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 PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS  
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**Let us not sleep as the rest do, but stay alert and sober**

This Sunday's readings point to how leading a responsible life would look like. The first reading from Proverbs paints the image of how a worthy wife looks like. She is someone who brings her husband good all the days of her life. The reading does not refer to wives alone as all of us who are the disciples of Christ are called to do the same. The second reading from Thessalonians points to the importance of being alert and reminds us that we are children of the light and not of darkness. It exhorts us to stay alert and sober. This is echoed by the gospel reading which points us to what duty and responsibility mean. This is illustrated by the example of the 3 servants who were given talents and we see how each one of them used them.

As disciples of Christ, we are all entrusted with talents. Those who use them well see their talents multiplied while those who are hesitant like the servant with one talent, hide it and due to disuse, may even lose it. Those who are generous with their time and talents will prosper while those who are closed would increasingly find their world shrinking before them.

It is the same with our faith. The more we practise it, the more convicted and passionate we become. Thus, it is important that we do not "sleep as the rest do, but stay alert and sober". But this requires discipline.

Discipline is something that comes with practice. I struggle to keep up with daily readings and prayer time but I know that my relationship with Christ forms the bedrock of my existence. So, what I do is to meditate on a verse as a daily mantra throughout the day. It keeps me focused and grounded despite the challenges of daily life.

Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect."

This verse has opened up my mind to possibilities and removed the shackles of limitations. Very often, our mind deceives us to run away from our difficulties and challenges, to take the easy way out but our Lord wants us to use our talents - the talents that He has given us to overcome these challenging moments. Challenges are opportunities for us to exercise our talents so that they can multiply. In doing so, we bring glory to Him.

Let us not be tempted by drowsiness and the urge to sleep away our challenges. Instead, let our minds be transformed so that we can stay alert and sober, and multiply our talents for the Lord's coming.

**Reflection by Hope**

# Novena notes



33<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Sunday  
 Year A  
 19 November 2017

**Readings & Responses for the Week**

Sun, 19 November	Prov 31:10-13,19-20,30-31; 1 Th 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 O blessed are those who fear the Lord.
Mon, 20 November	1 Mac 1:10-15,41-43,54-57,62-64; Lk 18:35-43 Give me life, O Lord, and I will do your will eternal.
Tue, 21 November Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Zec 2:14-173; Mt 12:46-50 The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy is his name!
Wed, 22 November St Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr	2 Mac 7:1,20-31; Lk 19:11-28 I shall be filled, when I awake, with the sight of your glory, O Lord.
Thu, 23 November St Clement I, Pope & Martyr St Columban, Abbot	1 Mac 2:15-29; Lk 19:41-44 I will show God's salvation to the upright.
Fri, 24 November St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest & Companions, Martyrs	1 Mac 4:36-37,52-59; Lk 19:45-48 We praise your glorious name, O Lord.
Sat, 25 November St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr	1 Mac 6:1-13; Lk 20:27-40 I will rejoice in your saving help, O Lord.

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

## "DAWN Skill Development Programme for foreign domestic workers"

Registration is open for the following courses:

Courses on Baking, Cooking, Cake Decoration, Sewing and Handicraft from January 2018 till June 2018.

Caregiving Course will be conducted on 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month.

Dates : 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017

Time : 10 am to 2 pm

Venue: DAWN,

Good Shepherd Place,  
9, Lorong 8, Toa Payoh,  
Singapore 319253.

Contact: 96702880 (Suzeth)  
or 82333728 (Sr. Barbara)

## Novena Church Carpark

Please note that cars will have to double park for all Novena Devotions and Masses. Carpark Wardens will be there to assist you and direct you. We seek your co-operation with them, kindly remove your car immediately after the session.

## Advent Novena

Our Advent Novena to prepare for Christmas will begin on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017. The Theme for this special Novena is: "When A Child Is Born." All are welcome and bring along your family and friends.

**28 Oct : We are Children of God**

**4 Nov : Dependence and Trust**

**11 Nov : Innocence and Purity**

**18 Nov : Humility and Wonder**

**25 Nov : Growth and Maturity**

**2 Dec : Discipline and Obedience**

**9 Dec : Teaching and Learning**

**16 Dec : Honour and Respect**

**23 Dec : Jesus: A Child is Born**



by Catholic Foundation

There will be a second collection on Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The proceeds are to fund the many organisations in the Archdiocese involved in family projects and other initiatives. Please give generously. Thank you



## Donations for our new pews

The pews give us the place to sit in silence, pray and worship.

Your gift would be etched on a plaque affixed to the side of the pews.

Brochures can be obtained from the Reception desk.

## CHIJ St. Theresa's Convent

Come join in The Theresian Experience!

CHIJ St. Theresa's Convent :  
The Light on The Hill

Open House : Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup>  
November 2017

Time : 9am - 1.30pm

Venue : 160 Lower Delta Road  
Singapore 099138

For more information, please  
visit the school website :

<http://www.chijsttheresasconvent.moe.edu.sg/>

## Maintenance of the new church

Now that our building fund target has been met, all further donations will go towards our Church Maintenance Fund.

You can donate by cheque. You can now also donate via GIRO.

Kindly issue your cheque payable to:

**Redemptorist Fathers Maintenance Fund.**

Those who wish to donate via GIRO, please obtain the GIRO Form from the Reception desk.

Our credit card machine can now accept donations to the Maintenance Fund via Pay Wave.

Thank you very much for your generous support.