

**NEWS AROUND THE PARISH**

**CROSSING CAFÉ** invites you to **Tea-time with Mary: The Assumption - 15 Aug '17, 3:30pm**. Have a burning question about Mary's Assumption? The Assumption - A doctrine or dogma? Can we assume that Mary assumed into Heaven? By Fr. Eugene Lee, C.Ss.R. on 15 August and make your day of obligation more than just an obligation. Enjoy physical and spiritual nourishment through the love of our Mother. Tea and talk: \$10++ per pax. Please contact Xernan (91099940) or Benedict (81126996).

**CATHOLIC THEOLOGY NETWORK** is organising a talk titled: Is there such a thing as a "Just War?" The Crusades and other conflicts have sometimes been called 'just wars'. This talk explores whether the 'Just War' theory is still relevant in modern context. Speaker: Mr Kelvin Ng (Masters in Imperial and Commonwealth History from the University of Oxford). Details: 16 Aug '17, 7:30pm to 9pm, St. Joseph's Church (Victoria St) Conference Room. No carpark available.

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 confessional (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.

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**APOSTOLATE FOR CATHOLIC TRUTH (ACT)** is organising the following 3 talks: (1) What's Right and Wrong? - 11 Aug (2) Why I should be a Catholic? - 18 Aug (3) Why *Humanae Vitae* is infallible? - 25 Aug. Time: 7:30pm - 9:30pm at St. Joseph Church (Victoria St) Conference Room. Free. All are welcome. Enqry: www.catholic.sg/act

**ACTS OF THE APOSTLES with MSGR AMBROSE VAZ** A 12-session journey through Acts of the Apostles starting 16 Aug '17 8pm to 10pm, Church of St. Bernadette Parish Hall. No registration required.

**BRINGACATHOLICHOME** - Our mission is to help reconnect the 'away' Catholic back to Church in a non-judgemental and compassionate space. Will that be you? Or someone you know? Last run of this year begins 28 Aug for 11 Mondays at Church of the Holy Spirit. Contact Leonard Ong (93692100)/ Tricia Tay (98631590). Registration closes 18 Aug '17. Find out more about Landings at www.landings.org.sg



**READINGS:** Sunday Missal Pg1057  
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 07 Aug - SAT 12 August 2017**  
**MON:** NM 11:4B-15, MT 14:13-21 **TUE:** NM 12:1-13, MT 14:22-36 **WED:** NM 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26A-29A, 34-35, MT 15:21-28 **THU:** 2COR 9:6-10, JN 12:24-26  
**FRI:** DT 4:32-40, MT 16:24-28 **SAT:** DT 6:4-13, MT 17:14-20

Today's feast of the transfiguration of Jesus is one of those gospel events that steps out of the ordinary as does, for example, the account of the baptism of Jesus by John. Both involve the presence of the divine and the divinely inspired. I think of the transfiguration as something like "coming attractions." The event takes place near the end of Jesus' public ministry and seems to act as a glimpse into the very near future -- Jesus' death and resurrection.

Jesus leads three of his disciples, Peter, James and John into this special scene and then astounding events unfolded before their eyes: "he was transfigured" before them; his "face shone like the sun;" and his garments became "white like the light." Peter responded by acknowledging "how good it is for us to be here." And then the cloud, the ancient sign of the very presence of God overshadowed them, and the voice, "This is my beloved Son, listen to him."

What on earth is going on here? From our historical perspective we can look back and say that the disciples were given a preview of the glory that belongs to Jesus after his death and resurrection and in the fullness of the Kingdom of God. They don't know it now, but that is the same glory that they will be given after they bring the message of the Kingdom to their contemporaries.

What a special moment for them, and also for us who receive the promise of ultimate glory from Jesus through God's generous love. We are invited to plumb the depths of this astonishing transfiguration moment in the lives of Jesus and the disciples.

I usually think of the "glory" of Jesus at the moment of the transfiguration being associated with his resurrection. But the truth is that BOTH the suffering/death of Jesus AND the resurrection represent to us the glory the Son has received from the Father.

Scripture scholar, Tom Wright, invites his readers to discover a parallel between this transfiguration moment and the crucifixion of Jesus. It can be compared and contrasted schematically this way:

<b>TRANSFIGURATION</b>	<b>CRUCIFIXION</b>
Jesus revealed in GLORY	Jesus revealed in SHAME
His clothes SHINING WHITE	Clothes roughly STRIPPED OFF
Jesus with MOSES & ELIJAH	Jesus with TWO THIEVES
Surrounded by SHINING CLOUD	DARKNESS covers the land

Information is correct at time of publication.

The mount-top view of transfiguration gets its meaning from the hill-top of Golgotha and vice-versa. Our invitation is to acknowledge the glory in the crucifixion. Our lives are filled with experiences that we could describe as transfigurations: think of the birth of a child; honors coming from the hard work of getting an education; truly enjoying the benefits of good health. And our lives are filled with crucifixion experiences as well: the loss of a job or economic instability; the loss of a loved one to death; the pain of illness. The list can go on, and we are all called to be attentive to both types of experiences – those by which I am transfigured and those that are a crucifixion to me. The same glory shines through both of these real life situations if we but let it in, and in so doing we let Christ in at ever-deeper levels of our lives.

*Lord, help me to live into the reality of Christ's life, death and resurrection in my own history. Let me be more deeply aware of Jesus' presence to me and to live into as well as out of that glorious inviting presence that you are to me.*

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Source:<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/080617.html>

On the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time we celebrate we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, on which we see how Jesus revealed himself in Glory, "to prepare his disciples for the scandal of the cross."

In Matthew's Gospel this week we hear some marvelous words about faith and discipleship. The "feeding of the 5,000" comes after the disciples ask Jesus to send the crowd away because they didn't know how to feel them. Jesus tells them to "give them some food yourselves" and blesses the loaves and fishes. Jesus comes to his disciples across the water in a storm, and invites Peter to come to him, across the water; when Peter comes, he takes his eyes off Jesus and goes down.

A persistent Cannanite woman begs Jesus for help for her daughter. When he refuses, she persists and he replies, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" and Peter replies, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." But when Peter tries to stop Jesus from talking about the hardships that are ahead, Jesus tells him, "Get behind me, Satan!" He gives his followers a guide for their lives: "Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." The disciples wonder why they could not drive out a demon from a boy, Jesus answers, "Because of your little faith." Faith "the size of a mustard seed" is enough.

On the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Elijah finds God not in the thunder and driving wind, but in a gentle breeze. We repeat the gospel we heard a few days ago as Peter's fear gets the best of him, when Jesus calls him out of his boat in a stormy sea. Peter takes his eyes off of Jesus and would have perished without Jesus' rescuing him.

### Daily Prayer This Week

This week we can ask, in the variety of ways, in the situations of our daily lives, that our eyes might be opened to see Jesus as he really is - glorified, with the Father, and ready to renew our faith and trust in him.

As we begin our day, and at brief times throughout our day, we can pull our consciousness together by letting the themes of this week's reading guide us.

One day, we might ask to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus as we go through a day full of strong wind and waves. We can ask again and again, as things get tougher and more challenging. Another day, we might focus on what comes out of our mouths. Is there cynicism, judgments, distortions of the truth, divisive and self-serving manipulation, yelling and hurtful put-downs? How do I practice using my voice to give praise to God by affirming others, forgiving them, by telling the truth, by defending the poor and the voiceless, by giving God thanks?

Another day, I might be conscious of those I regard as "dogs," those I disdain or think of as "the enemy." I might ask for the grace to open my heart to whatever faith in God they have, however different from mine. I might ask for a sense of solidarity with them, not because it is my desire or inclination, but because it is God's desire for me. How can I heal and reconcile, at least in my heart, what needs healing: racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, anti-Muslimism, fear and hatred of foreigners, hostility against the poor or my harsh judgments about "sinners."

Later in the week, we can get in touch with the call of Jesus to deny ourselves. This is not self-denial for its own sake. This is the dying to self that comes from loving in the self-sacrificing way that Jesus did. Who in my family, friends, relative, co-workers, members of my parish or congregation needs my self-denying love?

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### PARISH NEWS

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Day of Obligation** 14 Aug '17, Mon (Anticipated Mass): 5.30 pm (English) 15 Aug '17, Tue: 7.20am, 5.30pm (E), 7.30 pm (M)

**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.

**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.

**MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED** 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, 18 Aug '17 at 7.20 am and 5.30 pm.

How have I focused on "gaining the world" and lost some of my true self in the process? Is there some way this week that I can taste discovering my true self in giving some time, some compassion, some love, some special care to someone who needs this from me?

And throughout the week, perhaps at a special time of powerlessness or some time when I feel that I don't have the energy or gifts to do the "more," to move a mountain, I can ask for faith the size of a mustard seed. And, each night I can give thanks to God for being generous to me all week, for this simple focus on our relationship every day.

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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.

**SPP FATIMA CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS** The next one is on 2 Sept '17 by Legion of Mary and 7 Oct '17 by 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.

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

**CANTONESE RETREAT 2017** on 9 Aug '17, Wed, from 9.00am to 6.00pm in SPP Church. Theme: To Jesus through Mary. Activities include Rosary Recitation, Praise and Worship, Testimony, Healing and Holy Mass. No registration required, free light lunch and drinks will be provided. Organised by SPP Cantonese Group. Enquiry: Michael Cheuk 94763277