



Quo Vadis?

Christian tradition says that one night, the Apostle Peter was fleeing Rome because the Roman authorities wanted to put him to death. He then met the Risen Christ on the Appian Way (outside Rome), and Jesus was walking towards Rome. Peter asked the Lord: *Quo vadis, Domine?* (Latin; In English: 'Where are you going, Lord?') Jesus replied: "To Rome, to be crucified again!" Peter turned back and returned to Rome. A few days later, he was arrested by Emperor Nero and crucified - upside down.

In today's Readings, we sense the urgency of the mission and the resolution of those called to respond to the mission. In the Gospel, we hear that Jesus "resolutely took the road for Jerusalem"; knowing very well that there is where he will suffer and die. He offered his message to every town and village. He did not punish those who refused to respond, but just went on to the next place. In the 1st Reading, Elisha is called by Prophet Elijah. Elisha, the son of a wealthy man, wanted to say farewell. But he had to make the decision to respond then and there, and he did. And after Elijah was taken up to heaven, Elisha was the Prophet in Israel for six decades.

On Saturday, 29 June 2019, we celebrated the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, and we recall the splendid faith and mission of our two greatest Apostles. St. Peter was the appointed 'Rock', the leader of the early Church, as it grew. St. Paul, the Apostle of the Gentiles, travelled tirelessly to preach the Good News to

300 Thomson Road, Singapore 307653

T 6255 2133

F 6356 9910

E secretariatcssr@novenachurch.com

W novenachurch.com

PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

novenaletterscssr@novenachurch.com

the non-Jews, and had encouraged the growth of the Christian communities and churches in these places. Both suffered numerous persecutions. But both were resolute to the end.

Jesus in today's Gospel makes clear what the duty of his disciples are: "Your duty is to spread the news of the kingdom of God"? St. Paul in the 2nd Reading reminds us that we are to be guided by the Holy Spirit, and to avoid self-indulgence by serving one another in "works of love".

So what about us? As Christians, are we different? Have we made a difference? What are we doing to spread the news of the kingdom of God? How have we shared the kingdom values of love, forgiveness and humble service in our homes, schools, work places, communities and ministries?

I like this idea of "works of love". So I now consciously try and do one 'work of love' - everyday. Then I try to do another, and then another, and offer all these to God during my night prayer.

We have only one life to lead and we may not have the time to do God's work later. We need the people around us to experience the kingdom of God here and now. So changing the above story a bit, what will our response be if Jesus should meet us on our way and poses to each of us the same question: *Quo vadis?*

Reflection by Ros

Novena notes



13th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year C

30th June 2019

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 30 June	1 Kgs 19:16,19-21; Gal 5:1,13-18; Lk 9:51-62 O Lord, it is you who are my portion.
Mon, 1 July	Gen 18:16-33; Mt 8:18-22 The Lord is compassion and love.
Tue, 2 July	Gen 19:15-29; Mt 8:23-27 Your love, O Lord, is before my eyes.
Wed, 3 July St. Thomas, Apostle	Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29 Go out to the world; proclaim the Good News.
Thu, 4 July St. Elizabeth of Portugal	Gen 22:1-19; Mt 9:1-8 I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.
Fri, 5 July St. Anthony Zaccaria	Gen 23:1-4,19; 24:1-8,62-67; Mt 9:9-13 O give thanks to the Lord for he is good.
Sat, 6 July St. Maria Goretti	Gen 27:1-5,15-29; Mt 9:14-17 Praise the Lord for he is good.

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

Memorial of Blessed Gennaro Maria Sarnelli CSSR, 30th June 2019

Gennaro Sarnelli was born in Naples on 12 September 1702. He had a solid cultural and spiritual formation, dedicating himself to the study of jurisprudence, he gained a doctorate in civil and canon law at the age of twenty. Caring for the sick in the hospital for the incurables, he felt the call to the priesthood.

During this time, he also came to know Alphonsus Maria de Liguori, who was his first biographer. Ordained a priest in 1732, he dedicated himself especially to the catechesis of young boys and to the rehabilitation of girls at risk of becoming prostitutes. In June of the following year, he entered the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, founded by Alphonsus Maria de Liguori on 9 November 1732. He dedicated himself to the preaching of the Word of God to those who were most destitute of spiritual help.

For reasons of health, in 1736, he returned to Naples, where he took up again his previous pastoral and charitable activities, especially among the sick, the elderly, those in prison and the young boys forced to work as dock labourers. He also initiated a fervent movement against the spread of prostitution.



A prodigious writer, he published more than thirty books on a wide range of subjects:

In 1741, he organized and took part in the great mission among the spiritually abandoned areas in the outskirts of Naples. Spent by his burning zeal, he died in Naples on 30 June 1744, at the age of forty-two. John Paul II beatified him on 12 May 1996.

Let's Talk Mental Health

Struggling to find peace of mind?

The Redemptorist Youth Ministry invites youths aged 14 and above for a mental-health talk by AIC (Agency for Integrated Care) in partnership with Clarity.

Experts will share about the symptoms relating to mental health issues. The talk will also touch on the building of emotional and physical resilience and where you can turn to for help to cope with stress.

Come clear your mind by being enlightened on how to maintain your mental health!

Date : 5th July 2019

Time : 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Venue : Novena Church Auditorium, Pastoral Block Level 2

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.

Novena in preparation for Annual Procession 2019

The Novena in preparation for our Annual Procession will begin on Saturday, 6th July 2019. The theme for this special Novena is: "Completely Yours". All are welcome and bring along your family and friends.

6 July - Completely Yours

13 July - Completely Yours: In Devotion

20 July - Completely Yours: In Worship

27 July - Completely Yours: In Mind

3 Aug - Completely Yours: In Heart

10 Aug - Completely Yours: In Service

17 Aug - Completely Yours: In Communication Through Technology

24 Aug - Completely Yours: In Beyond Borders

31 Aug - Completely Yours: In Youthful Passion