

CLARITY'S PUBLIC TALK on "Take control and Survive Anxiety !" on 9 July. Anxiety is something that is present in our lives from childhood to old age. Do you or someone you care about frequently feel anxious? Find out the impact and the various avenues available to get help and learn the different types of anxiety disorders and treatments. Sat 9 July, 10.00am till 12.00pm at Agape Village L1. \$10 per person. To register, call 6801 7467 or email to registration@clarity-singapore.org

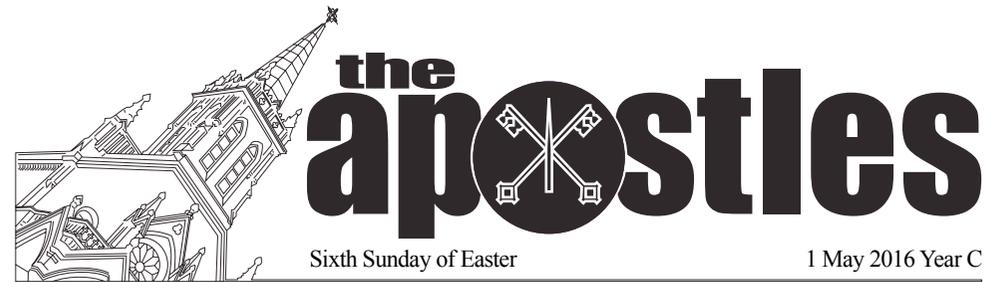
APOSTOLATE FOR CATHOLIC TRUTH TALKS FOR MAY & JUNE 2016

1. Building a Culture of Life by Andy Wee, on 6 May 2016, 7.45 pm to 9.30 pm, .
 2. Mystery, Miracles and Marvels of the BVM by Kelvin Chia, on 13 May 2016, 7.45 pm to 9.30 pm.
 3. Theology of the Body Course (10 hours) by Andrew Kong, on 3, 10, 17, 24 June 2016. 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm.
- Venue for above talks: St Joseph's Church Victoria Street, Conference Room. Web site for more details: www.catholic.sg/act Enquiries: Andrew (HP 96493893), Cost: FOC (Love

Offering) Register at: <http://tinyurl.com/ACT-Talk-Signup>

It takes that 1 weekend that will inspire you for the rest of your life. Come away for a **CHOICE WEEKEND** - the choices we make defines our life. Date: 24 - 26 Jun '16 (Fri evening to Sun evening) Venue: CHOICE Retreat House, 47 Jurong West Street 42, Singapore 649368 Enquiries: Hillary 9790 0537 or Francesa 9710 9680. Register & Info: www.choice.org.sg/registration.htm

ART & SOUL: A WAY TO GOD THROUGH ART Date: 29 Apr - 1 May, 2016. Time: Fri, 8:00pm - Sun, 1:00pm. Venue: Montfort Centre, 622 Upper Bukit Timah. Description: This weekend invites the retreatants to see that art is not separate from life and in experiencing their own and others' creativity, they will learn to "find God in all things". This is not an art workshop, but a time for prayer and reflection. Non-artists are most welcome. Contribution: \$300.00 [Art materials provided]. Organized by: The Cenacle Sisters and Ms. Joanna Tan Contact: Tel. Nos. 65652895; 97223148. Email: cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com



READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year C) Pg 879
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 2 May - SAT 7 May 2016
MON: ACTS 16:11-15, JN 15:26—16:4A **TUE:** 1 COR 15:1-8, JN 14:6-14 **WED:** ACTS 17:15, 22—18:1, JN 16:12-15 **THU:** Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord **FRI:** ACTS 18:9-18, JN 16:20-23 **SAT:** ACTS 18:23-28, JN 16:23B-28

The Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: For a second time this week, we hear of the pivotal meeting in Jerusalem. This gathering does not put an end to the Mosaic law; rather, it exempts the Gentiles from becoming Jews so that they may then become followers of Jesus Christ. This gathering is likely the one referenced in the second letter to the Galatians.

Responsorial Psalm 67 may have been an expression of thanksgiving on a national level. Salvation is God's ultimate gift, and it is available to all nations. This will be fulfilled as the Christian Church reaches out and evangelise beyond the Jewish community, as we have heard in Acts this week.

Second Reading: This chapter of the Book of Revelation speaks of the passing away of the old creation, which is replaced by a new heaven and a new earth. This vision of Jerusalem is glorious, perfect, whole and complete. The twelve tribes are represented by the Twelve Apostles, and the city does not need a temple, because the presence of God and the Lamb make the entire city a temple of the Divine.

Gospel: The Gospel emphasises the sending of the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, that will

remain with the community always. John's community had great faith that the Spirit was still with them. In receiving the Spirit, we receive the peace of Christ. There is a great deal in human life, then and now, designed to cause unrest and to even destroy the peace. The offering of the sign of peace in the Mass reminds us that we are given the peace of Christ and commanded to share it.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord – 5 May 2016

About this Solemnity

The distinct celebration of the Ascension of the Lord was unknown in the first three and a half centuries. The chronology of dating the Ascension to forty days after Lent exists only in the Acts of the Apostles. In the Gospel according to Luke, the Ascension appears to have taken place much earlier, even on Easter Day. The original ending to Mark's account of the Gospel did not include the Ascension at all, and it can only be inferred from Matthew's conclusion. When fourth-century Egeria mentions a celebration forty days after Easter in Bethlehem, it may have been for the Holy Innocents. But by fifth century the observance seems to be universally accepted.

Sunset Mass	: 5.30pm
Rosary	: 4.40pm (Saturday)
Sunday Masses	: 8.30am (Mandarin), 11.00am (English), 2.00pm (Cantonese, Chapel 3rd floor), 4.30pm (English)
Weekday Masses	: 7.20am and 5.30pm
Intercessory Prayer	: 7.15pm (English, Thursday, Adoration Chapel)
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, Adoration Chapel)
Hour of Mercy	: 3.00pm daily, (Adoration Chapel)
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.

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

Information is correct at time of publication.

The Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: The opening verses of Acts of the Apostles offer details of the teaching of Jesus about the sending of the Spirit. Even at this moment, the disciples are still fixed on the centrality of Israel. The expansion of their mission is documented in detail throughout the book. This is followed by the story of the Ascension, and the detail of the angels is evocative of Luke's Resurrection narrative.

Responsorial Psalm 47: This hymn of praise celebrates God's enthronement. At its centre is the belief that God is king. It may have been used in a rite in the Temple in which the ark was carried and then placed within the Temple. The language evokes the language of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Second Reading: The kind of knowledge of God of which Paul speaks is not some sort of abstract or philosophical knowledge. Rather, it is knowledge of the person of Jesus Christ through whom God is revealed. The entire passage witnesses to the fact that it is God who is revealed in Christ, and to whom Christ has returned in glory. As in the psalm, we encounter the theme of enthronement.

Gospel: The Gospel according to Luke closes with the appearance of Jesus. He reiterates the instructions that they have been given to preach his message. He promises them the Spirit, which will give them "power from on high". The final scene is that of the Lord's Ascension. This will be the first scene of the Acts of the Apostles. Note that they return to Jerusalem, the city from which they fled crest-fallen. This will be the place where the first major Christian community develops.

Some Saints of the Week

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St Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church – 2 May

Athanasius was a fourth-century deacon and bishop who lived in Alexandria, Egypt. He is best known for his lifelong struggle against Arianism, or the heretical belief that God created a son who was neither coeternal nor coequal with the Father. He attended the Council of Nicaea with his bishop, Alexander, and his theological work Three Discourses against the Arians provided the foundation for the arguments against this heresy. He was exiled more than five times because of his views, spending more than seventeen years of his episcopate outside his diocese. Because of his contributions to the faith, he is a doctor of both the Western and Eastern Churches.

Sts. Philip and James, Apostles – 3 May

Two of the chosen Twelve, Sts. Philip and James (first century), grace the liturgical calendar today. Although few details are known about St. Philip, Scripture portrays him as one who leads others to Christ. St. Philip introduces his friend Nathaniel to Jesus and points to Jesus as the source of nourishment in the feeding of the five thousand. He also highlights Jesus as the path to the Father in the Last Supper account. St. James "the Lesser" – not to be confused with St. James "the Greater" (he is honoured on July 25) – was gifted with a special appearance of the Risen Christ (see 1 Corinthians 15:7). Throughout history it was believed that he authored the letter of James, but recent biblical scholarship considers this to be unlikely. Both Sts. Philip and James died as martyrs, shedding their blood for the sake of the Gospel. They are most likely celebrated together because the Basilica of the Twelve Apostles in Rome is dedicated to them.

PARISH NEWS

ASCENSION OF THE LORD (Day of Obligation) - Wednesday 4 May '16 - 5.30pm, Anticipated Mass; Thursday 5 May '16 - 7.20am, 5.30pm, 7.30pm (Mandarin)

SPP DEDICATION EVENT: TALKS

Talk 1: Church Architecture

Understand and appreciate the architectural features of the Church. Date: 21 May '16 (Sat) Time: 9.00am - 11.30am (Mandarin), 2:00pm to 4:30pm (English) Venue: Main Church Speaker: Fr. Edward Lim

Talk 2: Rite of Dedication (English & Mandarin simultaneously)

What is going to happen at the Dedication Mass? Depositing of the Relics, Anointing of the Altar and the Walls of the Church, etc. What are the meaning of these Rites? Date: 28 May '16 (Sat) Time: 2:00pm to 4:30pm Venue: Main Church. Speaker: Fr. Ignatius Yeo & Fr. Edward Lim

Separate registration required for each talk. Attendance by registration only, subject to limited capacity. Please register with the Church Office or email SPP happenings@gmail.com

THANK YOU - Church Collection for our SPP Society of St Vincent de Paul for the month of February 2016 amounted to \$3,855.15 and Donations amounted to \$1,720.00. Expenditure for the month was \$7,203.15. We support 83 Friends-In-Need (FINs). Majority of them are elderly poor living in Chinatown and Beach Road/North Bridge Road areas. We appeal to your generosity in caring for the poor and needy through our SSVP, St Peter's Conference.

3 DAYS 2 NIGHTS JOHOR/MALACCA PILGRIMAGE - We are organising a three days pilgrimage to Johor and Malacca from Sat/Mon 10 - 12 Sep '16. This is a project in aid of Church of Sts Peter & Paul Maintenance Fund. For enquiries, please contact Lawrence Seet at 97992488 or register at the Secretariat Office.

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 (MANDARIN) 2016 - The 11th Mandarin Faith Journey will commence on 13 May, 2016 at 7.30 pm every Friday evening. We welcome brothers and sisters to invite friends to join us. Also, if you speak Mandarin, we encourage you to journey with us as facilitators and sponsors. Please get a registration form from Parish Secretary. For more information, please call Corina Cheong at 9177-5689

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

YOUNG ADULTS WORKSHOP - Building The Kingdom: The Spirituality and Mission of the Family. Inviting young adults aged 18 to 35 years to an evening of learning, reflection and sharing on the spirituality and mission of the family. Speaker is Rev Fr David Garcia, OP. This session will be on 14 May 2016 (Sat); 5:00p.m. to 9:30p.m.; level 3, Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street. Organised by Caritas Singapore Young Adults Committee. For more information and registration, please refer to the Caritas Singapore website: www.caritas-singapore.org or email to youngadults@caritas-singapore.org