

9.30am to 11.30am (Morning Venue: LaSalle Centre- St. Patrick School – 490 East Coast Road OR **EVENINGS** Date: 5 Feb - 9 April, Mondays, Time: 7.30-9.30 pm (Evening), Venue: Cana - the Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo St, Contribution: \$250.00. To register, Tel: 65652895/97223148, Website: www.cenaclemission.com, Email: cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com

**CALLING FOR ARTISTS!** The Angelico Art Award 2018 invites artists to submit paintings to be considered for the \$10,000 (open) and \$5,000 (youth) acquisitive awards. The competition invites artists to contemplate and interpret the quote “Prepare the way of the Lord” (Mark 1:3). The Award is organised by Heartspace in support of the Catholic Foundation. Submissions close on 31 August 2018. More information see www.angelicoart.com.

**ARCHDIOCESAN BIBLICAL  
APOSTOLATE SINGAPORE**

<b>Sunset Mass</b>	: 5.30pm
<b>Rosary</b>	: 4.30pm (Saturday)
<b>Sunday Masses</b>	: 8.30am (Mandarin), 11.00am (English), 2.00pm (Cantonese), 4.00pm (English)
<b>Weekday Masses</b>	: 7.20am and 5.30pm
<b>Intercessory Prayer</b>	: 7.15pm (English, Thursday)
<b>Infant Jesus Devotion</b>	: 5.30pm (Thursday, followed by Mass)
<b>Divine Mercy Devotion</b>	: 12.30pm (Sunday Mandarin)
<b>Sion Adorers - Holy Hour</b>	: 7.45pm - 8.45pm (Saturday)
<b>Hour of Mercy</b>	: 3.00pm daily
<b>Adoration Chapel</b>	: 8.00am - 9.00pm (Mon to Sat), 8.00am - 7.00pm(Sun)
<b>Secretariat's Operating Hours</b>	: 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.
<b>Columbarium Opening Hours</b>	: Mon - Sun: 7.00am - 7.00pm. Closed on Public Holidays.
<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION</b> - The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be administered from 5.00pm - 5.20pm on weekdays and Saturday at the makeshift confessional at the baptistery (back of the church). On Sunday, it will be available 30 minutes before each mass.	
<b>Parish Priest:</b> Rev Fr EDWARD LIM, OCD, <b>Asst Parish Priest:</b> Rev Fr THOMAS LIM OCD, <b>Priests in Residence:</b> Rev Fr TOM CURRAN, OCD, Rev Fr GREGORY HON, OCD and Rev Fr JOSEPH KOH, OCD, <b>General-Delegate:</b> Rev Fr JOHN CHUA OCD, <b>Parish Secretary:</b> Ms Martha Loh, <b>Parish Clerk:</b> Ms Jannie Lui, <b>Liturgical Co-ordinator:</b> Alex Wong, alexdominic@gmail.com	
<b>Church Donations - Please make your cheque payable to:</b> (i) Church of Sts Peter & Paul - for contributions/donations for General Operations & Maintenance of the Church; (ii) Carmelite Fathers - for contributions/donations to the 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.	

Church of Saints Peter & Paul: 225-A Queen Street, Singapore 188551  
Tel: +65 6337 2585 Fax: +65 6334 5414 email: sts\_peterpaul@singnet.com.sg www.spchurch.org.sg

**PRESENTS 2 COURSES: (1) INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE** on: 16 & 23 Jan '18.(Tuesdays) TIME: 9.30am - 11.30am. COST: \$20 (2) **“BOOK OF JEREMIAH”** on: 30 Jan - 22 May '18 - Tue only (Except 13 Mar and 1 May - 15 Sessions) Time: 9.30am to 11.30am Cost: \$120 at: Catholic Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland Road, Singapore 549102. For more information/registration: Email: aba\_secretariat@catholic.org.sg Tel: 6280 0354 (Office hours: 9.00am to 1.00pm)

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER (ME)** Festive Promotion. Give your spouse or loved ones a special gift this festive season. For this December and January only, get ME vouchers from Cana (55 Waterloo Street, Level 2) at half-price of \$25. Book a ME Weekend and pick up communication skills for a stronger marriage. Slots are still open for the Jan 5-7 (fast selling out!), Feb 2-4 and March 2-4 Weekends. E-mail mewkend@gmail.com or visit wwmesg.org



**READINGS:** Sunday Missal (Year B) Pg 234

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 8 January - SAT 13 January 2018**

**MON:** The Baptism of the Lord **TUE:** 1 SM 1:9-20, MK 1:21-28 **WED:** 1 SM 3:1-10, 19-20, MK 1:29-39 **THU:** 1 SM 4:1-11, MK 1:40-45 **FRI:** 1 SM 8:4-7, 10-22A, MK 2:1-12 **SAT:** 1 SM 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1, MK 2:13-17

**The Epiphany of the Lord – 7 January 2018**

This Third Week of Christmas extends our reflection on the coming of our Lord among us. It is surrounded by two celebrations of epiphanies. An epiphany is a showing, a revelation, a manifestation. The day we call the Feast of the Epiphany makes use of Matthew’s account of the Magi, the wise seers from the East to whom are revealed the good news of our salvation. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord represents another epiphany. When Jesus comes out of the water, which he enters to symbolise the completeness of his entry into our lives, a voice from heaven makes known to us who Jesus is: “My beloved Son.” After all these years of waiting and longing, after all the promises and hopes, he is here - born into conflict, baptised in the Jordan - for us all.

The other part of the process of revelation, of showing, of epiphany is the part where we observe, recognise, take it in, and receive the good news as it is given to us. When we receive the gift, the gift giving is complete. When we recognise the one revealed, the epiphany is accomplished. When we accept who God is for us in Jesus, we let the Spirit give life to our salvation.

The continuing readings from the First Letter of John are perfect to grow in a sense of how loved we are and how we are called to love.

The gospels this week manifest to us a Lord who is full of compassion, who feeds the hungry and heals the sick.

This is a powerful way to end the Christmas season and, long after the wrapping paper is thrown away, to look back and give thanks for the real gifts we have received this year.

Source: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/cthirdweek.html>

**Making and Keeping New Year’s Resolutions: A New Beginning, with a New Relationship with Jesus**

**Why should I make any New Year’s Resolutions? I never keep them.**

Almost all of us have had the experience of wanting to begin a new year resolving to improve, to do some things better than we have before. It is natural to have hope, to want to believe we aren’t stuck in the ways we currently behave, and yet, all of us have the experience that we haven’t done too well with our past resolutions. In fact, at this time of the year, the newspaper cartoons almost always point out the humorous side of our trying to make resolutions that don’t seem to have a chance of succeeding.

**Why do our resolutions so often fail?**

So often our good intentions fail and fail quickly. There are many reasons, of course, and some of them relate to how realistic

Information is correct at time of publication.

our resolving is, but sometimes, we resolve to end addictive behaviour without really giving it a chance. Most of the time, most of our resolutions are our best attempts at just having stronger will power. Though there are outstanding examples of heroic virtue, and some people really do quit addictive behaviour “cold turkey”, there are far too many examples of failure.

One instinct deep in Ignatian Spirituality is the sense that, while it is good to develop stronger will power and self-control, real change in our lives actually happens most reliably when it comes from our deepest desires. Ignatius knew, from his own experience, just as we often discover in therapy, in spiritual direction, upon reflection on our own experience, that we usually do what we want to do. We rarely do what we don't want to do. The secret to change is to reform our desires - discovering what our deepest desires are and trying to change or re-form them. This was no self-help process for Ignatius and many of the Saints. It was the process of getting to know Jesus and falling in love with him. Once we fall in love with someone, all our desiring changes.

### ***Don't I already know Jesus? Don't I already have a relationship with him?***

Often this sounds too simple to us. Don't I already know Jesus? Haven't I already fallen in love with him? Of course, hearing the invitation at the beginning of this new year to examine our relationships with Jesus and let them be renewed this upcoming year, begins with the freedom to acknowledge that there is room for growth here. And, it starts with something of an attraction, a small desire, even a bit of curiosity that wonders, “What more can I discover? How might my heart be more captured by Jesus?”

Love always directs our hearts. But, there are other spirits, too. At times we discover the sad reality that falling out of love changes our hearts dramatically, too. Once we lose that affection, that attraction, that draw, then trouble begins. Whereas before we experienced a wonderful

energy that wants to spend as much time as we can with someone we love, and wants to do anything we can for the one we love, now we experience a coolness, an emptiness, a distance, and unfortunately, at times, the other starts to annoy us. Sometimes we say, “it just happened,” but upon reflection, we realise sadly that there was sin involved. We made some bad choices, some selfish choices. We stopped contributing to the relationship. What isn't growing is usually dying. And, of course, sin is contagious and we live in a culture that doesn't support self-less loving. There are the messages: What about me? What about my needs? We tend to keep score. There are bad spirits among us that seem determined to make loving difficult, that seem to prevent wounds from healing, that seem to promote division, highlight differences and ultimately lead to war. This whole pattern, which we have understood as “Original Sin” has described for us what we overcome by Jesus' coming, and by his life, death, resurrection and gift of the Spirit. Jesus destroyed sin and death's power over us. Re-connecting with him this new year is re-connecting with his power to free our hearts to love again.

### ***How do we get to know and fall in love with Jesus?***

Getting to get to know Jesus in a new way, at a deeper level is just like getting to know anyone. We begin by spending more time with a person. We pay attention to him/her. We get to know the story of that person more completely. Eventually, we become more and more curious and more and more fascinated by how the person acts, what motivates that person, how he or she thinks. Of course, the key here is not only to learn more about Jesus, but to come to really know him, to experience a relationship. It is easy to imagine that Jesus knows me. It is more difficult to imagine that I am in a relationship with Jesus, and we know each other and there is something special about this relationship. For example, some of us will get to know Jesus and become really fascinated by his mother and father and that will shape our sense of who he is and our relationship with

him. Some of us will come to love the way he chooses and interacts with his disciples. Many of us will learn a great deal about Jesus from how he tells stories and reveals things about God and about the Kingdom of God. Still others of us will become engaged by how Jesus interacts with and heals sinners and sick people. Perhaps we will identify with this or that story which will characterize our particular relationship with him.

### ***What about my resolutions?***

While we are getting to get to know the Lord, the things we may have been tempted to resolve begin to change. We may still need to lose weight and exercise more, but what will inevitably rise to the surface are patterns that are like his. Attraction so naturally leads to imitation. Jesus is our friend, a wonderful Lord with a powerful way of loving and surrendering his life to the plan of his Father -- that he be Servant for us. The more we open our hearts to a deeply personal friendship with Jesus, the more we will open our hearts to ask the Father to use us, to be servants, too.

Then our desiring starts to be transformed. We will gradually and more deeply begin to ask for the graces we need - which is a more humble place to begin than making bold promises. We'll ask our Lord to purify our desiring. We will ask for the grace to be drawn into the pattern of Jesus' loving and forgiving. We'll ask for the desire to surrender more, to let go of our own needs more completely

Source: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/NewYearsResolutions.html>

## **PARISH NEWS**

**INFANT BAPTISM** – The next Infant Baptism service will be held on Sunday 11 Feb 2018 at 11.00 am. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a preparatory session on Saturday, 10 Feb 2018 at 3.30pm. Application Forms can be obtained from the Parish Office and must be submitted by January, 15 Jan '18.

**CATECHISM CLASS 2018** - Commences on Sunday 21 January '18 at 9.30am.

so that we can give ourselves to the needs of others first. We will begin to see the people closest to us with Jesus' eyes, with Jesus' heart. Our love for them won't depend upon how much they please us or even how much they reciprocate our love. That isn't the way Jesus loves us. Jesus loves us because we are sinners. Jesus loves us because we need forgiving and healing. Jesus loves us because we need loving.

Gradually, our resolutions get freer and more about self-donation. We open our hands in prayer and say, “Lord, these are my desires and I am asking you for the grace to live them.” Gradually, the other spirits lose their power, their attraction. As Jesus confronts and contradicts the values of our culture in us and around us, the sillier all that kind of desiring becomes. We don't change our way of consuming, our way of seeing our role in the world or hear the cry of the poor day after day by strengthening our own will power.

Our life style and our choices really become transformed when we become people who know, beyond anything else, that we are loved unconditionally by our God. When we become lovers of Jesus, we will naturally love the way he loves. When we become followers of Jesus this will be a blessed new year, indeed. And those who are sinners among us, the poor around the world, and those who suffer the tragic effects of sin, division and war, will experience the difference.

## **NEWS AROUND THE PARISH**

**AT HOME RETREAT (2 choices)** - 10-week programme based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola to know Jesus more intimately in the midst of life's daily routine. Includes weekly meeting of faith sharing, daily prayer with Scripture and one spiritual direction by Cenacle Sisters & Team. This will be from Ashes to Easter - a retreat in preparation for Easter. **MORNINGS:** Date: 5 Feb – 9 April, Mondays Time: