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Novena notes



16th Sunday of Ordinary Time
 Year C
 21 July 2019

The Feast of the Most Holy Redeemer

The Redemptorist community celebrates this great feast today. Indeed, we have much to give thanks to our Redeemer who loves us so unreservedly.

As a convert growing up in this community for the last 20 years, I am grateful for all the redemptive experiences and love showered upon me. I remember how I started attending my first novena crying my heart out over the insurmountable problems I had to resolve for my family.

Thus, the words in the first reading from Isaiah resonate with me – “Listen to me that you may have life”, “seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near”.

Indeed, I was seeking Him desperately. There was a call to join the RCIA during my second novena session. I took the form and made a bargain with God. I asked Him to provide my family with a home and I would sign up for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) programme. Desperate as I was, my family could not find a suitable place to stay and it was nearing the RCIA sign-up deadline. By a leap of faith, I faxed the form over to the church office on that Thursday and on Sunday, we found the place where the family would stay for the next 20 years of our lives!

I began my faith journey with many questions and physical obstacles impeded me from attending the RCIA regularly. The community was patient, understanding, reassuring and caring. I questioned much as I sought to understand. I needed to seek the truth and the light as I did not want to continue to live in darkness anymore.

After the Rite of Acceptance, my journey of faith became much smoother as I opened my heart to receive His gift of life.

As it is indicated in Romans 5: 15 “... by that one person’s transgression the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one person Christ overflow for the many”. I can attest to that as I continued to journey with many in the RCIA programme, I could see the graces our Lord had showered on us all. Everyone’s journey is different but when He calls and we respond, our lives change because He gave us Himself. As companions on the journey, our lives also change and are renewed.

I am still learning to fully appreciate the breadth and depth of His love especially through the Eucharist. Its redemptive powers are beyond imagination and description. No human language would come close in communicating the love experience that is so intensely personal and intimate. Upon receipt of this, we are called to go forth and continue to share His love and redemption to the people we meet.

As lay people, we can remember not to stop at giving thanks but to continue to allow ourselves to be humble instruments of His redeeming love to one and all.

Thank you, Heavenly Father for blessing our Redemptorists and giving them the wonderful gift of preaching and administering to us. As they renew their vows today, I pray that you will continue to strengthen them in their love and mission. In Him, there is plentiful redemption!

Reflection by Hope

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 21 July Feast of the Most Holy Redeemer	Is 55:2-6; Rom 5:12-15; Jn 3:16-21 The Lord is my strength and my song.
Mon, 22 July St. Mary Magdalene	Song 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-2,11-18 For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.
Tue, 23 July St. Bridget of Sweden	Ex 14:21-15:1; Mt 12:46-50 I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!
Wed, 24 July St. Sharbel Makhlof	Ex 16:1-5,9-15; Mt 13:1-9 The Lord gave them bread from heaven.
Thu, 25 July St. James	2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28 Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.
Fri, 26 July SS. Joachim and Anne	Ex 20:1-17; Mt 13:18-23 Lord, you have the message of eternal life.
Sat, 27 July	Ex 24:3-8; Mt 13:24-30 Pay your sacrifice of thanksgiving to God.

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

Solemnity of The Most Holy Redeemer



The seal of the Congregation consists of a cross with a lance and sponge mounted on three hills. The crown over the coat of arms can be interpreted as the crown of glory that is the reward for persevering in the Congregation.

Around the seal is the motto, which translates into English, as "With Him there is Plentiful Redemption." It is based on Psalm 129/130. It speaks of what binds all Redemptorists under an honourable coat of arms that is centered on Jesus Christ, the Redeemer and under the protection of Mary.

Novena in preparation for Annual Procession 2019

The Novena in preparation for our Annual Procession has begun. The theme for this special Novena is: "Completely Yours". All are welcome and bring along your family and friends.

6 July - Completely Yours

13 July - Completely Yours: In Devotion

20 July - Completely Yours: In Worship

27 July - Completely Yours: In Mind

3 Aug - Completely Yours: In Heart

10 Aug - Completely Yours: In Service

17 Aug - Completely Yours: In Communication Through Technology

24 Aug - Completely Yours: In Beyond Borders

31 Aug - Completely Yours: In Youthful Passion

Tagalog Mass

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

Marriage Encounter Weekend

"Marriage is a project to be worked on together ... and a process of growth." - Pope Francis (*Amoris Laetitia*, no. 218, 221).

Good marriages can always be made better. To deepen and refine your couple relationship, sign up for one of the coming Marriage Encounter Weekends: 2nd to 4th Aug, 4th to 6th Oct, 1st to 3rd Nov & 6th to 8th Dec.

For more information, please contact David & Clara @ [96705390](tel:96705390) or mewkend@gmail.com

PIETA

Pieta is a support group for bereaved parents. We come together as bereaved parents - in prayer, in WORD and in faith. The session, run by bereaved parents, meets monthly to pray, reflect and break open the WORD OF GOD. We invite any parent who has lost a child (regardless of age and no matter how recent or long ago) to unite with us in faith. Our monthly session is on every 4th Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm to 9.00pm at Agape Village, Toa Payoh Lorong 8, and the next session would be held on Tuesday, 23rd July 2019.

For further information, you can contact us at pieta.singapore@gmail.com and we can also be found on facebook : <https://facebook.com/PietaSingapore>

Crossings Cafe

Crossings Café is offering all Novena Church goers a 15% discount off the food bill (excluding drinks) when dining with them. This offer is valid during the entire month of August 2019 in view of the Feast of St. Alphonsus Liguori. To enjoy this offer, all Novena Church goers have to do is to inform the staff the name of the Church when they come by Crossings Café during this period.

They are located at Catholic Centre 55 Waterloo Street Singapore 187954. They are a social enterprise café started by a group of Catholics and they provide employment to the disadvantaged and are committed to donating all profits to charity.

Cantonese Retreat 2019

Sts. Peter and Paul Cantonese Group is organizing a Cantonese Retreat on 9th August 2019 from 9am to 6pm. The theme of this retreat is "The Beatitudes". Activities include Rosary Recitation, Praise and Worship, Testimony, Healing and Holy Mass. For more information, please contact them at sts_peternpaul@singnet.com.sg