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 PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS
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Resolutions and Commitment

“What must we do?”

Several groups of people asked John the Baptist this question when he was baptizing at the River Jordan. (Luke 3:10-18). They were tax collectors, soldiers, and all the people who came for baptism. John dispensed practical advice and told each in turn: Be generous and share, Be honest in your dealings with others, Be content with what you have.

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord and the beginning of his public ministry. Jesus knew what he must do and he went about tirelessly and even in the face of rejection and disbelief. He was resolved and was committed. On this day, we too recall our own baptisms and our baptismal promises. So what must we do, as baptized Christians and disciples of Jesus?

St. John in his 1st Letter sets out God’s commandments (1 John 3: 21-24) very simply: *“That we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.”* The first calls for faith, the second calls for a commitment.

They just irritate and make me angry. My commitment weakens, and after some time, I just want to give up trying to be the better person. But God is calling me to be the better person – the person who is prepared to overlook the hurt, the person who is ready to forgive, the person who is willing to help and support. God is calling me to be the person who can and who will love.

So at the start of this New Year, I decide to make a resolution (again). I decided that I am not going to give up trying to love and every time I fail, I will get up again and try again. Small steps each time, and see how I progress each time I get up and try again.

“If our expectations, if our fondest prayers and dreams, are not realized, then we should all bear in mind that the greatest glory of living lies not in never falling but in rising every time you fall.” (South African President Nelson Mandela, September 1988.)

Perhaps, when my life on earth is done and I stand before the Lord, the Lord may see my resolutions and commitment and declare as did when Jesus arose from the River Jordan: *“You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.”*

Reflection by Ros

Novena notes



Baptism Of The Lord
 Year C
 13th January 2019

Readings & Responses for the Week

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| Sun, 13 January | Is 40:1-5,9-11; Tit 2:11-14,3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16,21-22 Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are. |
| Mon, 14 January Blessed Peter Donders, CSsR | Hebr 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20 All you angels, worship the Lord. |
| Tue, 15 January | Hebr 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28 You gave your Son power over the works of your hand. |
| Wed, 16 January | Hebr 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39 The Lord remembers his covenant for ever. |
| Thu, 17 January St. Anthony, Abbot | Hebr 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45 O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.' |
| Fri, 18 January | Hebr 4:1-5,11; Mk 2:1-12 Never forget the deeds of the Lord. |
| Sat, 19 January | Hebr 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17 Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life. |

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

14 January, Blessed Peter Donders, Priest

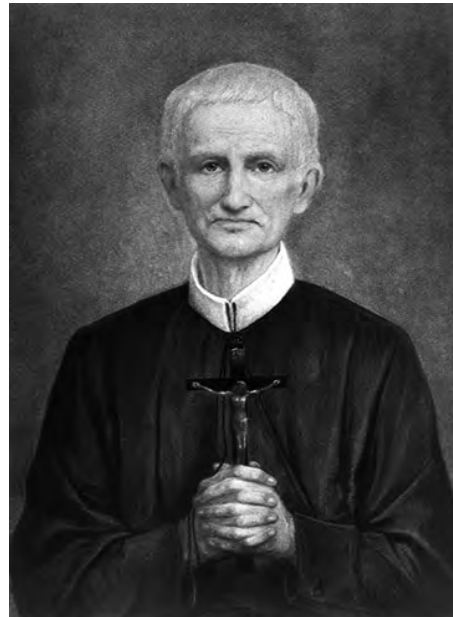
Peter Donders was born in Tilburg in Holland on October 27, 1809. From his youth, he felt himself called to the priesthood, but because of the poverty of his family, his schooling was cut short so he could take up the weaver's trade of his father. This did not prevent him from teaching catechism to children in his free time.

He also had a good influence on young people his age. At the age of twenty-two, he entered the minor seminary and was ordained a priest on June 5, 1841.

For the next fourteen years, he dedicated himself to the resident Catholics and also regularly visited the salves of the plantations as well as the military garrisons and the native Indians and black slaves along the rivers.

He asked to join the Redemptorists to whom Pope Pius IX had confided the Apostolic Vicariate of Suriname. He was invested with the religious habit on November 1, 1866 and professed his vows on June 24, 1867.

Religious profession, in associating him with a missionary congregation, gave him a more vivid sense of the apostolic life in community, allowing him to leave Batavia more often to give himself to the conversion of the native Indians and black slaves.



But the name of Donders remained bound to the leprosarium of Batavia. He died among his lepers, poor among the poor, on January 1887, mourned as their benefactor and invoked as a saint. Pope John Paul II beatified him in St. Peter's on May 23, 1982, during the 250th jubilee year of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer.

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:

Maintenance Fund



Redemptorist Seminary



Redemptorist Community



Novena Church Altar Servers Annual Recruitment Drive 2019

The Novena Church Altar Servers are having their annual recruitment drive. Interested young people may pick up a form from the reception office. Registration closes on 30th January.

Kingsmead Centre's Programmes

In line with its vision of being a living spiritual spring for all seeking the love of God, Kingsmead Centre for Ignatian Spirituality and Counselling conducts a variety of programmes including retreats, workshops and talks to meet the spiritual needs of people.

For more enquiries, please visit the website at www.kingsmeadcentre.sg

Catholic Junior College Open House 2019

Inviting all interested students, especially those who sat for their 'O' Level Exams to the CJC Open House 2019. It will take place one day after the release of the 'O' Level results.

Time: 10am to 4pm