

Catholics to play a part to help? . Be inspired by and meet leaders working in this space; including keynote speaker, Cardinal Luis Tagle, President of Caritas Internationalis.. You are invited to register for this exciting biennial conference organized by Caritas Singapore. Find out more and register at <http://www.caritas-singapore.org>

### BEFRIENDING THE COMMUNITY

**WITHIN** - Date: 5 - 7 Aug '16. Time: Fri, 8:00 pm - Sun, 1:00 pm. Venue: Choice Retreat House - 47 Jurong West St. 42. S-649368 Description: This seminar uses the principles of psychosynthesis Robert Assagioli's approach to psychological and spiritual growth; to move toward wholeness through a synthesis of the separate parts of ourselves. Self realization is a spiritual goal, and personal integration must move us toward social integration in ever-widening groups. Contribution: \$200.00. By: Sr Francisca Tan and Ms. Gerry Szeto. Contact: Tel. Nos. 6565-2895; 9722-3148 Email: [cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com](mailto:cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com)

**CLARITY'S** 3 session introductory workshops to understand self worth, its

importance, ways of loving ourselves and how to change by building the new. Saturdays (3, 17 and 24 Sept 2016). \$10 per person limited to 20 participants. To register : Call 6757 7990 or email to : [registration@clarity-singapore.org](mailto:registration@clarity-singapore.org)

**CHARIS-ACTS29 MISSION TRIP** (26 Aug – 1 Sept, 2016) –Join us in building bio-sand water filtration systems with the local community in Romblon, Philippines. Slots for 9 participants only. \$670 per pax. Closing date to register: 20 July 2016. T&C apply. For more information, contact Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives Singapore (CHARIS), Victoria at [victoria@charis-singapore.org](mailto:victoria@charis-singapore.org) or Tel: 6337-4119 or [www.charis-singapore.org](http://www.charis-singapore.org)

Come find out at our **DIOCESAN VOCATION DISCERNMENT RETREAT**. We'll guide you and help you discern. Theme: OPEN WIDE THE DOORS TO CHRIST Date: 19-21 Aug '16 Venue: Immaculate Heart of Mary Retreat House 46 Kovan Road Eligibility: Single male, aged 21-35 years old Registration: Parish office OR email: [seminariansonline@gmail.com](mailto:seminariansonline@gmail.com) OR [diocesanvocations@catholic.org.sg](mailto:diocesanvocations@catholic.org.sg) Closing date is 12 Aug '16



**READINGS:** Sunday Missal (Year C) Pg 965  
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.**  
**READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON** 1 August - **SAT** 6 August 2016  
**MON:** JER 28:1-17, MT 14:13-21 **TUE:** JER 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22, MT 14:22-36 **WED:** JER 31:1-7, MT 15: 21-28 **THU:** JER 31:31-34, MT 16:13-23 **FRI:** NA 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7, JMT 16:24-28 **SAT:** DN 7:9-10, 13-14, LK 9:28B-36

### Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 31 July 2016

#### The Lectionary for Mass

**First Reading:** Wisdom literature focuses on the meaning and significance of everyday life, especially in those things that matter in our relationship to God and one another. The key lesson of Ecclesiastes is that life is “vanity of vanities,” transitory like vapour or breath that quickly vanishes. Those who work hard at gaining possessions and wealth will soon die and leave the possessions to one who has not worked for them. Striving for material things brings with it worry, anxiety and sleepless nights. Death makes such struggle futile and meaningless. Wisdom’s lesson is to focus on the transitory nature of life and strive for things that truly matter in life. Only attunement to God’s values and path, and not our limited and often distorted values, leads to the wisdom of heart necessary to face and work through life’s transitory nature.

**Responsorial Psalm 90:** This communal lament invites us to be attentive to God’s voice, God’s way of doing things, and not harden our heart in the process. Reflecting a strong wisdom focus, the

psalm speaks of the transitory nature of life, along the lines of Ecclesiastes, and of our need for the Lord’s guidance “to number our days aright, / that we may gain wisdom of heart.” Such wisdom is acquired by petitioning God to “fill us.... with your kindness,” namely with hesed or covenant love which helps us focus on right relationship to God, others, and all creation. In so doing, God’s gracious care will be ours and the work of our hands, aligned to God’s work, will indeed prosper.

**Second Reading:** If in Baptism we have been raised with Christ, then it must manifest itself in our manner of living and relating to God and one another. Our life is now hidden with Christ in God such that we no longer act but Christ acts in and through us. We are challenged to put away all that is “earthly,” namely all that causes our hearts to harden and not be attuned to Christ’s way of living and acting. In baptism we have put on Christ so we must live as Christ. Since “Christ is all and in all,” we are all bonded to each other, all divisions are eliminated, and nothing can ever separate us from God and one another.

**Gospel:** Luke’s Jesus is always attuned to the obstacles that riches pose in our

<b>Sunset Mass</b>	: 5.30pm
<b>Rosary</b>	: 4.40pm (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>Counselling @ SPP</b>	: 7.00pm - 9.00pm (Monday, call church secretariat 6337 2585 for appointment)
<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION</b> - 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: <a href="mailto:hkchuajohn@yahoo.com">hkchuajohn@yahoo.com</a> ), 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, <a href="mailto:alexdominic@gmail.com">alexdominic@gmail.com</a>	
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.	

Information is correct at time of publication.

efforts to attune ourselves to God's voice and way of operating. The "rich fool" parable becomes a living example of one who has not learned that "one's life does not consist of possessions." Ecclesiastes' wisdom of the "vanity" of life, the worries that come with possessions, and the uncertainty of inheritance upon death, are reiterated by Jesus as an important teaching lesson for all disciples. Jesus teaches us that we are all called to become "rich is what matters to God" and not in storing "up treasures for ourselves." Only by responding to God's covenant love offered to us in Christ, and striving to be in right relationship with all, will we ever achieve true wisdom of heart.

### **Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord – 6 August**

#### **About this Feast**

The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord reminds us about the depth of mystery that surrounded Jesus Christ – mystery in the sense that we can never exhaust who he really is or categorise him in any way. Fully human, he may indeed have needed a tent or a place to camp on the mountain, like Peter asked. But just when the Apostles may have been getting really comfortable with their understanding of Jesus as a friend and teacher, they catch a glimpse of his heavenly glory, challenging them to remain open to Christ communicating to them who he is as Son of God. We have moments like the Apostles each time we encounter and grapple with a new and challenging image of God in the Scriptures. Remaining humble and open to the revelatory action of God's Word and Spirit is a way to enter ever more deeply into the mystery of who God is for us in Jesus Christ.

#### **Some Saints of the Week**

### **St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and**

### **Doctor of the Church – 1 August**

Following a successful career as a lawyer, St. Alphonsus Liguori (1696 – 1787) lost a legal case which he believed to be a sign from God that he should change his ways and study for the priesthood. At the suggestion of a bishop friend, he founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, also known as the Redemptorists, a community of priests dedicated to preaching, hearing confessions and administering the sacraments. One of his most important contributions to the Church is his prolific writing in the area of moral theology. Also included among his writings are many devotional works regarding Mary and the saints. He influenced the Church not only through his writings, but also through his leadership as a bishop. Due to his many accomplishments, he was declared a Doctor of the Church and is recognised as one of the greatest moral theologians in Church history.

### **St. John Vianney, Priest – 4 August**

St. John Vianney (1786 – 1859) is the patron of parish priests. Although he was not academically astute and had to receive his training privately, he was ordained a priest due to his virtue. He was stationed in a small village, Ars-en-Dombes, in France, where he became a noted catechist, confessor and spiritual director. Soon, he gained a reputation for working miracles, such as multiplying loaves and physical healings. Consequently, the small village became a place of pilgrimage, attracting over 300 visitors a day from 1830 to 1845, to see the "Curé d'Ars." Special train schedules as well as a special booking office had to be established in the nearby city of Lyons to accommodate the steady stream of visitors.

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### **PARISH NEWS**

**SPP CATECHIST RECRUITMENT** We are in dire need of 6 Primary and 5 Secondary Catechists to assist with the faith formation and development for the children and teenagers of SPP. Anyone who wishes to help out these children, please call/SMS Moses at 9009 2226 for more information.

**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 2016/2017** – Starting on 5 Jul '16, every Tue at 7.30pm. This is a year's journey for those seeking to know more about the Catholic faith. It prepares newcomers to encounter Jesus and his Church, and discern towards receiving the sacraments of Christian initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist). Sessions are led by priest or religious and will be held in the Chapel (3rd level, Parish Building). Please invite your non-Catholic friends, colleagues and spouse to attend and learn more about the faith. Baptised Catholics are also invited to journey as sponsors. Registration forms are available from the Parish office; or contact our coordinator, Jonathan Chan at 9685 7290 or email [2kumleong@gmail.com](mailto:2kumleong@gmail.com) for more information.

**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. Registration closes on 8 Aug '16.

**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**

**CHARIS-ACTS29 MISSION TRIP** (26 Aug – 1 Sept, 2016) –Join us in building bio-sand water filtration systems with the local community in Romblon, Philippines. Slots for 9 participants only. \$670 per pax. Closing date to register: 2 Aug 2016. T&C apply. For more information or to register, contact Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives Singapore (CHARIS), Gabriel, [gabriel@charis-singapore.org](mailto:gabriel@charis-singapore.org) or Tel: 6337-4119

**COUPLE EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (CEP) 2016** Have you ever felt like you were coping with your married life rather than living it? Would you like to experience the fullness of marital joy? CEP is a program for married couples who wish to discover more about building strong marriages, and to raise emotionally well-balanced children. Come and learn the latest Catholic Church teachings on family life and life skills to build a more emotionally intelligent marriage. Come for the introduction session to find out what our upcoming sessions & topics. Date: Sun, 14 Aug '16 Time: 1.00pm to 5.30pm. Venue: St Anne's Church, 66 Sengkang East Way S(548593) \*A dedicated team will be available to take care of your kids including infants! Register NOW and make God the cornerstone of your marriage! Please contact Victor & Annabelle at 9105 9921 or Andrea at 9857 9075. Visit [www.cep-sg.org](http://www.cep-sg.org) or [facebook.com/CoupleEmpowermentProgram](https://facebook.com/CoupleEmpowermentProgram) to find out more.

**CARITAS SINGAPORE SOCIAL MISSION CONFERENCE 2016** is less than a month away! Sat 13 Aug 16 @ Performing Arts Centre, Catholic Junior College. Theme: Witness to Mercy, Bearer of Compassion. Interested to understand the real issues and challenges of the poor in Singapore? Want to discover the opportunities available for lay