



300 Thomson Road, Singapore 307653
 T 6255 2133
 F 6356 9910
 E secretariatcssr@novenachurch.com
 W novenachurch.com
 PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS
 novenaletterscssr@novenachurch.com

Love God, Love Your Neighbour

The *Shema Yisrael* is the most sacred prayer to the Jewish people.

Listen, Israel! The LORD our God is the one LORD. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words be written in your heart.

This prayer is recited at the Sabbath service in the synagogue. Observant Jews consider it a *mitzvah*, or commandment to recite the *Shema* twice daily. The words of the *Shema* are placed in a *mezuzah* above the doorposts and in the *tefillin*, or phylacteries that are worn on the arm and the forehead. The *Shema* constantly reminds them that there is but one God and we worship the one God alone.

The Book of Deuteronomy is one of the most fascinating books of the Bible. Even though it is the fifth book of the Old Testament, it was only compiled at a much later point in history. Deuteronomy means 'second law' or 'repeated law.' It is a reinterpreted history of Israel that was meant to remind the Israelite people that as they enter the Promised Land, the land of Canaan, they are not to worship the Canaanite gods. They are to remember who their God is and what God did for them in Egypt.

The Book of Deuteronomy also calls us to "fear the Lord." It is a misunderstood phrase. Certainly, it is not to live in terror of God or to say that we practice our faith out of fear of punishment. Fear of the Lord is a very different idea. Perhaps we could say that it is a fear of losing our relationship with God and so we do not want to do anything that may jeopardise that relationship. This fear of the Lord then develops into love. When we love God, we want to do what is right, we want to live our lives according to God's will and we want to achieve the destiny that God has for us. We ask, "How does God want me to live my life?" The law is not only a rule that we are forced to observe under pain of sin. The law is now written on our heart. The love of God now inspires us to love our neighbour.

Unfortunately, the religious leaders in Jesus' time had multiplied the rules of Judaism and created numerous interpretations of the Law, confusing many people. When the scribe came to Jesus, he wanted to know which is the greatest commandment. Jesus quotes the *shema* of Deuteronomy and adds that our love of God, if it is real, is shown in the love of our neighbour. Maybe it really is that simple.

Reflection by Gerard Louis, CSsR

Novena notes



31st Sunday of Ordinary Time
 Year B
 4th November 2018

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 4 November	Dt 6:2-6; Hebr 7:23-28; Mk 12:28-34 I love you, Lord, my strength.
Mon, 5 November	Phil 2:1-4; Lk 14:12-14 Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.
Tue, 6 November Deepavali (Public Holiday)	Phil 2:5-11; Lk 14:15-24 You are my praise, O Lord, in the great assembly.
Wed, 7 November	Phil 2:12-18; Lk 14:25-33 The Lord is my light and my help.
Thu, 8 November	Phil 3:3-8; Lk 15:1-10 Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Fri, 9 November The Dedication Of The Lateran Basilica	Ex 47:1-2,8-9,12; Jn 2:13-22 The waters of a river give joy to God's city, the holy place where the Most High dwells.
Sat, 10 November St. Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor	Phil 4:10-19; Lk 16:9-15 Happy the man who fears the 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

Advent Novena

Our Advent Novena to prepare for Christmas has begun. The Theme for this special Novena is, "His Name shall be....." All are welcome. Bring along your family and friends.

27 Oct : Jesus (Introduction)

3 Nov : Son of David

10 Nov : Son of the Most High

17 Nov : Mighty God

24 Nov : The Christ

1 Dec : Wonderful Counselor

8 Dec : Prince of Peace

15 Dec : Saviour

22 Dec : Immanuel

World Youth Day 2019 Fund-Raising Project

To help subsidise the cost for our Novena Church youth leaders to go for World Youth Day in January 2019, they will be selling various items over the next 1 month. They are selling limited edition Novena Church Desktop Calendars 2019. Please give them your generous support.

"DAWN"

Registration is now open for two courses "DAWN" is offering:

a. The first is a **Skill Development Programme for Foreign Domestic Workers** on Baking, Cooking, Cake Decoration, Sewing and Handicraft. The course is from January till June 2019.

b. The second is a **Care-Giving** course scheduled to begin on 25 Nov 2018. It will be held on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month.

Please follow the registration schedule below.

Dates : 4, 11, 18 & 25 Nov 2018.
Time : 10 am to 2 pm
Venue : DAWN,
Good Shepherd Place,
9, Lorong 8, Toa Payoh,
Singapore 319253.

Contact : 8269 4546 (Rowena) or
8233 3728 (Sr. Barbara)

Deepavali, 6th November 2018

Please take note: There will be **NO** lunch time Mass on Tuesday, 6th November 2018 being the Deepavali Public Holiday. Masses will be at 8am and 6.30pm.



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.

Tagalog Mass

Please take note there will be a Tagalog Mass on 11th November at 12 noon.

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.

