

at 7.30pm. Lots of fun and laughter awaits with programmes throughout the evening till we welcome 2018 together! Cost: \$300 per table. Sale of tickets will start on 4 Novv'17 at the Church Office! Come with your family and celebrate as a Parish family!

CATECHISM CLASS REGISTRATION - 2018 Level 1 (Pri 1) Catechism Class is open for registration. Please obtain a registration form from Parish Office for more details.

INFANT BAPTISM - The next Infant Baptism service will be held on Sat, 23 Dec '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 2.30 pm before the baptism. Application Forms can be obtained from the Parish Office and must be submitted by Thurs, 30 Nov '17.

PRAYER INTENTION FOR SOULS - Our parish will be specially praying for souls in the month of Nov. Everyone is welcome to write the names of their deceased friends

and/or loved ones in the book placed near the Infant Jesus shrine. Souls whose names are in the book will be prayed for at all public parish masses in the month of Nov.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

PIETA is a support group for bereaved parents who seek God's comfort, wisdom and hope through prayer and reflection on the WORD OF GOD. Our next monthly session (every 4th Tue of the month) is on Tue 28 Nov '17, 7:30pm at Agape Village, Toa Payoh Lor 8. Contact us via email: pieta.singapore@gmail.com or facebook: https://facebook.com/PietaSingapore

CHRISTMAS RECOLLECTION - 17 Dec '17, 9:30am - 5:00pm Choice Retreat House, 47 Jurong West St 42, S649368 An invitation to spend a day of prayer to prepare our hearts for the feast of the Nativity of the Lord. Organised by the Cenacle Sisters. For registration, please email cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com or visit the website www.cenaclemission.com



READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year A) Pg 594

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 27 November - **SAT** 2 December 2017

MON: DN 1:1-6, 8-20, LK 21:1-4 **TUE:** DN 2:31-45, LK 21:5-11 **WED:** DN 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28, LK 21:12-19 **THU:** ROM 10:9-18, MT 4:18-22 **FRI:** DN 7:2-14, LK 21:29-33 **SAT:** DN 7:15-27, LK 21:34-36

Sunday is the **Thirty-Fourth or Last Sunday in Ordinary Time** and the **Solemnity of Christ the King**. Jesus tells the marvellous parable about how we will all be judged - as a shepherd separates sheep from goats, based upon our care for the poor: "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me."

We celebrate the **Feast of Saint Andrew**, Apostle on the 30th of November.

The first reading this last week of the liturgical year is from the Book of Daniel. These apocalyptic and mystical readings were written to give encouragement to the Jewish people in the face of persecution.

The stories in the Gospel of Luke this week offer a look at the meaning of generosity as the poor widow offers her two small coins. Jesus cautions against those who will come in his name promising salvation: "Do not follow them!" The cost of following his teaching is made clear, "You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed." In a dramatic look at the end time, echoing the Daniel readings, Jesus says, "And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Jesus continues the "end time" message saying, "know that the Kingdom of God is near. Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place." He cautions, "Beware

that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap."

Sunday is the beginning of a new liturgical year with the **First Sunday of Advent**. The first reading from the **Prophet Isaiah** as the people repent before God: "Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways!" **Mark's gospel** offers the image of the master who leaves his servants in charge while he is away. Be watchful! Be alert!

Daily Prayer This Week

The old and the new come together this week as we bring this liturgical year to a close and look ahead to Advent, which begins Sunday. We reflect that Jesus is our Saviour and King. This means we are called to help build up the kingdom by loving Jesus in our poorest brothers and sisters. We will encounter readings about the generosity of a poor widow and the warning of the approaching end of time. This is meant to help us begin our preparations for Advent. The actual end of the world may not be at hand, but the Kingdom of God is always at hand for us. It takes focus and paying attention to notice the signs, the ways the Lord makes himself available to us in the midst of our busy days.

We prepare for Advent this week when we can begin a small, but honest prayer, "Come, Lord,

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.
Columbarium Opening Hours	: Mon - Sun: 7.00am - 7.00pm. 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 baptistery (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.	

Information is correct at time of publication.

Jesus. Come into this place and into the conflict in my life. Let me be attentive and open to see the places where I am restless, distracted and too busy. Come into my real situation - not the way I present myself to others. Come to me - the real me that needs you." We need this kind of preparation. These are challenging times. Holidays stretch us and test us. Sometimes, under the stress of it all, we regress into behaviours that are bad and destructive, because they are familiar and what so many others are doing. Relationships get strained. Alcohol rarely brings cheer without at times risking bad patterns. So, praying these days - while very busy - praying out of our needs and even our pain - roots us in relationship with the One who always comes to save us.

For all of us, this is a week to be grateful and to experience the beginning of Advent on Sunday. We can prepare to walk into Church more alert, more ready to explore our longing.

As we grow in our practice of connecting with our Lord and friend in brief moments throughout each day, we can develop the habit of giving thanks each night for what we have received.

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

Preparing for Advent

Setting the Stage For Our Advent Journey, Even Before It Begins.

Getting in Touch with Myself

One of the best ways to prepare for the very special season of Advent is to "get in touch with ourselves." It may sound odd, but one symptom of our contemporary lives is that we can often be quite "out of touch" with what is going on in our very own hearts. We are about to begin our Advent, right at the time our Western culture begins Christmas preparations. It is a busy time, and our heads are filled with details to remember. And, it is a time of emotional complexity that is part of this holiday season - with all of the expectations and challenges of family and relationships: who we want to be with and who we struggle to be with. So, our hearts are

a bit tender, if not completely defended from experiencing anything deeply.

We are about to hear some very powerful and stirring readings from Isaiah, the Prophet. We will re-enter the ancient tradition of a people longing for the coming of a Saviour. We may remember the days of our childhood when we longed for Christmas to come, because it was a magical time of receiving gifts. As adults, we have to ask ourselves: "What is it I long for now?" The answer won't come easily. The more we walk around with that question, and let it penetrate through the layers of distraction and self-protection, the more powerfully we will experience Advent.

Salvation From

We are about to read and pray about the expectant hope of Israel, as expressed through Isaiah. The images we will be using are about darkness and gloom - about thick clouds covering the people - and about hunger and thirst. They are images that attempt to capture a sense of what we feel when we are distant from our God. There are many images about war and conflict. They express the powerlessness and anxiety we experience when we feel vulnerable and defense-less. Most of all, there are images of a future day - a day that can only be called the Lord's - when all the tears will be wiped away, when there will be plenty to eat and drink, and when there will be no more conflict and no more war. God's salvation will be made known. God's victory will be complete.

These are very precious days for us to come into intimate contact with our own need for salvation. It is a time to make friends with our tears, our darkness, our hunger and thirst. What is missing? What eludes my grasp? What name can I give to the "restlessness" in my heart? What is the emptiness I keep trying to "feed" with food, with fantasy, with excitement, with busyness? What is the conflict that is "eating at me"? What is the sinful, unloving, self-centred pattern for which I haven't asked for forgiveness and healing? Where do I need a peace that the world cannot give?

Coming to know where I need a Saviour is how I can prepare for Advent I am preparing to listen to the promises, listen to these rich texts announcing the liberation I can truly long for. When my heart is open, when my hands are open, when my mouth is open and ready to ask for freedom, healing and peace, then I am ready to begin Advent.

Come, Lord, Jesus. Come and Visit Your People. We Await Your Coming; Come, O, Lord.

Isaiah 35

The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom.

They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song. The glory of Lebanon will be given to them, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; They will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak,

PARISH NEWS

CITY DISTRICT ADVENT

PENITENTIAL SERVICES (8.00 pm):

- 11 Dec (Mon) Church of Our Lady of Lourdes
- 12 Dec (Tue) Church of St Teresa
- 13 Dec (Wed) Church of St Bernadette
- 14 Dec (Thu) Church of Sts Peter & Paul
- 15 Dec (Fri) Church of the Sacred Heart
- 18 Dec (Mon) Novena Church
- 19 Dec (Tue) Church of St Michael

CAMP FEARLESS Looking for God in a refreshing way? Or just want to know a few more familiar faces in church? Come join the SPP youth in a 3D2N stay-in camp centred around God with fun and games. Date: 12-14 Dec '17 (Tue-Thu). Venue: Church of SPP. Cost: \$15. Sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/sppcampfearless2017> or contact Tricia 98233922 for more details.

MASS WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING (All are welcome, no registration is needed) 2

Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; With divine recompense he comes to save you.

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the dumb will sing. Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the steppe. The burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground, springs of water; the abode where jackals lurk will be a marsh for the reed and papyrus. A highway will be there, called the holy way; No one unclean may pass over it, nor fools go astray on it. No lion will be there, nor beast of prey go up to be met upon it. It is for those with a journey to make, and on it the redeemed will walk.

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; They will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

Isaiah 35 from: New American Bible

Source: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/preparing-advent.html>

Dec '17 (Sat) Church of Sts. Peter & Paul (main church) **2.00pm** - Praise and Worship **2.25pm-4.00pm** - Mass celebrated by Fr. Thomas Curran, followed by prayers for healing. For enquiries, please email praisatworksg@yahoo.com or call 9747 2467. Organised by **SACCRE** and **Praise@Work**

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - Date: 8 Dec, Venue: Church of Sts Peter & Paul. Rosary and confessions at 11.45am. Mass at 1.00pm. Please bring the following: 1) Book of Prayers 2) Book for Holy Mass. Organised by the Immaculate Heart of Mary Family Rosary Prayer Group.

SPP YEAR-END THANKSGIVING CELEBRATIONS - Date: 31 Dec '17, (Sun **A) Special Thanksgiving Mass** at 5.30pm with renewal of marriage vows and blessings for all married couples. Please note that there is NO 4pm Mass on this day. **B) A Kampong Nite @ SPP**, 7.30pm, SPP Compound. Join in our Parish Dinner after the Thanksgiving Mass