

beautiful and enriching experience which builds couple intimacy and a closer relationship with each other. Limited spaces are still available for coming 4-6 September weekend. To register, please call 9670 5390 or go to our website at www.MEsingapore.org. Coming Weekends: 2-4 Oct, 6-8 Nov and 4-6 Dec 2015.

FAMILY LIFE SOCIETY (FLS) - Do Parents Know Best? A public forum for dads and mums who want the best for their children. Join us on Sat, 26 Sept at IRAS from 9.00am - 1.00pm Be the first 100 participants to register for free seats by 31 Aug '15. Call 6488 0278 or SMS 8167 8170 with name/s.

It takes that 1 weekend that will inspire you for the rest of your life. Come away for a **CHOICE WEEKEND** - it is by the choices we make that we define what our life is all about. Date: 25 - 27 Sep '15 (Friday evening to Sunday evening) Venue: CHOICE Retreat House, 47

Jurong West Street 42, Singapore 649368
Enquiries: Hillary 9790 0537, Jacqueline 9424 2606 Register & Info: www.choice.org.sg/registration.htm

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE (MPC) For couples intending to get married, the commencement date for the 4th Quarter is on 4 Oct '15. Allocation of places is on a first-come-first-served basis. Application forms can be downloaded from our website @ www.catholic.org.sg/mpc. Please refer to our website for further details. For any enquiries, please contact: Peter & Rita @ 93673411 or email MPCSingapore@gmail.com

STRESSED? ANXIOUS? WORRIED? DEPRESSED? FEARFUL? ANGRY? CLARITY can help you. CLARITY (a member of CARITAS Singapore) provides professional counselling for distressed Catholics. Call: 9710 3733; Email: ask@clarity-singapore.org; Website: www.clarity-singapore.org

<p>Sunset Mass 5.30pm Rosary 4.40pm (Saturday) Sunday Masses 8.30am (Mandarin) 11.00am (English) 2.00pm (Cantonese) Chapel, 3rd Floor 4.20pm (English) Weekday Masses 7.20am 5.30pm Intercessory Prayer 7.15pm (Eng, Thu, Adoration Chapel)</p>	<p>Infant Jesus Devotions 5.30pm (Thu, followed by Mass) 4.00pm (Sun, followed by Mass) Divine Mercy Devotions Sun, 12.30pm (Mandarin) Sion Adorers - Holy Hour 7.45pm - 8.45pm (Sat, Adoration Chapel) Hour of Mercy (Adoration Chapel) 3.00pm (Daily) Counselling @ SPP Every Monday 7.00pm - 9.00pm. Please call SPP Church Secretariat 6337 2585 for appointment.</p>
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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 in the makeshift confessional/back of the tentage 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.

Church of Saints Peter & Paul: 225-A Queen Street, Singapore 188551

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



READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year B) Pg 219 **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:** Pg 222
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: My soul, give praise to the Lord.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 7 September - SAT 12 September 2015

MON: Col 1:24-2:3, Lk 6:6-11 **TUE:** Mi 5:1-4a, Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 **WED:** Col 3:1-11, Lk 6:20-26 **THU:** Col 3:12-17, Lk 6:27-38 **FRI:** 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14, Lk 6:39-42 **SAT:** 1 Tm 1:15-17, Lk 6:43-49

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 6 September 2015

The Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: Isaiah's salvation proclamation begins with a call to "be strong, fear not!" No matter what struggles surround or overwhelm us with fear, trust that God comes to save. God's salvation is for all.

Responsorial Psalm: This "Hallelujah" psalm calls the entire community to praise the Lord with all their being (soul). Such total praise is due because God "keeps faith forever", secures justice, feeds the hungry and liberate the captives.

Second Reading: James counsels all followers of Christ to live lives that manifest love for all, most especially the poor and those that society easily marginalise because of their looks, appearance or social status.

Gospel: Made whole by becoming able to speak and hear, the healed deaf mute becomes a sign of God's reign and

saving power, realised and activated through Jesus.

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

About this Feast

Exactly nine months after the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (December 8), we come to a feast in honour of Mary's birth. This is one of only three "birthdays" on the liturgical calendar, the other two being the birthdays of Jesus and of John the Baptist (other days recognise a saint's "day of death"). Today we recall the greatness of Mary and her importance in all of salvation history, as we remember her humble and obedient "yes" to give birth to Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the World. So on this day we honour the life of this young woman, Mary Immaculate, called to be the Mother of God and our mother, queen of heaven and earth.

The Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: Micah, speaking more

than 700 years before the birth of Jesus, heralds the birth of the new Davidic king, who will come through his line. Notice that the mother of this king is mentioned but not the father. Christian tradition has embraced this text as foreshadowing the birth of Jesus, the Good Shepherd and Prince of Peace.

Responsorial Psalm 13: This brief excerpt of the psalm offers language of trust, rejoicing and song. Each is reminiscent of the powerful descriptive language of the Magnificat, making this an evocative choice for today's feast.

Gospel: Today's long form of the Gospel offers us the detailed description of the genealogy of Jesus. Matthew moves through forty-two generations – from Abraham, the father of Israel, to Christ. This directly places Jesus in the line of David, situating him as the fulfillment of God's promise. While contemporary listeners may not know all the figures, it is noteworthy that among them are prostitutes, adulterers, heathens and

murderers. This Divine King comes from the human situation to the human situation. Even the story of Joseph's frailty and courage speak to the humble beginnings of Jesus' life.

Some Saints of the Week

St. Peter Claver, Priest – 9 September

St. Peter Claver (1580/1 – 1654), a Spanish Jesuit priest, spent his life tending to the needs of African slaves in Colombia, South America. While serving as a missionary, he ministered to the slaves by providing them with food and medicine, washing their wounds, preparing them for Baptism and witnessing their Marriages. He actively pursued lawyer to plead the cases of imprisoned slaves and prepared criminals for death. Not only did he care for the slaves, but he also preached missions to plantation owners and sailors. The "saint of the slaves", as St. Peter is often called, died after contracting a plague.

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PARISH NEWS

RESULTS OF RAFFLE DRAW FOR CARMELITE FRIARS FORMATION FUNDRAISING - The Raffle Draw was conducted on Sunday, 16 August 2015 at 5.30 pm at the premises of the Church of Sts Peter & Paul after the 4.20 pm mass, in the presence of the parishioners. Three prizes of "A Full Expenses Paid 15 Days Carmelite Spain Pilgrimage" had been won. The winning tickets Nos are: 18805, 33826 and 35497. The 3 Winners have collected their prizes. We wish to thank everyone who bought the Raffle Draw tickets for their generous donation and kind support. Thank you!

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 Fri 25 Sep '15 at 7.20am and 5.30pm

INFANT BAPTISM The next Infant Baptism service will be held on Saturday 26 Sep '15 at 2.30pm in the Chapel (3rd Storey, Parish Building). Parents and Godparents are required to attend a preparatory session to be conducted by the Priest at 2.30pm before the baptism. Application Forms for Infant Baptism can be obtained from the Parish Office. The Forms must be submitted by Saturday 19 Sep '15.

UKULELE CLASS - Want to learn how to play ukulele and give back to the church is a fun way? Ukulele class is available every Monday 8:00pm, guaranteed to be able to learn the ukulele within a week from the professionals who will be teaching how to play various hymns and pop songs! Students will then be performing and bringing fun to many homes and hospitals! Join the troupe today! Please contact SPP Secretariat to sign up. Place: Room 7, 2nd level, SPP Parish Building every Monday, 8:00pm to 9:30pm (except public holiday). Training is Free of charge; training materials will be provided.

TO ALL TEACHERS! Come celebrate Teacher's Day. Theme: I Will Walk in the Presence of the Lord. Sat, 12 Sep '15, 4.30pm - 6.30pm. Primary School Hall Catholic High School, 9 Bishan St 22. Holy Eucharistic and Reception.

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.

SPP CATECHIST RECRUITMENT - We are looking for 8 Primary and 4 Secondary Catechists to assist with the faith formation and development of the children and teenagers at SPP. No prior experience is needed. Guidance and training will be provided. Please call/SMS Jeremy at 96843475 or Alycia at 91773461 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

ANGELICO ART AWARD - the first art competition of its kind in Singapore. It is a platform for Catholic artists – both aspiring beginners as well as experienced practitioners – to experience and express their faith through art as a medium. Jointly organized by Heartspace and Catholic Business Network (CBN), it aims to encourage artists to explore and experience the integration of faith and artistic endeavour through painting. The Angelico Art Award aspires promote local and Christian art expressions both within the faith community and beyond.

RETROUVAILLE – A Lifeline for Troubled & Hurting Marriages 1. Has your marriage become unloving and uncaring? 2. Has your marriage grown cold and distant? 3. Has there been little or no meaningful communication between the two of you? 4. Do you feel disappointed or even despair thinking about your marriage? A Retrouvaille weekend can help you. Weekend date: 25 – 27 Sep '15. For confidential enquiry, Tel: 6711 6774 Online registration: www.helpourmarriage.sg

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER (ME) invites married couples to sign up for a special weekend with your spouse. Invest in this most