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 PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS
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Resolutions and Commitment

“What must we do?”

Several groups of people asked John the Baptist this question when he was baptizing at the River Jordan. (Luke 3:10-18). They were tax collectors, soldiers, and all the people who came for baptism. John dispensed practical advice and told each in turn: Be generous and share, Be honest in your dealings with others, Be content with what you have.

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord and the beginning of his public ministry. Jesus knew what he must do and he went about tirelessly and even in the face of rejection and disbelief. He was resolved and was committed. On this day, we too recall our own baptisms and our baptismal promises. So what must we do, as baptized Christians and disciples of Jesus?

St. John in his 1st Letter sets out God’s commandments (1 John 3: 21-24) very simply: *“That we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.”* The first calls for faith, the second calls for a commitment.

But like all my resolutions made at the start of every New Year, my resolution to be more patient, more merciful or more forgiving quickly breaks down when I have to deal with certain people – at home,

school, work or in church. They just irritate and make me angry. My commitment weakens, and after some time, I just want to give up trying to be the better person. But God is calling me to be the better person – the person who is prepared to overlook the hurt, the person who is ready to forgive, the person who is willing to help and support. God is calling me to be the person who can and who will love.

So at the start of this New Year, I decide to make a resolution (again). I decided that I am not going to give up trying to love and every time I fail, I will get up again and try again. Small steps each time, and see how I progress each time I get up and try again.

“If our expectations, if our fondest prayers and dreams, are not realized, then we should all bear in mind that the greatest glory of living lies not in never falling but in rising every time you fall.” (South African President Nelson Mandela, September 1988.)

Perhaps, when my life on earth is done and I stand before the Lord, the Lord may see my resolutions and commitment and declare as did when Jesus arose from the River Jordan: *“You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.”*

Reflection by Ros

Novena notes



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Year C
 10th February 2019

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 10 February	Is 6:1-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11 Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.
Mon, 11 February Our Lady of Lourdes	Gen 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56 May the Lord rejoice in his works!
Tue, 12 February	Gen 1:20-2:4; Mk 7:1-13 How great is your name, O Lord our God, through all the earth!
Wed, 13 February	Gen 2:4-9,15-17; Mk 7:14-23 Bless the Lord, my soul!
Thu, 14 February SS. Cyril and Methodius	Gen 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30 O blessed are those who fear the Lord.
Fri, 15 February	Gen 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37 Happy the man whose offence is forgiven.
Sat, 16 February	Gen 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10 O Lord, you have been my refuge from one generation to the next.

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

11 February, Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

In 1858, Bernadette Soubirous reported a vision of Our Lady. A simple 14-year-old peasant girl, with no formal education, Bernadette claimed she saw “a petite damsel,” in white, with a golden rosary and blue belt fastened around her waist, and two golden roses at her feet.

Similar apparitions of the “Lady” were reported on seventeen occasions that year.



In subsequent visitations she heard the lady speak to her, saying “I am the Immaculate Conception”, and asking that a chapel be built there. At first, ridiculed, questioned, and belittled by Church officials and contemporaries, Bernadette insisted on her vision. Eventually the Church believed her and she was canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1933.

Lenten Novena

Our Lenten Novena to prepare for Easter will begin on Saturday, 16th February 2019. The Theme for this special Novena is: “The Three Pillars to Holiness” All are welcome and bring along your family and friends.

16 Feb : The Three Pillars to Holiness

- 23 Feb : Prayer : Our Talking to God
- 2 Mar : Prayer : Our Listening to God
- 9 Mar : Prayer : Our Living with God
- 16 Mar : Fasting : Our Physical Hungers and Needs
- 23 Mar : Fasting : Our Spiritual Hungers and Needs
- 30 Mar : Almsgiving : Our Works of Charity
- 6 Apr : Almsgiving : Our Works of Justice and Peace
- 13 Apr : Growing and Living in Holiness

Chinese Lenten Rally 2019

ACAMS will be organizing a Lenten Rally in Novena Church. The Theme for this Lenten Rally is : “Communion In Church”

The rally consists of 5 nights & will start at 7.45pm till 9.45pm

- 13 Mar - Fr. Henry Siew
- 20 Mar - Fr. John Chen Binshan
- 27 Mar - Fr. Peter Zhang
- 3 Apr - Fr. Eugene Lee
- 10 Apr - Fr. Terence Wee



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

