

9.30 pm. For more details and registration: www.catholic.sg/act or HP: 96493893 (Andrew). FOC. All are welcome.

RETROUVAILLE - A Lifeline for Troubled & Hurting Marriages. If you are serious about making your marriage work, this program could be worthwhile for you. Weekend date: 26 - 28 Feb '16. For confidential enquiry, Tel: 6711 6774 Online registration: www.helpourmarriage.sg

CATHOLIC LAWYERS GUILD (CLG) Pro Bono Legal Clinics @ AGAPE Village. Are you: Facing a legal issue on a *personal matter and do not have legal advice or representation? Facing a legal dispute that you wish to have mediated and resolved? Unable to afford a lawyer? *CLG clinics do not cover legal issues on business or professional matters and are intended for the poor, disadvantaged and sandwiched classes. If so, you may wish to seek free basic legal advice and information at the CLG Pro Bono Legal Clinics. Please visit our website at <http://www.catholic.sg/act>

cclsingapore.com for more information on clinic dates and registration.

LOVE AND CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY 12 - 14 Feb '16, Fri, 8.00pm to Sun. 1.00pm. Facilitated by Sr. Linda Lizada, rc. A retreat to help you understand the different aspects of human sexuality from a developmental perspective, how sexuality helps us grow in self-intimacy, intimacy with others, God and all of creation. Highly recommended for young dating couples. Organised by the Cenacle Sisters; Contact: Tel.: 6565-2895; 9722-3148; Email: cenaclesing@gmail.com. Venue: Choice Retreat House

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE (MPC) For couples intending to get married. 1st Quarter Course Starts: 14 Feb '16 Allocation of places is on a first-come-first-served basis Application forms obtainable in church office or our website @ www.catholic.org.sg/mpc. Enquiries: Peter+Rita @ 93673411 or email: mpcsingapore@gmail.com

Sunset Mass	: 5.30pm
Rosary	: 4.40pm (Saturday)
Sunday Masses	: 8.30am (Mandarin), 11.00am (English), 2.00pm (Cantonese, Chapel 3rd floor), 4.30pm (English)
Weekday Masses	: 7.20am and 5.30pm
Intercessory Prayer	: 7.15pm (English, Thursday, Adoration Chapel)
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, Adoration Chapel)
Hour of Mercy	: 3.00pm daily, (Adoration Chapel)
Counselling @ SPP	: 7.00pm - 9.00pm (Monday, call church secretariat 6337 2585 for appointment)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be administered from 5.00pm-5.20pm on weekdays in Rm 1. On weekends, it will be available in the makeshift confessional/back of the tentage 30 mins before each weekend 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:
(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.

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 C) Pg 183 **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:** Pg 186
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.
READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 8 February - SAT 14 February 2016
MON: 1 KGS 8:1-7, 9-13, MK 6:53-56 **TUE:** 1 KGS 8:22-23, 27-30, MK 7:1-13 **WED:** ASH WEDNESDAY **THU:** DT 30:15-20, LK 9:22-25 **FRI:** IS 58:1-9A, MT 9:14-15 **SAT:** IS 58:9B-14, LK 5:27-32

The Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: The call of Isaiah follows a familiar pattern. Isaiah has an encounter with the Lord, seeing a vision of the Lord's magnificence in his dwelling in the Temple. Transformed and inspired by that encounter, Isaiah offers himself enthusiastically in service of the Lord. Though Isaiah understands his own limitations, he trusts God and is purified for his mission of preaching God's steadfast love and mercy to a people in great need.

Responsorial Psalm 138: Today's psalm praises the Lord for rescuing his people. Even though the people have sinned and turned away from God, God's love and mercy never fade. God's saving love inspires a hymn of praise in the people. In the same way, God's actions in our lives are not a private matter, but a public act. Our response must be public as well, praising the Lord in the liturgical assembly of his people.

Second Reading: Like Paul, all disciples are called to share the Gospel. The Gospel we are called to proclaim is quite simple: Jesus died for our sins and was raised from the dead so that we might share in eternal life. If we do not believe in this truth and live our lives formed by this belief, our preaching will be empty and useless. If the preacher is

not formed by faith, the preaching will not be able to inspire, convert and transform.

Gospel: Paralleling the First Reading's call of the prophet Isaiah, the Gospel recounts the call of Jesus' first disciples. This call follows the familiar pattern. Jesus extends the invitation. Having encountered Jesus and his preaching and having seen his glory (in the miraculous catch of fish), Simon Peter, James and John are transformed. They abandon the life they have known and begin to follow Jesus, strengthened by the mission with which Jesus entrusts them.

Lent and Holy Week

The Meaning

One of the most compelling aspects of Evangelii Gaudium is the fact that in it, the Holy Father is speaking to all the faithful – men and women, young people and elders, lay and ordained. He is particularly sensitized to the challenges facing the laity as they try to live their faith and carry the hope and love of the Gospel to those who have yet to encounter it fully.

Lent, traditionally a season of introspection and preparation, is an ideal time to consider the challenges presented by Pope Francis in this important letter. He recognises that the

message of Christ can only be borne to the world effectively if we first recognise the challenges that the present day presents. He is not interested in denial or evasion. While the human community has celebrated extraordinary advances, countless people are trapped in circumstances without hope in which they are deprived of that which supports their basic needs and dignity.

The headings in his letter name the “challenges of today’s world” that create conditions in which all people cannot share fully in the abundant life that is their God-given right. Pope Francis names these with candor and clarity: “No to an economy of exclusion.” “No to the new idolatry of money.” “No to a financial system which rules rather than serves.” “No to the inequality which spawns violence.” These dramatic headings are unpacked in detail, and call us to look at our governments, businesses and institutions with new and critical eyes. He challenges secularization and questionable new religious movements. He asks us to look at the moral relativism that depletes our Catholic conviction, and erodes our ability to speak strongly on behalf of “human dignity and the common good.”

He also calls us to look at the crises faced by families, and the cultures in which they reside. He asks each of us to see the poor with new eyes and to act powerfully on their behalf. He asks us to transform our cities and the problems that plague them – drugs, abuse of minors, the abandonment of

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PARISH NEWS

ST PIO DEVOTION - It started in our church on Saturday, 23 January’16 at 4.00pm. It will be held every 23rd of the month. “Pray, hope and don’t worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer.” For more information, call: 9642 7823(Loradel) 9694 5443(Philip)

the elderly, criminality and corruption.

It is significant that the Holy Father took the time to name these issues and so many more in such stark detail. It would be tempting to read his words and proclaim it all too much to tackle. He recognises this, and exhorts us to take heart and take action. He implores us to say “no to a sterile pessimism”.

The Joy of the Gospel is such that it cannot be taken away from us by anyone or anything (cf. John 16:22). The evils of our world – and those of the Church – must not be excuses for diminishing our commitment and our fervor. Let us look upon them as challenges which can help to grow. With the eyes of faith, we can see the light which the Holy Spirit always radiates in the midst of darkness, never forgetting that “where sin increased, grace has abounded all the more” (Romans 5:20). Our faith is challenged to discern how wine can come from water and how wheat can grow in the midst of weeds.

During Lent, we are called to reflect on the Cross of Christ. What better season than this to look honestly into our lives and communities and honestly assess where we see people bearing that cross today. Like Simon of Cyrene, we can step forward and life the burden in this moment, and work to be the agents of change needed in this world. Rather than be prophets of doom, resigned and resistant, we can become, in the words of Bishop Ken Untener, “prophets of future not our own.”

INFANT BAPTISM - The next Infant Baptism service will be held on Sat 27 Feb ‘16 at 2.30 pm in the Chapel (3rd Storey, Parish Building). 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 Sat 20 Feb ‘16.

SPP YEAR OF MERCY SERIES - To kick off the series of Jubilee Year of Mercy events in SPP, we have a catechesis on mercy on the topic “An Appreciation of the Sacrament of Reconciliation”. Date: 13 Feb ‘16 (Sat), Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm, Venue: Chapel (Level 3 @ SPP). Speaker: Fr. Edward Lim, OCD. The session will include Confession and Eucharistic Adoration. For registration, please email SPP happenings@gmail.com or register with the Church Office. Attendance by registration only.

TICKET SALE for the Dedication Thanksgiving Dinner - 2 Jul ‘16 at Raffles City Convention Centre Members of SPP Ministries can purchase the tables for the Dedication Thanksgiving Dinner from the Church Office from 1 January 2016. Public Sale will start in Feb ‘16. Tickets are priced at \$1500 per table of 10 persons. Please check with your Ministry Leader or the Church Office for more information.

CHINESE NEW YEAR - 8 Feb ‘16 (Mon) Mandarin Mass: 8.30am, English Mass: 10.30 am. No Evening Mass. 9 Feb ‘16 (Tue) English Mass: 7.20am. No Evening Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY - 10 Feb ‘16 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).

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.

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

“WHAT IS CHRISTIAN MISSION?” talks by CHARIS – Join us on 20 & 27 Feb, 12 Mar and 2 & 9 Apr to learn and share about the Trinitarian nature of mission – the thrust of the very heart of Christian life – and how we can do so in a dynamic way. All sessions held @ Catholic Centre, 10.00am - 12.00pm. For more information, contact Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives Singapore (CHARIS), Victoria at victoria@charis-singapore.org or Tel: 6337-4119. Website www.charis-singapore.org

THE APOSTOLATE FOR CATHOLIC TRUTH would like to publicize these talks (Feb ‘16) in your bulletin for the benefit of your parishioners.:

1. What’s Right and Wrong? 5 Feb ‘16
 2. Atheism, A Catholic Response. 12 Feb ‘16
 3. The Real Presence. 19 Feb ‘16
 4. Scientific Investigations on Miraculous Images. 26 Feb ‘16
- Venue: St Joseph’s Church Conference Room Victoria Street, Fridays 7.45 pm -