The Scala

(Church Basement 2)

Fee: \$15 (A Student Workbook will be provided)

Optional : \$25 (A Textbook on The Mass) Please indicate if you want when you register

For more information please email bible.novena@gmail.com or contact Bob (96263824) or Matthew (97461376). Closing date will be 23 December.

Christmas & New Year Mass Times

Please take note that there will be **NO** evening Mass on 24th December 2018.

Christmas Vigil - 24th December
Carolling - 8.30pm
Mass - 9pm

Christmas Day - 25th December
Mass as usual at 8am, 10am, 12noon and 5.30pm

New Year's Eve - 31st December
Praise & Worship at 10pm.
Mass at 10.30pm

New Year's Day - 1st January 2019
Mass as usual at 8am & 6.30pm

Please take note that there will be **No** lunch-time Mass on 1st January 2019 being public holiday.

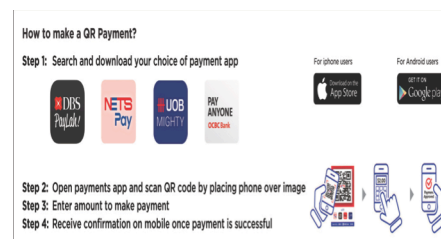
World Youth Day 2019 Fund-Raising Project

The Redemptorist Community and the youth participants of World Youth Day would like to thank all of you for your generous support and contribution in the fund-raising efforts for the World Youth Day event. Thanks to you they have met their required target. Please continue to pray for them, that it would be a meaningful and spiritual experience.

Donations

We have now made cashless donations to the Church possible for your ease and convenience.

You may use the following steps if you would like to make a donation electronically or via a cashless method.



You may wish to donate to the following:

Please scan the QR-Code that corresponds with your intention:

1. Maintenance of the Church

Now that the Church has been built, we need to continue to maintain the Church. You may wish to contribute to the upkeep of the Church by scanning the QR-Code below:

Maintenance Fund



2. Redemptorist Seminary

The training of Redemptorists (Priests and Brothers) is not under the care of the Archdiocese of Singapore. Redemptorists, as well as all Religious Congregations are financially independent of the Archdiocese. We see to the financial expenses of our own candidates to the priesthood and religious life. You may like to give a donation to the formation of Redemptorists by scanning the QR-Code below:

Redemptorist Seminary



3. Redemptorist Community

The Redemptorist Community rely on your contribution for our daily upkeep of the community and other mission initiatives outside Novena Church. You may like to contribute to the Redemptorist Community by scanning the QR-Code below:

Redemptorist Community

