



The Good News Is Fulfilled Even As We Listen

When new leaders take office they usually give an inaugural speech in which they state their plans and policies. Jesus does something similar as he starts his mission. He reads the passage from Isaiah and proclaims that this text is the blueprint of his mission. More than that, he declares that it is already being fulfilled even as they listen to him. In him God's favour is found and he becomes the Good News.

Perhaps this story will help us understand and appreciate how Jesus is the Good News as we listen to him today.

Once there was an owner of a bank whose customers had taken out loans with high interest repayments. Initially, all was well and they met with their repayments on time. But, as business dwindled and the economy slowed down they found themselves falling into debt. Even though the owner was a good man, the customers were worried. They owed him so much that there was no way they could ever repay their debts.

In time, the owner appointed a new manager. He started off his work by going around to visit the customers and be with them to find out how they were coping with the problems and struggles in their lives. Then, one day he called them all together, saying that he had a message from the owner for them.

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This was the day they dreaded most as they came together. They were afraid, anxious, and apprehensive. They expected to hear the bad news. But, instead, the manager said, "I've got good news for you. The owner has cancelled your debts. From this day you can start all over again." The customers were overjoyed. Their hearts, once weighed down and burdened with fear, were suddenly light and free and filled with thanksgiving towards the owner for being gracious and generous.

This is how we can see Jesus being the Good News for us today. He has come from God to be with us. He knows our problems and struggles. He is aware of our desire and the attempts we make to do what is good and right. So, he redeems us. He cancels our debt. He forgives our sins. He sets our hearts free. He brings us the favour of God. May we listen to him and let the Good News be fulfilled in our lives as he says to each of us:

***Do not be afraid!
 My friend, your sins are forgiven.
 Be healed.
 Your faith has saved you.
 Come, follow me.
 Peace be with you.***

Reflection by Clement Lee, CSSR

Novena notes



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Year C
 27th January 2019

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 27 January	Neh 8:2-6,8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4,4:14-21 Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.
Mon, 28 January St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor	Hebr 9:15,24-28; Mk 3:22-30 Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders.
Tue, 29 January	Hebr 10:1-10; Mk 3:31-35 Here I am, Lord I come to do your will.
Wed, 30 January	Hebr 10:11-18; Mk 4:1-20 You are a priest for ever, a priest like Melchizedek of old.
Thu, 31 January St. John Bosco, Priest	Hebr 10:19-25; Mk 4:21-25 Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.
Fri, 1 February	Hebr 10:32-39; Mk 4:26-34 The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.
Sat, 2 February Presentation Of The Lord	Mal 3:1-4; Hebr 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 Who is the king of Glory? It is 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

World Day For Consecrated Life, 2nd February

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on 2 February. This feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the Light of the world. Those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

A day to pray for all consecrated persons on 2 February at 7am Mass.



Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, 2nd February

The feast was first observed in the Eastern Church as “The Encounter”. In the sixth century, it began to be observed in the West: in Rome with a more penitential character and in Gaul (France) with solemn blessings and processions of candles, popularly known as “Candlemas”. The presentation of the Lord concludes the celebration of the Nativity and with the offerings of the Virgin Mother and the prophecy of Simeon, the events now point towards Easter.

“In obedience to the Old Law, the Lord Jesus, the first-born, was presented in the Temple by his Blessed Mother and his foster father. This is another ‘epiphany’ celebration insofar as the Christ Child is revealed as the Messiah through the canticle and words of Simeon and the testimony of Anna the prophetess. Christ is the light of the nations, hence the blessing and procession of candles on this day.

Candles For Blessing

Please bring along your candles for blessing at 7am Mass on 2 February. Blessing will take place after the homily.

Church Canteen

Please take note the canteen will be closed on 2nd and 9th February 2019.

Donations

We have now made cashless donations to the Church possible for your ease and convenience.

You may use the following steps if you would like to make a donation electronically or via a cashless method.



You may wish to donate to the following:

Please scan the QR-Code that corresponds with your intention:

Maintenance Fund



Redemptorist Seminary



Redemptorist Community



Novena Church Altar Servers Annual Recruitment Drive 2019

The Novena Church Altar Servers are having their annual recruitment drive. Interested young men may pick up a form from the reception office. Registration closes on 30th January.

Chinese New Year Mass Times

Chinese New Year Eve - 4th February

Rosary will start at 9.30pm

Mass at 10pm

Please come in Red attire and bring 2 oranges for exchange.

1st day of Chinese New Year - 5th February

2nd day of Chinese New Year - 6th February

Mass at 8am and 6.30pm.

Please take note that there will be **NO** lunch time Masses on 5th and 6th February being public holidays.

