

You Will Be My Witnesses

Every once in a while, we may receive a text message or an email to pray for someone who may be ill or someone who is going through a difficult time or to pray for peace in the world after an act of violence or war. We know that we cannot heal people who are sick, we know that we cannot change the world, all we can do is believe in the power of praver.

Over the last few weeks, we have been reading from Chapters 13-17 of John's Gospel, which is known as "The Farewell Discourse." Jesus prays for his disciples: First, that they will be united, and secondly, that they will be faithful to the mission that he has given them. Jesus is preparing the disciples for the time when he will have to leave them. How? By reminding them of all that he has taught them and that he will be with them always.

What is the mission that Jesus gave the disciples? The disciples are to continue the mission that Jesus begun - to share the message and the experience of God's plentiful redemption, especially with the poor and the abandoned.

Life was good when Jesus was around! When devils tormented them. Jesus could exorcise them: when their boat was sinking, Jesus could calm the storm: when someone was sick, Jesus could cure them. When they had no food, Jesus could make some appear!

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And now Jesus was taken up into heaven and the disciples are left staring at the sky. They didn't know what to do! They were overwhelmed with confusion, fear and self-doubt. They know that they cannot heal the sick, they are too afraid to cast out devils, and they can't feed the hungry. How could they possibly continue Jesus' mission?!

At the Ascension – Jesus returned to his Father - and handed over his mission to us. But we know we can't do it. Not by our own strength. All we can do is believe in the power of praver. Jesus is still with us and he promised to send us the Holy Spirit the Holy Spirit will give us the courage and the grace to continue the mission of Jesus.

Not much has changed in our world today. The same problems remain and we are just as overwhelmed as the apostles were, maybe even more so. We don't know what we can do, how we can help, if we can make a difference? All we can do is believe in the power of prayer and depend on the grace of the Holv Spirit.

Veni Sancte Spiritus - Come, Holy Spirit. That is our praver as we prepare for Pentecost.

Reflection by Gerard Louis CSsR

Novena notes

Readings & Responses for the Week



7th Sunday of Easter Year C 2nd June 2019

Sun. 2 June Ac 7:55-60; Rev 22:12-14,16-17,20: Jn 17:20-26 The Lord is king, most high above all the earth. Mon. 3 June Ac 19:1-8: Jn 16:29-33 SS. Charles Lwanga & Companions, Kingdoms of the earth, sing to God. Martyrs Tue, 4 June Ac 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11 Kingdoms of the earth. sing to God. Wed, 5 June Ac 20:28-38; Jn 17:11-19 St. Boniface, Bishop & Martyr Kingdoms of the earth, sing to God. Thu. 6 June Ac 22:30;23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26 St. Norbert, Bishop Preserve me, Lord, I take refuge in you. Fri, 7 June Ac 25:13-21; Jn 21:15-19 The Lord has set his sway in heaven. Sat. 8 June Ac 28:16-20.30-31: Jn 21:20-25 The upright shall see your face, O Lord. SATURDAY MORNING MASS WEEKDAY MASS (MON - FRI) Time: 7am Time: 6.30am, 12.15pm, 6.30pm Confession: Half an hour before Mass SATURDAY NOVENA DEVOTION English: 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 1pm, 4pm, SUNSET MASS (SAT) 5.30pm Time: 6.30pm Mandarin: 2.30pm Confession: After every Novena Service SUNDAY MASS except after the 11am service. Time: 8am. 10am. 12noon. 5.30pm DAYS OF OBLIGATION PUBLIC HOLIDAY Time: 8am. 6.30pm

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

"DAWN Skill Development Programme for foreign domestic workers"

Registration is open for Baking & Cooking (Basic & Advance), Basic Cake Decoration, Sewing & Handicraft from July 2019 till December 2019.

The 2nd Batch 2019 Care-Giving Course is scheduled to begin on 5 May 2019.

Classes will be conducted on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month from May 2019 till November 2019.

Dates : 2nd & 9th June 2019. Time : 10 am to 2 pm Venue: DAWN, Good Shepherd Place, 9, Lorong 8, Toa Payoh, Singapore 319253.

Contact: 96702880 (Suzeth), 82694546 (Rowena), or 82333728 (Sr. Barbara)

Part Time Property Officer

We are looking for a part-time property officer to work on weekends and public holidays and/or to cover the regular staff from 10pm to 8am. For those who are interested, kindly leave your contact details with the Receptionist.

RCIA Chinese Programme

The New Chinese RCIA programme (2019/2020) for Adults will begin on 29th June 2019. Application forms can be obtained at the Church Office.

5th June, Hari Raya Puasa

Please take note that there will be \underline{NO} lunch time Mass on 5th June being a public holiday. Masses at 8am and 6.30pm.

PIETA

Pieta is a support group for bereaved parents. We come together as bereaved parents - in prayer, in WORD and in faith. The session, run by bereaved parents. meets monthly to pray, reflect and break open the WORD OF GOD. We invite any parent who has lost a child (regardless of age and no matter how recent or long ago) to unite with us in faith. Our monthly session is on every 4th Tuesday of the month. 7.30pm to 9.00pm at Agape Village, Toa Payoh Lorong 8, and the next session would be held on Tuesday, 28 May 2019.

For further information, you can contact us at <u>pieta.singapore@gmail.com</u> and we can also be found on facebook : https://facebook.com/PietaSingap ore

World Communications Sunday

Every year on the Sunday before Pentecost, the Church celebrates the achievements of the communications media and focuses of how we can best use them to promote gospel values.

World Communications Day was established by Pope Paul VI in 1967 as an annual celebration that encourages us to reflect on the opportunities and challenges that the modern means of social communication (the press, motions pictures, radio, television and the internet) afford the Church to communicate the gospel message.

The celebration came in the wake of the Second Vatican Council, which realised it must engage fully with the modern world. This realisation is expressed in the opening statement of the Pastoral Constitution *Gaudium et spes* on "The Church in the Modern World", which says: "The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anguishes of the followers of Christ as well."

A Prayer for World Communications Sunday

O God, whose word is truth and in whose light we see light, guide those who tell the story of our times through word and image. Make them seekers after truth and advocates of human dignity.

Grant discernment to all who rely on their labours, and, as we confront the pains and promises of this world, awaken in us a sense of wonder at your presence and of longing for your peace.

Kickstart 2019

