

cognitive and spiritual) and all persons are included in the development of our society. The keynote speaker is His Eminence, Peter Kodwo Appiah Cardinal Turkson, Prefect of the Vatican Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development.

HOPE IN THE CITY 2018 - Date: 21 Apr '18 (Sat), Time: 2.00pm - 4.00pm. Venue: Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, Annex Building Level 3. Experience Hope through stories, dance, art, and sharing! Listen to testimonies on how people found hope in Jesus Christ amidst challenging situations. Bring a friend so that all may encounter Jesus Christ, the Hope of the world.

CHARIS Mission Trip – Join us in building Water filtration Systems for the people of Philippines. From 12 May – 18 May 2018, \$870 per pax. T&C apply. Limited spaces on a first come first served basis. For more information, contact Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives Singapore (CHARIS),

Gabriel Lee at gabriel@charis-singapore.org or Tel: 6337-4119. Website www.charis-singapore.org

LABOURERS IN THE VINEYARD RETREAT - 25 - 29 May '18, at Majodi Retreat Centre, Johor, Malaysia. Cost: S\$200.00 (Includes Accommodation, Meals, Transport). Organised by Office for the New Evangelisation. This is a 5 days 4 nights stay-in retreat open to Catholics above the age of 21. Come away and allow yourselves to be encountered by the Lord! Programme includes daily Eucharistic celebration, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, talks, praise & worship, and spiritual counselling.

RETROUVAILLE – A Lifeline for Troubled & Hurting Marriages. If you are serious about making your marriage work, this program could be worthwhile for you. Weekend date: 27 - 29 Apr '18. For confidential enquiry, Tel: 6522 8750. Online registration: www.helpourmarriage.sg

Sunset Mass : 5.30pm
Rosary : 4.30pm (Saturday)
Sunday Masses : 8.30am (Mandarin), 11.00am (English), 2.00pm (Cantonese), 4.00pm (English)
Weekday Masses : 7.20am and 5.30pm
Intercessory 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
Adoration Chapel : 8.00am - 9.00pm (Mon to Sat), 8.00am - 7.00pm (Sun)
Secretariat's Operating Hours : Mon - Fri: 9.30am - 9.30pm, Sat: 9.30am - 5.30pm, Sun: 9.30am - 5.00pm; Lunch hours: 1.00pm - 2.00pm. Closed on Public Holidays.
Columbarium Opening Hours : Mon - Sun: 7.00am - 7.00pm. Closed on Public Holidays.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be administered from 5.00pm - 5.20pm on weekdays and Saturday at the confessionals at the baptistery (back of the church). On Sunday, it will be available 30 minutes before each mass.

Parish Priest: Rev Fr EDWARD LIM, OCD, **Asst Parish Priest:** Rev Fr THOMAS LIM OCD, **Priests in Residence:** Rev Fr TOM CURRAN, OCD, Rev Fr GREGORY HON, OCD and Rev Fr JOSEPH KOH, OCD, **General-Delegate:** Rev Fr JOHN CHUA 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) **Carmelite Fathers** - for contributions/donations to SPP Friars Community, Friars Formation; (iii) **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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READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year B) Pg 670

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 23 April - SAT 28 April 2018

MON: ACTS 11:1-18, JN 10:1-10 **TUE:** ACTS 11:19-26, JN 10:22-30 **WED:** 1 PT 5:5B-14, MK 16:15-20 **THU:** ACTS 13:13-25, JN 13:16-20 **FRI:** ACTS 13:26-33, JN 14:1-6 **SAT:** ACTS 13:44-52, JN 14:7-14

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 2018 WORLD DAY OF VOCATIONS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Next October, the Fifteenth Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will meet to discuss the theme of young people and in particular the relationship between young people, faith and vocation. There we will have a chance to consider more deeply how, at the centre of our life, is the call to joy that God addresses to us and how this is “God’s plan for men and women in every age” (SYNOD OF BISHOPS, XV ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Young People, The Faith and Vocational Discernment, Introduction).

The Fifty-fifth World Day of Prayer for Vocations once again proclaims this good news to us, and in a decisive manner. We are not victims of chance or swept up in a series of unconnected events; on the contrary, our life and our presence in this world are the fruit of a divine vocation!

Even amid these troubled times, the mystery of the Incarnation reminds us that God continually comes to encounter us. He is God-with-us, who walks along the often dusty paths of our lives. He knows

our anxious longing for love and he calls us to joy. In the diversity and the uniqueness of each and every vocation, personal and ecclesial, there is a need to listen, discern and live this word that calls to us from on high and, while enabling us to develop our talents, makes us instruments of salvation in the world and guides us to full happiness.

These three aspects – listening, discerning and living – were also present at beginning of Jesus’ own mission, when, after his time of prayer and struggle in the desert, he visited his synagogue of Nazareth. There, he listened to the word, discerned the content of the mission entrusted to him by the Father, and proclaimed that he came to accomplish it “today” (Lk 4:16-21).

Listening

The Lord’s call – let it be said at the outset – is not as clear-cut as any of those things we can hear, see or touch in our daily experience. God comes silently and discreetly, without imposing on our freedom. Thus it can happen that his voice is drowned out by the many worries and concerns that fill our minds and hearts.

We need, then, to learn how to listen carefully to his word and the story of his life, but also to be attentive to the details of

our own daily lives, in order to learn how to view things with the eyes of faith, and to keep ourselves open to the surprises of the Spirit.

We will never discover the special, personal calling that God has in mind for us if we remain enclosed in ourselves, in our usual way of doing things, in the apathy of those who fritter away their lives in their own little world. We would lose the chance to dream big and to play our part in the unique and original story that God wants to write with us.

Jesus too, was called and sent. That is why he needed to recollect himself in silence. He listened to and read the word in the synagogue, and with the light and strength of the Holy Spirit he revealed its full meaning, with reference to his own person and the history of the people of Israel.

Nowadays listening is becoming more and more difficult, immersed as we are in a society full of noise, overstimulated and bombarded by information. The outer noise that sometimes prevails in our cities and our neighbourhoods is often accompanied by our interior dispersion and confusion. This prevents us from pausing and enjoying the taste of contemplation, reflecting serenely on the events of our lives, going about our work with confidence in God's loving plan, and making a fruitful discernment.

Yet, as we know, the kingdom of God comes quietly and unobtrusively (cf. Lk 17:21), and we can only gather its seeds when, like the prophet Elijah, we enter into the depths of our soul and are open to the imperceptible whisper of the divine breeze (cf. 1 Kg 19:11-13).

Discerning

When Jesus, in the synagogue of Nazareth, reads the passage of the prophet Isaiah, he discerns the content of the mission for

which he was sent, and presents it to those who awaited the Messiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour (Lk 4:18-19).

In the same way, each of us can discover his or her own vocation only through spiritual discernment. This is "a process by which a person makes fundamental choices, in dialogue with the Lord and listening to the voice of the Spirit, starting with the choice of one's state in life" (SYNOD OF BISHOPS, XV ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment, II, 2).

Thus we come to discover that Christian vocation always has a prophetic dimension. The Scriptures tell us that the prophets were sent to the people in situations of great material insecurity and of spiritual and moral crisis, in order to address in God's name a message of conversion, hope and consolation. Like a whirlwind, the prophet unsettles the false tranquility of consciences that have forgotten the word of the Lord. He discerns events in the light of God's promise and enables people to glimpse the signs of dawn amid the dark shadows of history.

Today too, we have great need of discernment and of prophecy. We have to resist the temptations of ideology and negativity, and to discover, in our relationship with the Lord, the places, the means and situations through which he calls us. Every Christian ought to grow in the ability to "read within" his or her life, and to understand where and to what he or she is being called by the Lord, in order to carry on his mission.

Living

Lastly, Jesus announces the newness of

the present hour, which will enthuse many and harden the heart of others. The fullness of time has come, and he is the Messiah proclaimed by Isaiah and anointed to liberate prisoners, to restore sight to the blind and to proclaim the merciful love of God to every creature. Indeed, Jesus says that "today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Lk 4:21).

The joy of the Gospel, which makes us open to encountering God and our brothers and sisters, does not abide our slowness and our sloth. It will not fill our hearts if we keep standing by the window with the excuse of waiting for the right time, without accepting this very day the risk of making a decision. Vocation is today! The Christian mission is now! Each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now

This "today" that Jesus proclaimed assures us that God continues to "come down" to save our human family and to make us sharers in his mission. The Lord continues

Source: https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/vocations/documents/papa-francesco_20171203_55-messaggio_giornata-mondiale-vocazioni.html

PARISH NEWS

ASCENSION OF THE LORD (Day of Obligation) Anticipated Mass - 9 May (Wed), 5.30pm. 10 May (Thu), 7.20am, 12.15pm (Mandarin), 6.00pm. Infant Jesus devotion at 5.30pm.

INFANT BAPTISM – The next Infant Baptism service will be held on Sunday 10 Jun '18 at 11.00am within Mass. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a preparatory session on Saturday, 9 Jun '18 at 3.30pm. Application Forms can be obtained from the Parish Office and must be submitted by Friday, 11 May '18.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS - Registration is now open for Adults. Please obtain a form from Parish

to call others to live with him and to follow him in a relationship of particular closeness. He continues to call others to serve him directly. If he lets us realize that he is calling us to consecrate ourselves totally to his kingdom, then we should have no fear! It is beautiful – and a great grace – to be completely and forever consecrated to God and the service of our brothers and sisters.

Today the Lord continues to call others to follow him. We should not wait to be perfect in order to respond with our generous "yes", nor be fearful of our limitations and sins, but instead open our hearts to the voice of the Lord. To listen to that voice, to discern our personal mission in the Church and the world, and at last to live it in the today that God gives us.

May Mary Most Holy, who as a young woman living in obscurity heard, accepted and experienced the Word of God made flesh, protect us and accompany us always on our journey.

***From the Vatican, 3 December 2017
First Sunday of Advent***

Office. Confirmation Date: 18 Aug '18

The 5 May Mass with Prayers for Healing is **CANCELLED**. The next one will be on 2 Jun '18 (Sat). We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused. For enquiries, please email praiseatworksg@yahoo.com or call 9747 2467

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

CARITAS SINGAPORE – SOCIAL MISSION CONFERENCE 2018 This will be held on 21 Jul '18 (Sat) at the Catholic Junior College (Performing Arts Centre). The theme of the conference is "Whole of Me, All of Us, One in Christ". This conference aims to look at the social teaching of integral human development – where the whole person is developed (i.e. physical, emotional,