

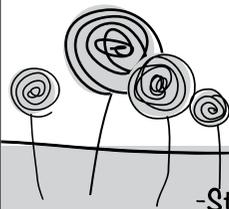
understand the real issues and challenges of the poor in Singapore? Want to discover the opportunities available for lay Catholics to play a part to help? . Be inspired by and meet leaders working in this space; including keynote speaker, Cardinal Luis Tagle, President of Caritas Internationalis.. You are invited to register for this exciting biennial conference organized by Caritas Singapore. Find out more and register at <http://www.caritas-singapore.org>

CLARITY'S 3 session introductory workshops to understand self worth, its importance, ways of loving ourselves and how to change by building the new. Saturdays (3, 17 and 24 Sept 2016). \$10 per person limited to 20 participants. To register : Call 6757 7990 or email to : registration@clarity-singapore.org

CHARIS-ACTS29 MISSION TRIP (26 Aug – 1 Sept, 2016) –Join us in building bio-sand water filtration systems with the local community in Romblon, Philippines. Slots for 9 participants only. \$670 per pax. Closing date to register: 20 July 2016. T&C apply. For more information, contact Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives Singapore (CHARIS), Victoria at victoria@charis-singapore.org or Tel: 6337-4119 or www.charis-singapore.org

Come find out at our **DIOCESAN VOCATION DISCERNMENT RETREAT**. We'll guide you and help you discern. Theme: **OPEN WIDE THE DOORS TO CHRIST** Date: 19-21 Aug '16 Venue: Immaculate Heart of Mary Retreat House 46 Kovan Road Eligibility: Single male, aged 21-35 years old Registration: Parish office OR email: seminariansonline@gmail.com OR diocesanvocations@catholic.org.sg Closing date is 12 Aug '16

**Suffering for God
is better than
working miracles.**



**Quoteworthy
-St. John of the Cross**

Sunset Mass : 5.30pm
Rosary : 4.40pm (Saturday)
Sunday Masses : 8.30am (Mandarin), 11.00am (English), 2.00pm (Cantonese), 4.00pm (English)
Weekday Masses : 7.20am and 5.30pm
Interspersory Prayer : 7.15pm (English, Thursday)
Infant Jesus Devotion : 5.30pm (Thursday, followed by Mass)
Divine Mercy Devotion : 12.30pm (Sunday Mandarin)
Sion Adorers - Holy Hour : 7.45pm - 8.45pm (Saturday)
Hour of Mercy : 3.00pm daily
Counselling @ SPP : 7.00pm - 9.00pm (Monday, call church secretariat 6337 2585 for appointment)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be administered from 5.00pm-5.20pm on weekdays in Rm 1. On weekends, it will be available at the makeshift confessional at the baptistery (back of Church) 30 mins before each weekend mass.

Parish Priest: Rev Fr JOHN CHUA OCD (email: hkchuajohn@yahoo.com), Asst Parish Priest: Rev Fr EDWARD LIM, OCD, Priests in Residence: Rev Fr TOM CURRAN, OCD, Rev Fr GREGORY HON, OCD, Rev Fr JOSEPH KOH, OCD and Fr JEFFREY TAN, OCD, General-Delegate: Rev Fr THOMAS LIM OCD, Parish Secretary: Ms Martha Loh, Parish Clerk: Ms Jannie Lui, Liturgical Co-ordinator: Alex Wong, alexdominic@gmail.com

Church Donations - Please make your cheque payable to:
 (i) Church Of Sts Peter & Paul - for contributions /donations for on-going maintenance of our Church or parish projects and Mass offerings; (ii) Church Of SPP Building Fund - for contributions/donations to our Church building fund; (iii) Carmelite Fathers for contributions/donations to the Carmelite Friars (SPP), OCD Missions, Frairs Formation. (iv) Soc of St Vincent de Paul (Conf St Peter) - for donations to the Society of St Vincent de Paul for the poor and needy.

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 Tel: +65 6337 2585 Fax: +65 6334 5414 email: sts_peternpaul@singnet.com.sg www.sppchurch.org.sg



the apostles

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 14 August 2016 Year C

READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year C) Pg 1064

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: On your right stands the queen, in garment of gold.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 15 August - **SAT** 20 August 2016

MON: EZ 24:15-24, MT 19:16-22 **TUE:** EZ 28:1-10, MT 19:23-30 **WED:** EZ 34:1-11, MT 20:1-16 **THU:** EZ 36:23-28, MT 22:1-14 **FRI:** EZ 37:1-14, MT 22:34-40 **SAT:** EZ 43:1-7AB, MT 23:1-12

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 15 August

(The Catholic Bishops Conference of Malaysia-Singapore-Brunei has moved the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (on 15 August) to Sunday 14 August this year. The 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time is not celebrated this year and the liturgy will be that for the Solemnity.)

About Today's Solemnity

The dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was proclaimed in 1950, but this observance has been celebrated on this day from middle of the fifth century. On this solemnity, we profess our belief that Mary has gone before us, body and soul, into heaven. For her, the resurrection of the dead has taken place already. And thus the Assumption is technically and “Easter feast.” God invites us to eternal life, to enjoy the glorious new creation of his Son in body, soul and spirit. Our final hope is the resurrection of our own bodies at the end of time to exist forever in this new order of creation. The Solemnity of the Assumption is our great celebration of this final hope. Mary is a pioneer for us in faith. She was the first among us to accept Jesus Christ into her life. In her bodily assumption, she is also the first fully to enjoy eternal life at the side of her risen son in the glory of heaven. Where she has gone, we hope to follow. We

rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise in her, as we turn to her to guide us to the side of her risen son who reigns in heaven.

The Lectionary for Mass: At the Vigil Mass

First Reading: Today's First Reading recounts David's enthronement of the Ark of the Covenant (the chest containing the tablets of the law) in the tent he had prepared for it. Mary, the Mother of Jesus, has traditionally been invoked as the Ark of the New Covenant; thus, the reading from 1 Chronicles is particularly appropriate as we celebrate the heavenly enthronement of the Blessed Virgin Mary who was the Ark of the Living Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 132 was sung by Jewish pilgrims as they made their way to the Temple. It recounts David's concern to establish a home for the Ark of the Covenant. Today we celebrate Mary being taken up into the heavenly Temple, enjoying her heavenly rest there with her risen and glorified son.

Second Reading: All of 1 Corinthians 15 deals with the subject of the resurrection of the body. These concluding verses celebrate the victory Jesus has won over death. Assumed into heaven, Mary is clothed with immortality.

Gospel: Today's Gospel seems to put Mary in the background. The opposite is true, though.

Information is correct at time of publication.

It brings all believers into the foreground with her. The heavenly glory she enjoys will likewise be ours if we hear God's Word and keep it.

At the Mass during the Day

First Reading: This reading from Revelation begins with the Ark of the Covenant in the Temple being visible to all, a sure sign of the end times. The ultimate struggle between the forces of evil, represented by the red dragon and the forces of good represented by the woman and her child, are played out with evil ultimately defeated and good establishing a peaceful of the Kingdom that will last forever. The woman is protected by God and the newly born son is taken up to God and designated God's "Anointed One", the ruler of all nations who brings salvation by exercising God's justice and power. On this Solemnity of the Assumption, the focus is on the pregnant woman, traditionally understood to be Mary, protected and loved by God and taken up body and soul into God's presence and Kingdom.

Responsorial Psalm 45: This wedding song between a king and his new queen used on the Solemnity of the Assumption exalts Mary as queen, lovingly chosen and protected by God, her king, establishing her as queen of heaven. The Assumption proclaims that Mary, beloved of God, is taken up to God's house to be with God forever. Throughout her life Mary attuned herself to God's will for her, and God, pleased with Mary's active response, takes her up to heaven and honours her as beloved and mother.

Second Reading: Paul asserts that Christ's Resurrection is a victory for all humanity. In Christ all of humanity is brought to light and life, no longer slaves to the darkness and death of sin. All who align themselves with Christ will rise with him. At the end times, Christ will be all in all, subjecting all things to himself, even death. The Assumption declares that after Christ own Resurrection, Mary is the first one to taste Christ's victory over death, as will all those who live, move and act the way God has modeled for us in Christ.

Gospel: The visitation of Mary to Elizabeth presents two pregnant women who have aligned themselves to God's will, praising God for the great things that he has done and will continue to do in the birth of their children. Both children will be instrumental in establishing God's reign. Mary's Magnificat, her prayer of praise and thanksgiving to God, exalts his faithful covenant love toward the lowly, God's anawim. For Mary, God manifests that faithful covenant love by reversing human values, thought patterns and ways of operating, and actualising God's values, thought patterns, and ways of operating. Mary prophetically proclaims that God is at work in the world through her, Elizabeth, and their children, to establish a new way of thinking and acting. This was God's plan from the beginning, brought to final fulfillment in these miraculous births. Today, we praise God for honouring Mary and us with such marvelous love and care.

Some Saints of the Week

St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church – 20 August

St. Bernard (1090 – 1153) joined the Cistercian abbey at Cîteaux, known for its strict and austere way of life. Within a short time he was noticed for his leadership; hence, he was appointed abbot of a new monastery at Clairvaux. His monastic vision at Clairvaux led to the foundation of several monasteries throughout France, Britain and Ireland. In solitude he wrote numerous theological and spiritual classics, including his treatise *On Loving God*, eighty-six sermons on the *Song of Songs* and a major work *On Consideration*, a reflection on papal spirituality. St. Bernard had a special devotion to Mary, earning him the titles "Our Lady's faithful chaplain" and "Mary's harper". Bernard was a prolific writer and had a great influence on the Church, giving simple homilies, reintroducing Gregorian chant into services, revising the Roman Breviary and developing a new catechism.

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PARISH NEWS

MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Mass dedicated to the souls of the faithful departed whose remains are placed in the columbarium in our church, and for their family members is celebrated on Friday 26 August 2016 at 7.20 am and 5.30 pm.

INFANT BAPTISM - The next Infant Baptism service will be held on Sat 27 Aug '16 at 2.30pm in the main church. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a preparatory session to be conducted by the Priest at 2.30 pm before the baptism. Application Forms for Infant Baptism can be obtained from the Parish Office. The Forms must be submitted by Sat 20 Aug '16

SPP CATECHIST RECRUITMENT We are in dire need of 6 Primary and 5 Secondary Catechists to assist with the faith formation and development for the children and teenagers of SPP. Anyone who wishes to help out these children, please call/SMS Moses at 9009 2226 for more information.

CHURCH OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL BUILDING FUND

– An estimate of 30% of items in the church conservation project is deemed strictly as "conservation works" and we have already raised \$2,986,565/- from the account "PMF - Church of Sts Peter and Paul". The figure above is sufficient to cover 30% of items being conserved; raising more than 30% through this account (PMF- Church of Sts Peter & Paul) means that the balance will have to remain in this account until another conservation project has been initiated. Further, the funds raised through the above account cannot be used for maintenance other than conservation works. As such, we have ceased to accept tax exemption donations for the restoration of our church. However, we hope that you will continue to donate generously to our Building Fund for many other maintenance works. From now onwards, crossed cheques should be made payable to: Church of SPP Building Fund. Donor may provide his/her name, address and contact phone no. Thank you for your generous donations and support.

RCIA 2016/2017 – Starting on 5 Jul '16, every Tue at 7.30pm. This is a year's journey for those seeking to know more about the Catholic faith. It prepares newcomers to encounter Jesus and his Church, and discern towards receiving the

sacraments of Christian initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist). Sessions are led by priest or religious and will be held in the Chapel (3rd level, Parish Building). Please invite your non-Catholic friends, colleagues and spouse to attend and learn more about the faith. Baptised Catholics are also invited to journey as sponsors. Registration forms are available from the Parish office; or contact our coordinator, Jonathan Chan at 9685 7290 or email 2kumleong@gmail.com for more information.

DAILY PRAYER - Our SPP Church prays the Lauds led by the Carmelite Friars every weekday at 7.00am before the 7.20am Mass.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

CHARIS-ACTS29 MISSION TRIP (26 Aug – 1 Sept, 2016) –Join us in building bio-sand water filtration systems with the local community in Romblon, Philippines. Slots for 9 participants only. \$670 per pax. Closing date to register: 2 Aug 2016. T&C apply. For more information or to register, contact Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives Singapore (CHARIS), Gabriel, gabriel@charis-singapore.org or Tel: 6337-4119

COUPLE EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (CEP) 2016

Have you ever felt like you were coping with your married life rather than living it? Would you like to experience the fullness of marital joy? CEP is a program for married couples who wish to discover more about building strong marriages, and to raise emotionally well-balanced children. Come and learn the latest Catholic Church teachings on family life and life skills to build a more emotionally intelligent marriage. Come for the introduction session to find out what our upcoming sessions & topics. Date: Sun, 14 Aug '16 Time: 1.00pm to 5.30pm. Venue: St Anne's Church, 66 Sengkang East Way S(548593) *A dedicated team will be available to take care of your kids including infants! Register NOW and make God the cornerstone of your marriage! Please contact Victor & Annabelle at 9105 9921 or Andrea at 9857 9075. Visit www.cep-sg.org or [facebook.com/CoupleEmpowermentProgram](https://www.facebook.com/CoupleEmpowermentProgram) to find out more.

CARITAS SINGAPORE SOCIAL MISSION CONFERENCE 2016 is less than a month away! Sat 13 Aug 16 @ Performing Arts Centre, Catholic Junior College. Theme: Witness to Mercy, Bearer of Compassion. Interested to