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 PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS
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Do not be afraid; only have faith

Once in a while, we are faced with the dreadful reality of illness, loss and death. Perhaps all of us have had the experience of losing someone or journeying with a family as they face loss. We are confronted by our mortality. Perhaps many may ask why a good and loving God would allow this situation to persist. If Jesus has risen from the dead and conquered death then why is there still suffering?

In the Gospel today, Jairus the synagogue official is confronted by the terminal illness of his beloved daughter. It is one thing for a person to live a long and full life but the suffering and death of a child seems all the more meaningless and cruel. It appears to be totally random and meaningless.

Just as we question the mystery of suffering today, the Book of Wisdom - written just a few decades before Christ - reflects on the mystery of suffering. During that time, the Israelites had faced centuries of political oppression. Why was this happening? Wisdom tells us that death was not God's doing. God had created us in His own image - to be with him forever.

The Bible does not give us clear answers, but it does encourage us to place our faith in a good and loving God who created us to enjoy an eternal happiness in this world and in the next. St. Paul reminds the Corinthians that the Son gave up his immortality to take on our human nature and to accompany us through the ups and downs of life. *'Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich but he became poor for your sake.'*

In the Gospel, Jairus' only hope is to place his faith in Jesus. He falls at Jesus' feet and pleads with him: *'Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.'* As they are on the way to Jairus' house, even the news of the girl's death does not stop Jesus. *'Do not be afraid, only have faith.'* As they arrive at the house, Jesus takes the child by the hand and raises her to life again.

Ultimately, our faith does not give us answers but offers us a message of hope. That hope is based on our faith in a God who created us in love and in love wants us to share eternal life with Him: then life and death cannot be meaningless. Jesus reminds us: *'Do not be afraid; only have faith.'*

Reflection by Gerard Louis, CSSR

Novena notes



13th Sunday of Ordinary Time
 Year B
 1 July 2018

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 1 July	Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24; 2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15; Mk 5:21-43 I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.
Mon, 2 July	Am 2:6-10,13-16; Mt 8:18-22 Mark this, you who never think of God.
Tue, 3 July St. Thomas, Apostle	Eph 2: 19-22; Jn 20:24-29 Go out to the world; proclaim the Good News.
Wed, 4 July St. Elizabeth of Portugal	Am 5:14-15,21-24; Mt 8:28-34 I will show God's salvation to the upright.
Thu, 5 July St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest	Am 7:10-17; Mt 9:1-8 The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just.
Fri, 6 July St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr	Am 8:4-6,9-12; Mt 9:9-13 Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Sat, 7 July	Am 9:11-15; Mt 9:14-17 The Lord speaks peace to his people.

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

On the façade of the Church (facing Thomson Road). We have 4 stained-glass panels depicting the Four Evangelists.

The first two Evangelists are :

Matthew



Mark



Matthew, is represented by a human figure.

Mark, is represented by a lion.

Novena in preparation for Annual Procession 2018

The Novena in preparation for our Annual Procession will begin on Saturday, 7th July 2018. The Theme for this special Novena is: "Called To Love!" All are welcome and bring along your family and friends.

7 July : Love is always Patient and Kind

14 July : Love is not Envious

21 July : Love is not Boastful or Conceited

28 July : Love is not Selfish

4 Aug : Love is not Resentful

11 Aug : Love Delights in the Truth

18 Aug : Love is always ready to Excuse and to Trust

25 Aug : Love is always ready to Hope

1 Sept : Love Endures to the End

Novena Annual Procession

The Annual Novena Procession will be on Sunday, 2nd September 2018 at 6.00pm.

Peter's Pence Collection

There will be a second collection for Peter's Pence this weekend. Please give 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.

Safety Checks

For our peace of mind and the safety of all, our Ministers of Hospitality will be carrying out a simple check of bags and bulky items being brought into the Church.

Please give them your full cooperation. Thank you.

Solemnity of The Most Holy Redeemer - 15th July 2018

This is the Titular Feast of The Redemptorists.

There will be a con-celebration and the renewal of their vows at the 10am Mass on Sunday, 15th July 2018. Please continue to pray for them and also pray for more vocations to the Redemptorist Congregation.

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.

No Eating and Drinking inside the Church, please.

