

Sisters; Contact: Tel.: 6565-2895; 9722-3148;
Email: cenaclesing@gmail.com. Venue: Choice
Retreat House

THE APOSTOLATE FOR CATHOLIC TRUTH

1. Theology of the Body, 8 Jan '16
2. The Bible Alone?, 22 Jan '16
3. Science vs Religion, 29 Jan '16

Venue: St Joseph's Church Conference Room
Victoria Street, Fridays 7.45pm. For details
and registration: www.catholic.sg/act or HP:
96493893 (Andrew) FOC. All are welcome.

WELCOMING RETURNING CATHOLICS IN THE FIRST STEP HOME.

A new 10-week process begins: Mondays
from 15 February 2016. Church of the Holy
Spirit. Begin the reconnection. Call Leonard
93692100 Or Tricia 98631590 Or email
returning@landings.org.sg

BIBLE COURSE ON WISDOM BOOKS: ECCLESIASTES & DANIEL

by Msgr
Ambrose Vaz At Catholic Archdiocesan
Education Centre, 2 Highland Road S549102,
16 Feb - 17 May '16, 9.30am to 11.30am. Cost

\$100.00. For more information/Registration
email: bibleapostolate.catholic.org.sg website:
bibleapostolate.wordpress.com

BCC LEVEL 1 - SCRIPTURE.

In this basic
course, catechists will discover the fundamental
principles that undergird and animate the
great themes of Sacred Scripture. The
objective of this specially designed Scripture
course for catechists is that they understand
how to craft catechetical sessions that truly
become encounters with the Living Word.
SPEAKER: Fr Erbin Fernandez, Catechetical
Director. Date(s): Tuesday, 12 Jan - 16 Feb
. Time: 7:30pm-10.00pm. Venue: Catholic
Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland
Road, Singapore 549102. To register, [http://
goo.gl/forms/p5AH7Z6Tze](http://goo.gl/forms/p5AH7Z6Tze), before 5 Jan '16

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE (MPC)

For couples intending to get married.
1st Quarter Course Starts: 14 Feb '16 Allocation
of places is on a first-come-first-served basis
Application forms obtainable in church office
or our website @ www.catholic.org.sg/mpc.
Enquiries: Peter+Rita @ 93673411 or email:
mpcsingapore@gmail.com

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 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

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Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

17 January 2016 Year C

READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year C) Pg 170 **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:** Pg 173
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.
READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 18 January - SAT 23 January 2016
MON: 1 SM 15:16-23, MK 2:18-22 **TUE:** 1 SM 16:1-13, MK 2:23-28 **WED:** 1 SM 17:32-33, 37, 40-51, MK 3:1-6 **THU:** 1 SM 18:6-9; 19:1-7, MK 3:7-12 **FRI:** 1 SM 24:3-21, MK 3:13-19 **SAT:** 2 SM 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27, MK 3:20-21

The Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: The First Reading comes from the portion of the Book of Isaiah known as “Third Isaiah”, dating to the period when Israelites began returning to Jerusalem from their time in exile. The language is filled with hope and the promise of new life. Israel’s situation is totally transformed and the nation’s relationship with the Lord is renewed. The marriage imagery tells us that the people have a fresh start, a second honeymoon.

Responsorial Psalm 96: If we read the psalm in the context of the First Reading, we can see it as the response of the people of Israel to their renewed relationship with the Lord in the land that he gave them. They respond with joy and praise, recognising that all the good they have experienced is due to the Lord’s power and his mercy.

Second Reading: Speaking to the oft-divided Church in Corinth, Paul introduces the concept of unity in diversity. He reminds the Corinthians (and us) that, though the Spirit has bestowed a variety of these gifts, these gifts have a single purpose: to build up the common good. By placing our gifts at the benefit of the community, Christians build up the Church and the Kingdom of God.

Gospel: John calls Jesus’ first miracle at the wedding at Cana “the beginning of his signs”. At his mother’s urging, Jesus transforms the situation, turning water into wine and changing what could have been a social disaster into a triumph. The seemingly unlimited fine wine calls to mind the “pure, choice wine” that the Lord has promised to provide on his holy mountain (see Isaiah 25:6) and so “his disciples began to believe in him”.

Some Saints of the Week

St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr & St. Sebastian, Martyr – 20 January

The Church celebrates the lives of two holy men today. Sts. Fabian († 250) and Sebastian († 288), both of whom were martyred for their faith. Very little is known about each of these martyrs, yet they continue to capture the hearts of Catholic Christians everywhere. St. Fabian was elected pope in 236 even though he was not a priest. During his pontificate, Emperor Decius came into power and began persecuting Christians who would not return to pagan worship. St. Fabian was the first among many killed under this emperor’s violent reign. While serving as a soldier, St. Sebastian was persecuted at the hands of the Diocletian. According

to legend, he was pierced with an arrow so that he would die a slow and painful death, but this attempt on his life was unsuccessful due to his athletic stamina. He eventually became well enough to confront the emperor regarding the way Christians were being treated. This led to his execution.

St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr – 21 January

St. Agnes (291 – 304) lived a very short life, but each and every moment was filled with inestimable worth. She felt called to consecrate her virginity to Christ in a

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PARISH NEWS

CHINESE NEW YEAR - 8 Feb '16 (Mon) Mandarin Mass: 8.30am, English Mass: 10.30 am. No Evening Mass. 9 Feb '16 (Tue) English Mass: 7.20am. No Evening Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY - 10 Feb '16 English Mass: 7.20am & 5.30pm. Mandarin Mass: 7.30 pm. The faithful is reminded to note that Ash Wednesday is a day of penance to be marked by fasting and abstinence (one full meal or 2 half meals).

TICKET SALE for the Dedication Thanksgiving Dinner - 2 Jul '16 at Raffles City Convention Centre Members of SPP Ministries can purchase the tables for the Dedication Thanksgiving Dinner from the Church Office from 1 January 2016. Public Sale will start in Feb '16. Tickets are priced at \$1500 per table of 10 persons. Please check with your Ministry Leader or the Church Office for more information.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR EVANGELISATION ACTIVITIES - There will be a Second collection on the Saturday Sunset Mass on 16 Jan and Sunday Masses on 17 Jan '16. This is to fund the activities of the "Office for the New Evangelisation" (ONE), including but not limited to

culture that lived according to the flesh rather than the spirit. When St. Agnes refused numerous marriage proposals because of her espousal to Christ, she was tried and beheaded. Two words embody the whole of her life: faithfulness and purity. No human being or earthly promise could shatter St. Agnes' commitment to her beloved God, nor could any hatred or vengeance taint her virginal heart. Devotion to St. Agnes gained popularity in the Middle Ages, along with other virginal saints like Ursula, Dorothy and Barbara. In religious art, she is often depicted with a lamb, symbolizing the spotless (pure) sacrifice she made for the Lord.

missionary projects and appeals, both local and overseas. ONE coordinates the New Evangelisation initiatives of the Archdiocese and provides training and formation especially in the areas of Evangelisation, Catechesis and Pastoral formation.

INFANT BAPTISM The next Infant Baptism service will be held on Sat 23 Jan '16 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 16 Jan '16.

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 29 Jan '16 at 7.20am and 5.30pm.

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.

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

IS GOD A DELUSION? A CATHOLIC RESPONSE TO THE NEW ATHEISM

- This talk explores the phenomenon of Atheism and how Catholics can respond to the claims made by the so called "new" Atheists today. Date: 20 Jan '16, Venue: St Joseph's Church Victoria Street, Conference Room (1st Floor), Time: 7.30pm - 9.00pm. Speaker: Mr Nick Chui (Masters in Theological Studies, John Paul II Institute of Marriage and Family) Speaker's profile: Nick is a teacher in a Secondary school and has been involved in Youth and Adult Catechesis for about 10 years. He is a moderator of "Catholics in Singapore", a 9000 strong facebook group which hosts numerous faith related discussions. He has also written and published articles on evangelisation that have appeared in the Catholic News, Trinity theological Journal and Church and Society in Asia today. To register, contact Nick @ 97843682 or email theology.sg@gmail.com

PUBLIC TALK ON UNDERSTANDING DEMENTIA: Join us for a 2 hour insight to understand dementia, how it can affect anyone, early warning signs and the different types of Dementia. Learn about the types of treatments

and interventions available, and how to care for individuals with Dementia. Saturday, 23 Jan '16, 10.00am - 12.00pm at Agape Village. 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh, S(319264). \$10 per person. For inquiries, call 6801 7467 or email registration@clarity-singapore.org

THE LMC will be hosting a series of sessions entitled: Holy Week Spirituality, conducted by Father J J at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes on the 17 and 24 Feb (both Wednesdays) from 8.00pm - 10.00pm. This event is for all those in the Music Ministry especially those serving in the choir at Masses. Besides the focus being the Spirituality involved in the events leading up to and throughout Holy Week, Father J J will be touching on some liturgical features as well as music for the Liturgy which will be distinct to Holy Week. Kindly register your interest with us at our website <https://lmcsingapore.wordpress.com/> or here. Registration is free of charge. A Love Offering will be collected at the end of the last session. Please also be assured that an email confirmation will be sent to you once we receive your registration details.

CATHOLIC LAWYERS GUILD (CLG) Pro Bono Legal Clinics @ AGAPE Village. Are you: Facing a legal issue on a *personal matter and do not have legal advice or representation? Facing a legal dispute that you wish to have mediated and resolved? Unable to afford a lawyer? *CLG clinics do not cover legal issues on business or professional matters and are intended for the poor, disadvantaged and sandwiched classes. If so, you may wish to seek free basic legal advice and information at the CLG Pro Bono Legal Clinics. Please visit our website at <http://www.clgsingapore.com> for more information on clinic dates and registration.

LOVE AND CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY 12 - 14 Feb '16, Fri, 8.00pm to Sun. 1.00pm. Facilitated by Sr. Linda Lizada, rc. A retreat to help you understand the different aspects of human sexuality from a developmental perspective, how sexuality helps us grow in self-intimacy, intimacy with others, God and all of creation. Highly recommended for young dating couples. Organised by the Cenacle