

## NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

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 Chirst in your campus: **SHINE COMBINED TERTIARY RETREAT 2017** - Theme: "God is ligh, 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](http://www.oyp.org.sg)

**CATHOLIC THEOLOGY NETWORK** is organizing the following session. Date: Wed, 15 Feb '17, 730pm to 9.00pm (begins with Vespers). Venue : St Joseph's Church, Victoria Street, Conference room. Topic title: "Some atheists are known

to do more good works than Catholics. What is their motivation?" Synopsis: Is God the origin of morality, or does it originate purely from human experience, e.g. of learning from mistakes, observing the world and the behaviour of others? This talk explores the source of morality and considers arguments from both perspectives. Presenter: Nick Chui. About the presenter: Nick has a Masters in Theological Studies from the John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family. He teaches History and Religious Education in a Catholic school and has been involved in adult and youth formation for over a decade.

**DEDICATION MASS** - The Mother Church invites you to the Dedication Mass on Tue, 14 Feb '17 at 6.45pm. You are also warmly encouraged to attend the following 12 days of celebrations at the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd. Refer to [www.cathedral.catholic.sg](http://www.cathedral.catholic.sg) for details.

<b>Sunset Mass</b>	: 5.30pm
<b>Rosary</b>	: 4.30pm (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>Adoration Chapel</b>	: 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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**READINGS:** Sunday Missal (Year A) Pg 501

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** They are happy who follow God's law!

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:** MON 13 February - SAT 18 February 2016

**MON:** GN 4:1-15, 25, MK 8:11-13 **TUE:** GN 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10, MK 8:14-21 **WED:** GN 8:6-13, 20-22, MK 8:22-26 **THU:** GN 9:1-13, MK 8:27-33 **FRI:** GN 11:1-9, MK 8:34—9:1 **SAT:** HEB 11:1-7, MK 9:2-13

On the Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time we hear Matthew's Gospel. Jesus speaks to his followers about religious laws and also of our own relationships. Go to offer gifts to God at the altar, but first, Jesus says, "Leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift."

Tuesday is the Memorial of Saint Cyril, monk, and Saint Methodius, bishop.

We continue with first readings from the Book of Genesis. This is the beginning of the story of salvation: Cain and Abel, Noah and the Ark, the Tower of Babel. The week concludes with the Letter to the Hebrews' summary of the beliefs of our ancestors in the faith.

As we follow Jesus' ministry in Mark's Gospel, we witness Jesus' discouragement as he again encounters the challenges of the religious leaders: "he sighed from the depth of his spirit." As they retreat to the other side of the lake, Jesus warns his disciples against the rebellious "leaven" of the Pharisees and reminds them of the meaning of the miracle of the loaves - he is like God, come to feed them in whatever desert journey they encounter. Jesus heals a blind man who first sees only in a

distorted way - a scene which begins the journey to Jerusalem on which Jesus tries to heal the blindness of his disciples. Peter acknowledges Jesus as the Christ but rejects Jesus' instruction that he must suffer and die before the resurrection. Jesus rebukes him and instructs his disciples about their discipleship. It is about taking up our own cross with him: "whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the Gospel will save it." Then Jesus takes Peter, James and John and shows them his glory, to prepare them for the scandal of the cross.

On the Seventh Week of Ordinary Time, Jesus gives us one of the biggest challenges to living the Christian life: Love Your Enemies. "I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well."

### Daily Prayer This Week

We can feel the tension in this week's readings. Jesus is trying to warn his disciples - and us - about the rebellious style of the Pharisees, about hypocrisy. And, he is trying to heal the blindness of his disciples - and our blindness - about what his mission is all about. He has come to free us from

sin and the captivity we have to all kinds of self-centered patterns.

So when we stay reflective this week, we can become more conscious of how we rebel from the path of Jesus, from joining him in becoming less selfish. When we begin our days this week, we can ask, "Lord, help me see the ways I'm too self-centered this week. Help me notice the needs of those you place in my life. Stretch my heart to love more today." It is simple, but it begins to change our focus.

As we go through the week, we can pay closer attention to our resistance, the places we catch ourselves holding back. We can open our eyes to see the patterns in our lives that we might not have paid attention to before. It doesn't have to be serious evil we are choosing. It might just be ways in which we are avoiding losing our lives for him. Once we focus, start paying attention to the daily choices we make, our day becomes a day of prayer. We can be in communion with the Lord throughout the day because it becomes a day of dialogue, in the midst of all the busyness.

"Lord, as I put on this sweater, I'm aware how I just spoke to Helen. I'm sorry. That was all about my fear, wasn't it? I cut her off because I was just afraid of what she was asking of me. I became more aware of the cost to me than anything else. Please help me to continue to see how I respond to people. Please calm my fears." We can

Taken from *Praying Ordinary Time*, on Creighton University's Online Ministries web site: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/OrdinaryTime/>

## PARISH NEWS

**MINISTRY DAY (18 & 19 FEB 2017)** - Ministries of the parish of the Church of Sts Peter & Paul will be showcasing their individual ministry at all masses. Do take this opportunity to visit them at the tentage in the car park for better understanding of their function and approach the members present if you have any question. On

get in the habit of doing this kind of prayer every day, right where we are, in very brief moments. Finding intimacy with God in the midst of our daily lives is the goal of this kind of prayer.

All of this is reinforced by our prayer of gratitude each night. If we can feel the need for this kind of communion with our Lord each day, and thank God for it each night, there is no question that we will be developing a new pattern in our life. We tend to continue to do what we enjoy. And gratitude feeds even more openness and generosity.

*This is the Prayer the Church uses this week of Ordinary Time for the Liturgy of the Hours and the Opening Prayer for the Masses of this week.*

*We can reflect upon it, pray it ourselves, with our family, or adapt it for our concrete desires this week.*

*The Collect for Week 6*

*O God, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you.*

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

**18 Feb** there will be Holy Hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for all ministry members at 3.00pm and with banner procession and blessings at the 5.30pm mass. On **19 Feb** the canteen will be open for sale of finger food at all masses. Beverages are complimentary. There will also be special performances by some ministries after each mass at the praise and worship room. All are

welcomed. The car park will be partially closed on both days for this event. Please follow the instructions of the hospitality ministers.

**14 FEB '17 (TUE)** - In view of The Cathedral of the Good Shepherd's Dedication Mass that evening, there will be NO evening mass (5.30pm) in our Church of Sts Peter & Paul.

**INFANT BAPTISM** - The next Infant Baptism service will be held on Saturday 25 Feb '17 at 2.30 pm 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 Monday 20 Feb '17.

**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 Friday, 24 Feb '17 at 7.20am and 5.30pm.

**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).

**THANK YOU** - Church Collection for our SPP Society of St Vincent de Paul for the month of **November 2016** amounted to **\$6,196.00** and Donations amounted to **\$25.00**. Expenditure for the month was **\$13,442.80**. For the month of **December 2016** amounted to **\$6,320.95** and Donations amounted to **\$1,425.00**. Expenditure for the month was **\$9,986.88**. We support 81 Friends-In-Need (FINs), comprising elderly poor and needy families with young

children living in Chinatown and Beach Road/North Bridge Road and Queen Street areas. If you know of families in need in our parish, please email us with details to [ssvp.spp@gmail.com](mailto:ssvp.spp@gmail.com). We appeal to your generosity in caring for the poor and needy families through our SSVP, St Peter's Conference.

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

**SPP UKULELE CLASS is open for registration.** As one of the action items to our last Parish Assembly feedback, we have established the Ukulele group in 2016 as our evangelization and fellowship platform. The group completed two outreach events in 2016. You are invited to be part of us in the 2017 outreach activities. The new ukulele class started on 9 Jan '17 in room 8 at 7:30pm. Please contact our church office at 63870530 for registration, or contact Michael Cheuk 94763277 for more details

**SPP** is planning to embark on the **Emergency Preparedness Programme** and is seeking volunteers who have experience and knowledge in the following areas: security agencies, medical professionals, first aid, emergency planning and management to form a Taskforce. Please leave your name, contact details, your expertise/knowledge area, the Mass/es you usually attend in SPP with the Parish Office. We thank you for stepping forward to help the Parish, for the safety of all our parishioners!