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**Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of Eternal Life**

My 66<sup>th</sup> birthday just went by. It gave me the opportunity to celebrate and reflect on my life. Looking back, I do wish I had read and understood better the reply of Peter to Jesus when I was younger. Master, to whom shall we go? *You have the words of eternal life.*

Yes, when I was younger and fresh out of school, like most of my peers in that era, I had the ambition to get out of poverty and to make something of my life. I worked hard, built equity, got married and raised a family. In the process, I forgot to read the Bible and my attendance at Mass and church was low on the list of my priorities.

Roadblocks started to appear in the quest for personal advancement in my career. I missed out on promotions in the workplace. I even experienced retrenchment. Making a career switch later in life was also challenging. On the home front, relationships became fragile and tense.

Thankfully, I found my footing again and by his grace, I was able to cope better with the emotional upheavals. An important lesson I have learnt is that while I may forget Jesus, he will never forget me.

I can imagine how Jesus must have felt saddened to see many of his followers leaving him, when the journey became tough. He may have also have been exhausted by the daily grind of teaching the people, healing the sick, and attending to the needs of the crowds constantly milling around him. Perhaps he must have sensed that his Twelve chosen apostles were also thinking of leaving him. Hence, he asked them if they were staying or going. *What about you, do you want to go away too?*

We all need someone to accompany us on our journey through this life on earth. And, who is better than our Lord, Jesus? He is our friend and our saviour to cheer us on when we are down. His teachings, recorded in the Gospels, are words that we can depend on to find comfort, inspiration and joy.

There are occasions when I feel like giving up. Working to improve my relationships and keeping my volatile emotions under control are on-going struggles for me. Yet, I need to remember that Jesus is my Master and from him I'll learn to change and grow to be a kind and prayerful person he wants me to be. Hopefully when I come to the end of my earthly journey. I'll attain the promise Jesus gave that his words will give me eternal life.

**Reflection by Ms Janet Lim**



21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time  
 Year B  
 26 August 2018

**Readings & Responses for the Week**

Sun, 26 August	Josh 24:1-2,15-17,18; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69 Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Mon, 27 August St. Monica	2 Th 1:1-5,11-12; Mt 23:13-22 Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.
Tue, 28 August St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor	2 Th 2:1-3,14-17; Mt 23:23-26 The Lord comes to rule the earth.
Wed, 29 August The Passion of St. John the Baptist	Jer 1:17-19; Mk 6:17-29 My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.
Thu, 30 August	1 Cor 1:1-9; Mt 24:42-51 I will bless your name for ever, O Lord.
Fri, 31 August	1 Cor 1:17-25; Mt 25:1-13 The Lord fills the earth with his love.
Sat, 1 September	1 Cor 26-31; Mt 25:14-30 Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

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

## 25 August - Memorial of Blessed Methodius Dominic Trcka - Redemptorist Priest and Martyr

Blessed Methodius was born in Frydlant, Moravia (now the Czech Republic) on 6 July 1886. He joined the Redemptorists in 1902 and made his profession on 25 August 1904. He was ordained in Prague on 17 July 1910. He spent the early years of his ministry as a parish missionary. His desire to work among the Greek Catholics was blessed by his superiors. He was nominated first Vice-Provincial of Michalovce in 1946. He began to work zealously to find new houses and to form young Redemptorists.



On 13 and 14 April 1950, all religious communities were suppressed by the Czech government. Father Methodius was arrested, tortured and condemned to twelve years imprisonment.

He was suffering from pneumonia contracted during solitary confinement which was imposed on him for singing a Christmas carol. As a result of those harsh conditions, he contracted tuberculosis. He died on 23 March 1959. He was first interred in the prison cemetery and then in 1969 his remains were transferred to the Redemptorist plot in the cemetery of Michalovce. Pope John Paul II proclaimed him to be Blessed Dominic Methodius on 4 November 2001.

## Novena Youth Rally

Theme : Unstoppable Love

Inviting all youths aged 13 to 30. Join us for an evening of worship and praise on Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, from 7pm to 10pm, the day after our annual procession as we soak in the plentiful, crazy and unstoppable redemption of our Lord. Love knows no boundaries and the LORD is calling you to experience him in a special, fun and intimate way. So come prepared to be completely mesmerized and changed by his love.

## Novena in preparation for Annual Procession 2018

The Novena in preparation for Annual Procession is in the 8<sup>th</sup> week. 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

Special heart-shaped papers will be distributed by our volunteers, please refrain from taking too many so that the rest of the congregation can get a chance to have one to write a short Thanksgiving on the front and write the Names of your families for the Consecration of Families on the back for the Annual Procession. Drop your "Hearts" in the special boxes at the front foyer and along the veranda of the Church.

## Novena Annual Procession

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

Specially printed Annual Procession Envelopes are available around the Church compound. All collections collected will be used to defray the cost of the Annual Procession. We thank you for your generous support.

Please take note there will be **NO** Sunset Mass on 1<sup>st</sup> September and **NO** Morning Masses on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018. The Church and the carpark will be "locked down" after the last Novena Devotion at 5.30pm on Saturday. The carpark will be closed to prepare for the Annual Procession after the last Novena till 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018. Carparks are available at the nearby Shopping Malls.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018, the Masses will be as usual for 6.30am and 12.15pm. There will be **NO** Evening Mass in preparation for the Youth Rally.

## Church Canteen

Please take note the canteen will be closed on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018.