

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 lvl, 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 register your interest via <http://sppchurch.org.sg/contact-us/>

3-DAYS SANTA CRUZ PILGRIMAGE - We are organising a three-day pilgrimage to Malacca Santa Cruz from Fri/Sun 1 - 3 Sep '17. Spiritual Director: Fr Bernard Wee, OCD. For enquiries, please contact Lawrence Seet at 97992488 or register at Sts Peter & Paul Secretariat Office. Registrations close on 1 Aug '17.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

ART EXHIBITION - The Canossian Schools and Sisters are holding an Art Exhibition entitled Faith.

Hope. Love - a Canossian Art Unites Exhibition. The interreligious communities in Singapore will also be participating. In a world so fraught with religious and racial tensions, this exhibition aims to bring a deeper understanding of love, celebration and acceptance of the different races and religions beyond mere tolerance in Singapore through different Art forms. 22 to 27 Jul '17. Visual Arts Centre at Dhoby Ghaut Green Saturday and Sunday 11.00am to 8.00pm and Mon to Thurs 9.30am to 6.30pm. Admission is free. All are welcomed.

THE APOSTOLATE FOR CATHOLIC TRUTH (ACT) would like to publicise the forthcoming talks in July 2017 in your parish bulletin for the benefit of your parishioners: **1.** The Theology of the Body Introductory Talk, 14 Jul '17, (Andrew Kong) **2.** Using Reason to show God Exist, 21 Jul '17, (Dr Mark Nowaki) **3.** Answering Muslim Questions about Christianity, 28 Jul '17 (Estella Young). Fridays. 7.45pm to 9.30pm Venue: St Joseph's Church Conference Room, Victoria Street FREE, All are Welcome Register at <http://tinyurl.com/ACT-Talk-Signup> or: SMS: 96493893 for enquiries (Andrew). More details: www.catholic.sg/act

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.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be administered from 5.00pm - 5.20pm on weekdays and Saturday at the makeshift confessional at the baptistry (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 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_peternpaul@singnet.com.sg www.sppchurch.org.sg



READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year A) Pg 530

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 17 July - SAT 22 July 2016

MON: EX 1:8-14, 22, MT 10:34 - 11:1 **TUE:** EX 2:1-15A, MT 11:20-24 **WED:** EX 3:1-6, 9-12, MT 11:25-27 **THU:** EX 3:13-20, MT 11:28-30 **FRI:** EX 11:10 - 12:14, MT 12:1-8 **SAT:** SGS 3:1-4B, JN 20:1-2, 11-18

FEAST OF OUR LADY OR MOUNT CARMEL / FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

The feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, celebrated on July 16, was first instituted in the late 14th century in commemoration of the approval of the rule of the Carmelite Order a hundred years earlier. According to legend, a religious community was established even before the time of Christ on Mount Carmel. This is the mountain overlooking the Mediterranean Sea on which the prophet Elijah successfully challenged the priests of Baal and won the people to the true God. The feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel entered the Calendar of the universal Church in the early 18th century.

Although there is no historical evidence for the pre-Christian Carmelite community, references in the 12th century record a community of monks on the holy mountain. Despite continual difficulties, the community built a monastery and church dedicated to the Virgin Mary on Mount Carmel in 1263. Saint Louis, King of France, had visited Mount Carmel in 1254, and brought back six French hermits for whom he built a convent near Paris.

Mount Carmel was taken by the Muslims in 1291, and the brothers were killed and the convent burned. The spread of the Carmelites in Europe is largely attributable to the work of Saint Simon Stock (1247-1265). The Carmelite Order was formally approved in 1274 at the Council of Lyon.

The Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

The brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, according to the Carmelite tradition, was presented by Our Lady to St. Simon Stock, the then Father General on July 16, 1251. Our Lady gave St. Simon a scapular for the Carmelites with the following promise, saying: "Receive, My beloved son, this habit of thy order: this shall be to thee and to all Carmelites a privilege, that whosoever dies clothed in this shall never suffer eternal fire.... It shall be a sign of salvation, a protection in danger, and a pledge of peace."

Another important aspect of wearing the Scapular is the Sabbatine Privilege. This concerns a promise made by Our Lady to Pope John XXII. In a papal letter he issued, he recounted a vision that he had had. He stated that the Blessed Virgin had said to him in this vision, concerning those who wear the Brown Scapular: "I, the Mother of Grace, shall descend on the Saturday after their death and whomsoever I shall find in Purgatory, I shall free, so that I may lead them to the holy mountain of life everlasting."

Many popes and saints have strongly recommended wearing the Brown Scapular to the Catholic Faithful. Pope Pius XII said: "The Scapular is a practice of piety which by its very simplicity is suited to everyone, and has spread widely among the faithful of Christ to their spiritual profit." In our own times, Pope Paul VI said: "Let the faithful hold in high esteem the practices and devotions to the Blessed Virgin ... the Rosary and the Scapular of Carmel!"

Information is correct at time of publication.

and in another place referred to the Scapular as: “so highly recommended by our illustrious predecessors.”

According to Church tradition, there are three conditions necessary to participate in this Privilege and share in the other spiritual benefits of the Scapular: wear the Brown Scapular, observe chastity according to your state in life, and pray the Rosary. In addition to the Sabbatine Privilege, enrollment in the Brown Scapular also makes a person part of the Carmelite family throughout the world. They therefore share in all of the prayers and good works of the Carmelite Orders.

In order to receive the spiritual blessings associated with the Scapular, it is necessary to be formally enrolled in the Brown Scapular. The enrollment is made only once by a priest or authorised person. The Scapular can be replaced afterwards by a medal, which has on one side the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and on the other, the image of Mary.

There a short form for giving the scapular: “Receive this Scapular, a sign of your special relationship with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, whom you pledge to imitate. May it be a reminder to you of your dignity as a Christian in serving others and imitating Mary. Wear it as a sign of her protection and of belonging to the family of Carmel, voluntarily doing the will of God and devoting yourself to building a world true to his plan of community, justice and peace.”

The scapular stands for:

- A commitment to follow Jesus, like Mary, the perfect model of all the disciples of Christ. This commitment finds its origin in baptism.
- It leads into the community of Carmel, a community of religious men and women, which has existed in the Church for over eight centuries.
- It reminds of the example of the saints of Carmel, with whom it establishes a close bond as brothers and sisters.
- It is an expression of the belief that the bearers of the scapular will meet God in eternal life, aided by the intercession and prayers of Mary.

The scapular is not:

- A magical charm to protect someone.

- An automatic guarantee of salvation.
- An excuse for not living up to the demands of the Christian life

It is instead a sign which has been approved by the Church for over seven centuries and which stands for the decision to

- Follow Jesus like Mary:
- Be open to God and to his will.
- Be guided by faith, hope, and love.
- To pray at all times
- To discover God present in all that happens around us.

Source: <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/resources/mary/popular-marian-devotions/our-lady-of-mount-carmel/>

Daily Prayer This Week

As Jesus heals, he gives courage. As he carries out his ministry of healing and announcing the good news of the closeness of the Kingdom of God, he is filled with compassion for all those who suffer and who need this encouraging news. So Jesus calls us to join him. This isn't the call to priesthood or religious life. This is the universal call addressed to all of us to see with the same compassionate eyes of Jesus and to reach out and heal others. As Jesus sends us, he knows that we will encounter resistance and opposition - sometimes from within our own heart first, but certainly from others.

He always tells us not to be afraid. Even when things happen that take away our peace, our peace will be given back to us. He knows he is sending us like sheep among the wolves of this world, and so he asks us to be both wise and simple - two great gifts for our mission. He assures us that even when we don't know how to speak tender or reconciling words, the Spirit will speak through us. The only thing we need to fear is the stuff we get into that can actually destroy our soul.

What a great week to ask for the grace to be responsive to his call! All week, with attentive eyes, we can see with Jesus' own compassion, where he is directing our heart to love and to heal. We begin the week with such a great orientation. Jesus invites us to come to him with our burdens and the stuff that weighs us down and then he sends us. He doesn't say we are not supposed to expect burdens. He just invites us to take up his burden, the ministry he gives to each of us.

Each day, following our pattern of focusing throughout the day in brief moments of conversation and connection with the Lord, we can consciously recognise the “calls” the Lord has given us and is offering us. And we can acknowledge them, accept them, embrace them. Of course, our primary relationships are all the ways we live our discipleship call. So often though, these relationships are where we need the greatest courage to be tender, compassionate and courageous in loving, in letting the Spirit speak through us. Let's ask ourselves all week: how can I bring healing and peace to each important relationship in my life? And, where I'm afraid, or resistant, or even where I've given up, that can be the place of the deepest and most important prayer of the week. It certainly can be the place we come to Jesus to be refreshed.

All week, we can try to be conscious of how our day to day work is part of our call from the Lord: to be an agent in the world for good, to make products, to offer goods and services to people,

PARISH NEWS

TALK ON WAKE SPIRITUALITY: Date: Sat 5 Aug '17 Time: 1.30pm - 4.30pm. Venue: Chapel (3rd Level, Parish Building) Speaker: Fr Thomas Lim, OCD. 2 talks on the Spirituality of Praying at funeral wakes. Topics: What is the purpose of such gathering? Bible references? How to pray. No registration required. All are welcome.

MASS WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING - (All are welcome) 5 Aug '17 (Sat). Church of Sts. Peter and Paul (main church) 2.00pm - Praise and Worship 2.25pm to 4.00pm - Mass celebrated by Fr. Francis Leong, followed by prayers for healing For enquiries, please email praiseatworksg@yahoo.com or call 9747 2467. Organised by SACCRE and Praise@Work

INFANT BAPTISM - The next Infant Baptism service will be held on Saturday 22 Jul '17 at 2.30pm in the main church. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a preparatory session to be conducted by the Priest at 2.30 pm before the baptism. Application Forms for Infant Baptism can be obtained from the Parish Office. The Forms must be submitted by Tuesday 18 Jul '17.

CONCERTS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR 2 RELIGIOUS ORDERS - Sat 2 Sep '17 for

to coordinate human activities, to protect and defend others' rights, to heal others. Some of us are still available to be called to a specific work or ministry. This is a great week to ask for openness. Every one of us can find great meaning and deeper peace in placing what we do in the pattern of our response to God's call to us, through Jesus. When we do our work, we can thank the Lord for this work; ask to do it faithfully, lovingly, compassionately and justly. Some of us are struggling to find work that offers us dignity and a living wage. We can ask the Lord to send us to be his servants, with our gifts, and trust in his fidelity.

As we move through the week, growing in our relationship with the Lord all week, as we make these more conscious background moments of insight, recognition and connection, we can give thanks and trust that if we scatter his seed, with trust and with abandon, we don't have to worry. The harvest has his guarantee of abundance.

Taken from the "Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer" on the Creighton University's Online Ministries website: <http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>. Used with permission.

Cenacle Sisters and Sat 9 Sep '17 for Daughters of St Paul. Time: 8 pm Venue: Church of Sts Peter & Paul (main church). Tickets are available for each night at \$30 & \$50 from Parish Office.

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, 28 Jul '17 at 7.20am and 5.30pm.

SILVER SACERDOTAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of Fr. Joseph Koh, OCD, 5 Aug '17 (Sat). Mass at 5.30pm. Do join in the celebration of Fr Joseph's vocation, marking 25 years as a priest.

SPP FATIMA CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS - There will be Five First Saturday Devotion Sessions until 7 Oct '17 led by various SPP Ministries: The next one is on 5 August - Sion Adorers. 2 September - Legion of Mary and 7 October - English Prayer Group, at 4:30pm at the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima (Parish Building). Do come and join in the prayers. For more information please refer to the article in Bulletin or obtain a copy of the booklet "FATIMA AND ITS MESSAGE" from the Church Office.

RCIA 2017/2018 - Starting on 4 Jul (Every Tue),