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“St. Alphonsus Liguori – A Spiritual Father”

I will never forget my first ever Parish mission in India as a young adult. The preacher preached in a black cassock with the crucifix tucked under the band of his cassock. He was a Redemptorist father. He set the Parish on fire with the love of Jesus. At the mission I heard the voice of Jesus calling me to share in his mission to the “sheep without a shepherd”. Six years later, I took the bold step to venture out as a lay missionary serving under the Redemptorists in India. I was scared when Jesus sent me out. I don’t think I would have gone if he had sent me alone. I was working with a Redemptorist priest who took on the role of being a spiritual father to me. He passed on the fire to me. Today I am married and have two sons. I am now a spiritual father to them and to the many young men and women that I meet.

On August the 1st we celebrate the feast of St. Alphonsus Liguori. The Gospel reading of the day states that Jesus referred to the crowds as “sheep without a shepherd” Mt 9:36.

St. Alphonsus experienced in his heart what Jesus felt. He was a spiritual father who began to reach out among the humblest strata of Naples. He started the “evening chapels” in the city.

People would gather in the evening in private homes and shops, to pray and meditate on Scripture. Some catechists and priests formed by Alphonsus would visit and guide the faithful. They were a source of healing among the poor: thefts, duels and prostitution virtually disappeared.

At the age of 35, Alphonsus moved out of Naples into the interior regions. He became a spiritual father to the poor peasants and shepherds.

In 1732, he founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. Even today, the Redemptorists spread over so many countries, reach out to the poor and the abandoned whom Jesus called “Sheep without a shepherd”. They offer people spiritual fatherhood which is a crying need in the world today.

I thank the Lord who reminds us through St. Alphonsus to be spiritual fathers and mothers who are gentle with the poor and sinners, patient with our near and dear ones who are suffering, reaching out to the “sheep without a shepherd”.

Reflection by Edwyn de Souza

Novena notes



17th Sunday of Ordinary Time
 Year C
 28 July 2019

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 28 July	Is 61:1-3; 2 Tim 2:1-7; Mt 9:35-10:1 Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.
Mon, 29 July St. Martha	1 Jn 4:7-16; Jn 11:19-27 I will bless the Lord at all times.
Tue, 30 July St. Peter Chrysologus	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5-9, 28; Mt 13:36-43 The Lord is compassion and love.
Wed, 31 July St. Ignatius of Loyola	Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46 You are holy, O Lord our God.
Thu, 1 August St. Alphonsus Liguori, CSsR	Is 61:1-3; 2 Tim 2:1-7; Mt 9:35-10:1 Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.
Fri, 2 August St. Eusebius of Vercelli St. Peter Julian Eymard	Lev 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34-37; Mt 13:54-58 Ring out your joy to God our strength.
Sat, 3 August	Lev 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

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.

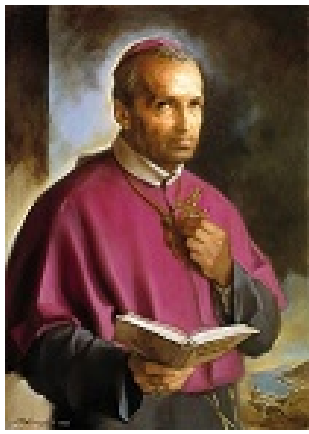
DAYS OF OBLIGATION
 Time: 7pm (Eve of Day of Obligation)
 6.30am, 12.15pm, 7pm

Novena notes

1st August, Feast of St. Alphonsus Liguori

St Alphonsus Liguori was born at Marianella near Naples on 27 September 1696. He was educated at the University of Naples and received his doctorate in both civil and canon law at the age of sixteen. By nineteen he was practicing civil law, but he saw the transitory nature of the secular world, and after a brief time, retreated from the law.

Visiting the Hospital for Incurables on 28 August 1723, he had a vision and was told to consecrate his life solely to God.



In response, Alphonsus dedicated himself to the religious life, even while suffering opposition from his family. He finally agreed to become a priest, but had to live at home as a member of a group of secular missionaries.

He was ordained on 21 December 1726, and founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer on 9 November 1732.

Novena in preparation for Annual Procession 2019

The Novena in preparation for our Annual Procession has begun. 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



Come prepare for the Feast of the Assumption.

Theme : A Christ-Centred Community Through Mary

Mandarin Mass : 5 August 2019

English Masses : 6 -14 August 2019

Weekdays : 8.00pm
Rosary : 7.30pm

Weekends : 5.30pm
Rosary : 5.00pm

The Redemptorists will hear Confessions before Mass.

Address : 4 Sandy Lane, Singapore 437321 (off Tanjong Katong Road)
Nearest MRT Station : Paya Lebar

Crossings Cafe

Crossings Café is offering all Novena Church goers a 15% discount off the food bill (excluding drinks) when dining with them. This offer is valid during the entire month of August 2019 in view of the Feast of St. Alphonsus Liguori. To enjoy this offer, all Novena Church goers have to do is to inform the staff the name of the Church when they come by Crossings Café during this period.

They are located at Catholic Centre 55 Waterloo Street Singapore 187954. They are a social enterprise café started by a group of Catholics and they provide employment to the disadvantaged and are committed to donating all profits to charity.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

"Marriage is a project to be worked on together ... and a process of growth." - Pope Francis (*Amoris Laetitia*, no. 218, 221).

Good marriages can always be made better. To deepen and refine your couple relationship, sign up for one of the coming Marriage Encounter Weekends: 2nd to 4th Aug, 4th to 6th Oct, 1st to 3rd Nov & 6th to 8th Dec.

For more information, please contact David & Clara @ [96705390](tel:96705390) or mewkend@gmail.com