

The Lord is Risen!

How wonderful it is that we can come together as a community to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord! My journey during this Lent was especially meaningful. The Lord gave me a new pair of eyes to see life anew, to break old habits and attitudes.

The gospel reading for Easter is also very much centred on sight and the response of the different characters. Mary of Magdala was the first to see the stone being moved away from the tomb and she went to call Simon Peter and John. She can be seen as one playing a supporting role in the community and looking towards the leaders for guidance and direction.

Then we see the reactions of Simon Peter and John. Simon Peter was very much a spontaneous man. He ran right into the tomb. John, by comparison, was more measured and contemplative. He was the first to reach the tomb, bent down and saw the linen cloths on the ground and was probably trying to sense-make, reflecting on what he saw before running into the tomb to see another set of linen cloth that had been wrapped round the head of Jesus. When John saw that, he believed.

I am grateful for the empty tomb. It is testimony that our Lord has risen. Because He lives, we can face tomorrow. There is a blessing and lesson to everything that happens and for a good cause. With eyes of gratitude, every moment can be a celebration.

300 Thomson Road, Singapore 307653

T 6255 2133

F 6356 9910

E secretariatcssr@novenachurch.com

W novenachurch.com

PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

novenaletterscssr@novenachurch.com

Recently, I experienced a close shave. I was travelling in a taxi and not paying much attention as I was busy sending messages on my handphone. Suddenly, the taxi made a very sharp swing to the right. I was startled. I looked into the mirror and the driver looked guilty but he did not say anything. Within the next 3 seconds, his head was bent and he appeared to have gone into a mini sleep mode. My first instinct was to pray the "Hail Mary" as he appeared to be losing control. Within the next 10 seconds, he almost kissed the bumper of the car in front. We were travelling on the Pan Island Expressway. It was not possible for me to alight. I just continued praying. The driver continued to "fall asleep" at short intervals briefly despite my eagle eyes hawking at him.

It struck me that my life was not in my hands. I could have perished minutes ago when he made that sharp swing over the road divider and the cab could have plunged into the side road.

Eventually, we reached my destination safely. I surprised myself that I did not berate him or report to the cab company for his dangerous driving. Instead, I told him to take a break to have his meal first. It struck me that he was trying to earn a living and it was sufficient for me to tell him twice to have a meal. I think he would have understood my intent.

I gave thanks to the Lord and Mother Mary for saving me from peril. We will never know when our time on earth will end. Thus, we can choose to make every day Easter, choose to love because God is Love. Blessed Easter!

Reflection by Hope

Novena notes

Easter Sunday

Year C

21st April 2019

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 21 April Easter Sunday	Ac 10:34,37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9 This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.
Mon, 22 April	Ac 2:14,22-33; Mt 28:8-15 Preserve me, Lord, I take refuge in you.
Tue, 23 April	Ac 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18 The Lord fills the earth with his love.
Wed, 24 April	Ac 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35 Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Thu, 25 April	Ac 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48 How great is your name, O Lord our God, through all the earth!
Fri, 26 April	Ac 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14 The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
Sat, 27 April	Ac 4:13-21 Mk 16:9-15 I will thank you, Lord, for you have given answer.

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

21st April, Easter Sunday

Easter is the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. It is celebrated on Sunday, and marks the end of Holy Week, the end of Lent, the last day of the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday), and is the beginning of the Easter season of the liturgical year.

As we know from the Gospels, Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day following his crucifixion, which would be Sunday. His resurrection marks the triumph of good over evil, sin and death. It is the singular event which proves that those who trust in God and accept Christ will be raised from the dead.

Since Easter represents the fulfillment of God's promises to mankind, it is the most important holiday on the Christian calendar.

In the Gospels, the precise details of the Easter narrative vary slightly, but none of these variances are critical to the main story. In fact, it is argued that the variances are simply matters of style and not substance. Despite the variances, the key aspects of the Easter story all match. Above all, they agree that the tomb of Christ was indeed empty, which is the most essential fact.



RCIA English Programme

We will be starting our new RCIA Programme. It will begin on 2nd July 2019 to 19th May 2020. RCIA is for adults - 18 years and above, who are interested to know more about the Catholic faith. The application form can be obtained at the Church Office. The closing date for application is on 18th May 2019.

RCIA Chinese Programme

The New Chinese RCIA programme (2019/2020) for Adults will begin on 29th June 2019.

Application forms can be obtained at the Church Office.

Tagalog Mass

Please take note there will be a Tagalog Mass on 28th April 2019 at 12 noon.

Exam Mass

Feeling hopeless for exams? The Redemptorist Youth Ministry will be having their biannual Exam mass. Bring your friends, teachers and parents to come join us at 8pm on 25th April Thursday. Open your hearts and allow Christ to be your hope and guidance during this exam period!

Youth Retreat

Our Redemptorist Mission Team is conducting a Retreat for Youth aged 14-17 to which all are welcome to learn about leadership qualities from the Gospels.

Dates : 3rd to 6th June 2019

Price : \$100

Venue : Majodi Centre (Johor Bahru)

Come and experience a Pilgrim leadership Retreat. Learn how to become an authentic witness. Learn how to share the joy of knowing Jesus. Return renewed with faith, hope and love and hearts ready for action.