

School students are willing to help out at the masses. To sign up as a member of the Altar Servers Ministry, please go to spaltarservers.tumblr.com/SignUp. We will greatly appreciate your service to our church.

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 24 Feb '17 (Fri) at 7.20am and 5.30pm.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR THE FAMILY - (1) What the Catholic Church teaches about Divorce, Separation and Annulment:

4 Mar '17 (Sat), 1.00pm - 4.30pm, at St Peter's Auditorium, Catholic Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland Road, Singapore 549102. Register at <http://catholicfamily.org.sg/dsa2017>

(2) Understanding Same-Sex Attraction. Providing Friendship, Parental or Pastoral Guidance:

25 Mar '17 (Sat), 9.00am - 1.00pm at St Peter's Auditorium, Catholic

Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland Road, Singapore 549102. Register at <http://catholicfamily.org.sg/ssas>

FAMILY LIFE SOCIETY - recruitment of volunteers for a good cause

Family life is looking for volunteers for its Pregnancy Crisis Service; Para-Counselling@Parishes; and Facilitators and Presenters for its Made For More Sexuality Education programmes. Interested? Email: volunteer@familylife.sg or call 6488 0278.

Calling all who are entering or are already Polytechnic to come for SHINE! (Open also to post-secondary to private diploma students). Come & bonf with fellow catholic friends and discover how you can be the light of Christ in your campus: **SHINE COMBINED TERTIARY RETREAT 2017** - Theme: "God is light, and there is no darkness in Him at all" 1 John 1:5. Date: 14 - 17 Mar '17 (Tue - Fri) Venue: Office for Young People, 2 Lor Low Koon, S(536449). Cost: \$40.00. For registration & details: <http://oyp.org.sg/shine2017/> or OYP website at www.oyp.org.sg

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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
Counselling @ SPP	: 7.00pm - 9.00pm (Monday, call church secretariat 6337 2585 for appointment)
Adoration Chapel	: 8.00am - 9.00pm (Mon to Sat), 8.00am - 7.00pm(Sun)

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 baptistery (back of the church). On Sunday, it will be available 30 minutes before each 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:

- Church of Sts Peter & Paul - for contributions/donations for General Operations & Maintenance of the Church;
- Carmelite Fathers - for contributions/donations to the SPP Friars Community, Friars Formation;
- 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_petermpaul@singnet.com.sg www.sppchurch.org.sg



READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year A) Pg 505

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord is compassion and love.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 20 February - SAT 25 February 2016

MON: SIR 1:1-10, MK 9:14-29 **TUE:** SIR 2:1-13, MK 9:30-37 **WED:** 1 PT 5:1-4, MT 16:13-19 **THU:** SIR 5:1-10, MK 9:41-50 **FRI:** SIR 6:5-17, MK 10:1-12 **SAT:** SIR 17:1-13, MK 10:13-16

SPP Ministry Day

Extract from: (Part 1 of 2)

POST-SYNODAL

APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION

CHRISTIFIDELES LAICI

OF HIS HOLINESS JOHN PAUL II

ON THE VOCATION AND THE MISSION OF THE LAY FAITHFUL

IN THE CHURCH AND IN THE WORLD

[...]

CHAPTER I

I AM THE VINE AND YOU ARE THE BRANCHES

The Dignity of the Lay Faithful in the Church as Mystery

[...]

Who are the Lay Faithful

9. [...] "The term 'lay faithful'" -we read in the Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*- is here understood to mean all the faithful except those in Holy Orders and those who belong to a religious state sanctioned by the Church. Through Baptism the lay faithful are made one body with Christ and are established among the People of God. They are in their own way made sharers in the priestly, prophetic and kingly office of Christ. They carry out their own part in the mission of the whole Christian people with respect to the Church and the world"(15).

Pius XII once stated: "The Faithful, more

precisely the lay faithful, find themselves on the front lines of the Church's life; for them the Church is the animating principle for human society. Therefore, they in particular, ought to have an ever-clearer consciousness *not only of belonging to the Church, but of being the Church*, that is to say, the community of the faithful on earth under the leadership of the Pope, the head of all, and of the Bishops in communion with him. These are *the Church* ..." (16).

According to the Biblical image of the vineyard, the lay faithful, together with all the other members of the Church, are branches engrafted to Christ the true vine, and from him derive their life and fruitfulness.

Incorporation into Christ through faith and Baptism is the source of being a Christian in the mystery of the Church. This mystery constitutes the Christian's most basic "features" and serves as the basis for all the vocations and dynamism of the Christian life of the lay faithful (cf. Jn 3:5). In Christ who died and rose from the dead, the baptized become a "new creation" (*Gal 6:15; 2 Cor 5:17*), washed clean from sin and brought to life through grace.

Therefore, only through accepting the richness in mystery that God gives to the Christian in Baptism is it possible to come to a basic description of the lay faithful.

[...]

The Lay Faithful and Their Secular Character 15. [...]

Certainly *all the members* of the Church are sharers in this secular dimension but *in different* ways. In particular the sharing of the *lay faithful* has its own manner of realization and function, which, according to the Council, is “properly and particularly” theirs. Such a manner is designated with the expression “secular character”(32).

In fact the Council, in describing the lay faithful’s situation in the secular world, points to it above all, as the place in which they receive their call from God: “There they are called by God”(33). This “place” is treated and presented in dynamic terms: the lay faithful “live in the world, that is, in every one of the secular professions and occupations. They live in the ordinary circumstances of family and social life, from which the very fabric of their existence is woven”(34). They are persons who live an ordinary life in the world: they study, they work, they form relationships as friends, professionals, members of society, cultures, etc. However, the Council considers their condition not simply an external and environmental framework, but as a reality *destined to find in Jesus Christ the fullness of its meaning*(35). *Indeed it leads to the affirmation that “the Word made flesh willed to share in human fellowship ... He sanctified those human ties, especially family ones, from which social relationships arise, willingly submitting himself to the laws of his country. He chose to lead the life of an ordinary craftsman of his own time and place”*(36).

The “world” thus becomes the place and the means for the lay faithful to fulfill their Christian vocation, because the world itself is destined to glorify God the Father in Christ. The Council is able then to indicate the proper and special sense of the divine vocation which is directed to the lay faithful. They are not called to abandon the position that they have in the world. Baptism does not take them from the world at all, as the apostle Paul points out: “So, brethren, in whatever state each was called, there let him remain with God” (*1 Cor 7:24*). On the contrary, he entrusts a vocation to them that properly concerns their situation in the world.

The lay faithful, in fact, “are called by God so that they, led by the spirit of the Gospel, might contribute to the sanctification of the world, as from within like leaven, by fulfilling their own particular duties. Thus, especially in this way of life, resplendent in faith, hope and charity they manifest Christ to others”(37). Thus for the lay faithful, to be present and active in the world is not only an anthropological and sociological reality, but in a specific way, a theological and ecclesiological reality as well. In fact, in their situation in the world God manifests his plan and communicates to them their particular vocation of “seeking the Kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God”(38).

Precisely with this in mind the Synod Fathers said: “The secular character of the lay faithful is not therefore to be defined only in a sociological sense, but most especially in a theological sense. The term secular must be understood in light of the act of God the creator and redeemer, who has handed over the world to women and men, so that they may participate in the work of creation, free creation from the influence of sin and sanctify themselves in marriage or the celibate life, in a family, in a profession and in the various activities of society”(39).

The lay faithful’s *position in the Church*, then, comes to be fundamentally defined by their *newness in Christian life* and distinguished by their *secular character*(40).

The images taken from the gospel of salt, light and leaven, although indiscriminately applicable to all Jesus’ disciples, are specifically applied to the lay faithful. They are particularly meaningful images because they speak not only of the deep involvement and the full participation of the lay faithful in the affairs of the earth, the world and the human community, but also and above all, they tell of the radical newness and unique character of an involvement and participation which has as its purpose the spreading of the Gospel that brings salvation.

Called to Holiness

16. [...] It is ever more urgent that today all Christians take up again the way of gospel renewal, welcoming in a spirit of generosity

the invitation expressed by the apostle Peter “to be holy in all conduct” (*1 Pt 1:15*). The 1985 Extraordinary Synod, twenty years after the Council, opportunely insisted on this urgency: “Since the Church in Christ is a mystery, she ought to be considered the sign and instrument of holiness... Men and women saints have always been the source and origin of renewal in the most difficult circumstances in the Church’s history. Today we have the greatest need of saints whom we must assiduously beg God to raise up”(42).

Everyone in the Church, precisely because they are members, receive and thereby share in the common vocation to holiness. In the fullness of this title and on equal par with all other members of the Church, the lay faithful are called to holiness: “All the faithful of Christ of whatever rank or status are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of charity”(43). “All of Christ’s followers are invited and bound to pursue holiness and the perfect fulfillment of their own state of life”(44).

Source: http://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_jp-ii_exh_30121988_christifideles-laici.html

PARISH NEWS

ASH WEDNESDAY - 1 March ‘17 English Mass: 7.20am & 5.30pm. Mandarin Mass: 7.30pm. 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).

WAY OF THE CROSS - held every Friday during Lent at 5.30 pm. Evening mass will follow after prayers.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR GIFT - this weekend, being the third weekend of the month, there will be a second collection to receive your monthly pledges to Catholic Foundation’s GIFT campaign if you are giving by cash/cheque. GIFT is Catholic Foundation’s regular giving campaign to fund the numerous organisations involved in families, youths, evangelisation, etc, as well as building projects in the archdiocese.

CALLING ALL YOUTHS AND YOUNG ADULTS to cluck into the Lunar New Year with Food Fun and Games for only \$5! This

The call to holiness is **rooted in Baptism** and proposed anew in the other Sacraments, principally in the *Eucharist*. Since Christians are reclothed in Christ Jesus and refreshed by his Spirit, they are “holy”. They therefore have the ability to manifest this holiness and the responsibility to bear witness to it in all that they do. The apostle Paul never tires of admonishing all Christians to live “as is fitting among saints” (*Eph 5:3*).

Life according to the Spirit, whose fruit is holiness (*cf. Rom 6:22; Gal 5:22*), stirs up every baptized person and requires each to *follow and imitate Jesus Christ*, in embracing the Beatitudes, in listening and meditating on the Word of God, in conscious and active participation in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church, in personal prayer, in family or in community, in the hunger and thirst for justice, in the practice of the commandment of love in all circumstances of life and service to the brethren, especially the least, the poor and the suffering.

event takes place on Sun, 26 Feb from 12.30pm to 3.00 pm. Interested? Pls call Bamby at 96999618.

MASS WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING - 4 Mar ‘17 (Sat), Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, Main Church 2.00pm - Praise and Worship. 2.25pm - 4.00pm Mass followed by prayers for healing. Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Tom Curran. For enquiries, please email praiseatworksg@yahoo.com or call 9817 0152. Organised by SACCRE and Praise@Work

INFANT BAPTISM - The next Infant Baptism service will be held on 25 Feb ‘17 (Sat), 2.30pm in the main church. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a preparatory session to be conducted by the Priest at 2.15pm before the baptism. Application Forms for Infant Baptism can be obtained from the Parish Office. The Forms must be submitted by 20 Feb ‘17 (Mon).

ALTAR SERVERS MINISTRY - We are in a very urgent need for Altar Servers as the number is decreasing at a rapid pace. Altar Servers are urgently needed for all masses. We will be very glad if Primary and Secondary