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 PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS
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Jesus Gives Eternal Life

The theme for our Lenten Novena this year is “Jesus gives eternal life.” In the seven signs from the Gospel of John that we reflected upon, Jesus Christ is present with people through their struggles in life. The couple at Cana had run out of wine – our lives are starved of joy. The cripple man at the pool of Bethesda has waited 38 years for healing – we suffer the pain of illness. 5000 people have no food – millions in our world today face poverty and hunger. Martha and Mary mourn the loss of their brother Lazarus – death remains the ultimate question that leaves us in despair and emptiness.

In the Gospel of Easter Sunday, we are told the disciples ‘had failed to understand the teaching of Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.’ When we are suffering, when there is no joy, when we are sick, when we are hungry and when we face the loss of death, we can give in to despair. Maybe God has abandoned us and there is no hope. The resurrection of Jesus and our celebration of Easter is a reminder of the hope our faith gives us. The Exsultet proclaims: ‘This is the night, when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.’ Jesus Christ has transformed our despair into hope and our death into the fullness of eternal life – this is the heart of our faith.

In the Acts, Peter tells Cornelius that we are witnesses to this faith. To how Jesus lived, what he taught, how he died and how God raised him from the dead. The Easter Vigil began with the Service of Light. The Easter candle, the light of Christ, is carried into the darkness of the church and our lives. As we receive the light of Christ, we pass that light to others, and soon, the darkness is overcome by the light. The Risen Christ has transformed our sadness into joy, has healed our illness, has filled our emptiness and hunger and in the face of death, has given us hope of eternal life. We are witnesses to that. Here at Novena Church, our mission is to be witnesses to the healing, hope and life that the Risen Christ brings.

After the resurrection of Jesus – how can life be the same again? In our suffering, sickness, hunger and even death, there is hope.

After the resurrection of Jesus – how can death be the same again? It is not the end, but a beginning of a fuller and eternal life. The Lord is Risen – Alleluia.

The Redemptorists wish all of you and your families a Blessed Easter.

Reflection by Gerard Louis CSsR



Readings & Responses for the Week

Easter Sunday
 Year B
 1 April 2018

Sun, 1 April	Ac 10:34,37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9 This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.
Mon, 2 April	Ac 2:14,22-33; Mt 28:8-15 Preserve me, Lord, I take refuge in you.
Tue, 3 April	Ac 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18 The Lord fills the earth with his love.
Wed, 4 April	Ac 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35 Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Thu, 5 April	Ac 3:11-26; Lk 24:34-48 How great is your name, O Lord our God, through all the earth!
Fri, 6 April	Ac 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14 The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
Sat, 7 April	Ac 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15 I will thank you, Lord, for you have given answer.

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

Revised Carpark Charges

Cars

15 minutes Grace Period

Monday to Friday (5.00am to 5.00pm)

- 1st hour or part thereof - \$1.50

Subsequent 30 minutes or part thereof - \$0.50

Per entry after 5.00pm - \$2.50

Saturday, Sunday and Public Holiday (5.00am to 5.00pm)

- 1st hour or part thereof - \$1.50

Subsequent 30 minutes or part thereof - \$0.50

Per entry after 5.00pm - \$2.50

Motor Cycles

15 minutes Grace Period

Monday to Friday (6.00am to 6.00pm)

- 1st hour or part thereof - \$0.80

Per entry after 6.00pm - \$1.50

Saturday, Sunday and Public Holiday (6.00am to 5.00pm)

- 1st hour or part thereof - \$0.80

Per entry after 5.00pm - \$1.50

RCIA Programme

We are starting our new RCIA Programme. It will be from 3rd July 2018 to 31st May 2019. RCIA is for adults - 18 years and above, who are interested to know more about the Catholic faith. The application form can be obtained at the Church Office. The closing date for application is on 31st May 2018.

Society of St Vincent de Paul

There will be a second collection on Sunday, 1st April 2018 for our Friends-In-Need. Kindly give your generous support.



Convent of the Holy Infant Jesus (Katong) Primary

CHIJ Katong (Primary) will be celebrating the school's 88th anniversary with a carnival on the school grounds on Saturday 30 June 2018. They will be here on 7 and 8 April to sell their carnival tickets. Please give them your generous support.



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 Office.



“Rejoice! The Lord is Risen.”

Happy & Blessed Easter.

From: The Redemptorist Community

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.

Tagalog Mass

Please take note there will be a Tagalog Mass on 8th April at 12 noon.