

What is faith?

Faith determines how we live our lives. Some of us have faith in ourselves and do not trust others while others claim that they have faith in God. In our Christian context, the second reading from James states that

“Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.”

In Singapore, we have a popular acronym – “NATO” – “No Action Talk Only”. If we claim to love God and have faith but do not care about our family members, friends and community, how do we prove that the faith we have is alive?

The reading tells us that if there are no good works, no fruits from this faith, then it is dead. Thus, it urges us to stop paying lip service and to prove by our actions.

This ties in well with the gospel reading from Mark:

“If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me.”

Renouncing oneself can be seen at different levels. The basic level would be to be more God-centric and less self-centric. For many of us, it is already a difficult level to achieve. I confess that I belong to this category.

I feel ashamed that even though I commit to do a particular task, I often forget my deadlines and cause stress to others. I realise that I have not given Him my focus but I am distracted by the busyness of daily life. My forgetfulness is a reflection of the level of “God-centricity” and lack of care for others. I am sorry for that and at the same time I am grateful to have this revelation.

The readings today remind me that living the faith is a minute-by-minute affair, it is about being consistent and persistent, not about doing well sometimes or working with an end in mind but about enjoying doing God’s work all the time.

I am thankful for these moments and reminders from God. Faith has to be lived out actively and it can be practiced every minute.

Let’s ask for grace from the Holy Spirit to live out our faith well!

Reflection by Hope

Novena notes

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year B
16th September 2018

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 16 September	Is 50:5-9; Jm 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35 I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.
Mon, 17 September St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor	1 Cor 11:17-26,33; Lk 7:1-10 Proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes.
Tue, 18 September	1 Cor 12:12-14,27-31; Lk 7:11-17 We are his people, the sheep of his flock.
Wed, 19 September St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr	1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 7:31-35 Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.
Thu, 20 September SS. Laurent Imbert, Bishop, Jacques Chastan, Priest	1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 7:36-50 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
Fri, 21 September St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	Eph 4:1-7,11-13; Mt 9:9-13 Their word goes forth through all the earth.
Sat, 22 September	1 Cor 15:35-37,42-49; Lk 8:4-15 I shall walk in the presence of God in the light of the living.

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

Exaltation Of The Cross

St Alphonsus says by meditating on the crib, the cross and the Eucharist we are able to deepen our response of love for God, the Father.

In the crib, God becomes like one of us in the humanity of Jesus Christ his son, our humanity is embraced by divine love. On the cross his love is totally poured out on us, in his suffering, crucifixion and death. In the Eucharist Our Lord becomes food for us, nourishment and strength for our earthly journey.



The cross on the coat of arms of the Redemptorists points to the work of redemption by Jesus Christ. Redemption by the death of Jesus is not in vain because by embracing the cross and doing the will of the Father Jesus, shows us love and reconciles us to the Father. And so we glory in the Cross of Christ.

Sowers Fund Raising

Bring home a copy of the memorable moments captured in print at this year's annual procession in honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help held in our new church for the very first time. They are now on sale at the Plaza area, behind the statue of St. Alphonsus.

Please give your generous support to the Sowers Ministry who are selling these photographs on 15th, 16th and 22nd September as part of fund-raising efforts in their weekly outreach to the elderly and less fortunate in the homes.

Church Canteen

Please take note the canteen will be closed on 29th September 2018.

A Quick Journey Through The Bible

An invitation from Novena Bible Apostolate to this 8 Wednesdays study

Dates: 26 Sep 2018 - 14 Nov 2018
Time: 7.45pm - 9.30pm
Venue: The Scala
(Church Basement 2)
Fee: \$15 (A Student Workbook will be provided)

This study gives you an excellent introduction and overview of the Bible, covering Salvation History from Genesis to Revelation through an easy narrative approach.

For more information please email bible.novena@gmail.com or contact Bob (96263824), Matthew (97461376) or Joe Mike (97865433)

Examination Mass

"Do your best and Let God do the rest" -Colossians 3:23-24

The Redemptorist Youth Ministry welcomes all youths, parents and teachers to join in a Eucharistic Celebration to pray for the upcoming End-Of-Year Exams.

Theme : Believe
Venue : Main Church
Date : 28th September 2018
Time : 8pm

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.



Tagalog Mass

Please take note there will be a Tagalog Mass on 23rd September at 12 noon.