

+ REFLECTION

SUNDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2016 • FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
Dt 26:4-10 Ps 91:1-2, 10-15 Rom 10:8-13 Lk 4:1-13

“Lord, help me remember to make my relationships a priority. Teach me how to love as you did, Jesus - fully and from the heart.”

Do you remember falling in love? The whole world seemed new, and you felt as if you were walking on air—all because someone had stolen your heart. As your relationship progresses, you learn that love isn't just a warm feeling. It also involves responsibility and hard work. In every relationship, situations come up in which you have to choose to protect and develop your love - and that often means a degree of self-sacrifice. It may mean turning down a promotion because it would take away more time with your family. It may mean caring for an ageing parent or spouse who has become dependent on you for everything! It's in times like these that you are called to embrace a fuller meaning of love: selflessness.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus enters the desert, where he is tempted by Satan. While each temptation is different, they all have the same goal of luring Jesus away from his commitment to love us “to the end” (John 13:1). Jesus chooses love. This is a fitting topic for the feast day of St. Valentine. In the third century, the emperor Claudius II banned all marriages in Rome so that he could have more unattached men for his army. Valentine, a bishop, defied the emperor's order and married couples in secret. He was ultimately arrested, beaten, and beheaded. Valentine could have chosen self-preservation, but he sacrificed his life for love instead.

Today, consider the way that Jesus and many heroes of the faith have chosen love over personal gain or preservation. Think about the way their decisions have caused a ripple effect on the world. Then ask the Lord to show you how you can take the next step toward choosing love.

Daily Readings

Feb 15 Mon: Lenten Weekday

Lv 19: 1-2, 11-18 Ps 19: 8, 9, 10, 15 Matt 25: 31-48

Feb 16 Tue: Lenten Weekday

Is 55: 10-11 Ps 34: 4-7, 16-19 Matt 6: 7-15

Feb 17 Wed: Lenten Weekday/ Seven Founders of the Order of Servites, rs

Jon 3: 1-10 Ps 51: 3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11: 29-32

Feb 18 Thu: Lenten Weekday

Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138: 1-3, 7-8 Matt 7: 7-12

Feb 19 Fri: Lenten Weekday. Day of abstinence from meat (age 14 and up).

Ez 18: 21-28 Ps 130: 1-4, 5-7a, 7-8 Matt 5: 20-26

Feb 20 Sat: Lenten Weekday

Dt 26: 16-19 Ps 119: 1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Matt 5: 43-48

A GENTLE REMINDER

Petitions to Divine Mercy

All petitions to the Divine Mercy will be offered up on the last Saturday of every month during the 5pm Divine Mercy devotion. Please place your petitions in the Petition Box at the Divine Mercy mosaic inside the main church.

Helping Hands Needed

We need more hands to clean the church. Just come by every Saturday from 8:00am to 10am at the main Church. All are welcome!

Parish Secretariat

General Office

Raymond Tan/Luke Teo/Maria Lim/
Teresa Tan

Tel | 6583 3378 • Fax | 6583 1694
Email | secretariat@divinemercury.sg

Opening Hours

Mon - Fri | 11am - 7pm
Closed for lunch | 1pm - 2pm
Sat | 12.30pm - 5.30pm
Sun | 9am - 1pm
Closed on public holidays

Staying Connected

To offer feedback, email us at

stayingconnected@divinemercury.sg

Subscribe to our e-bulletin

Visit our website at
www.divinemercury.sg

Launch our Facebook

www.divinemercury.sg/facebook

Parish Census

For those who have not yet registered as parishioners of CDM, please do so at the Parish Office.



CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

19 PASIR RIS ST 72 SINGAPORE 518771 • www.divinemercury.sg

13/14 FEB 2016 • VOL. 07

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

Parish Bulletin

Parish Priests

Fr Johnson Fernandez

Tel | 6583 6393

Fr Terence Kesavan

Tel | 6583 8789



The Jubilee Year of Mercy Holy Door will be open from 7am to 9pm daily.

Mass & Prayer Times

Weekday

6:30am, 6:15pm

Saturday

6.30am, 5:30pm

Every 1st Saturday of the month

7.30pm Syro-Malaba Mass (Chapel)

Every 3rd Saturday of the month

7.30pm Tagalog Mass

Sunday

7am, 9am, 11.30am, 5.30pm

Confessions 15 min before Mass.

Public Holidays 8am only

Divine Mercy Devotion

Daily at 6.45pm (Chapel)

Saturday at 5.00pm (Main Church)

Prayer for Priests

Every Thurs 5.15pm followed by 6.15pm mass

Community & Pastoral Care

Divine Mercy Apostolate

Neighbourhood Christian Community (NCC)

Prayer for the Sick & Dying

Funeral and Wake Services

Please contact the Parish Office or email secretariat@divinemercury.sg



SAINTS IN MERCY

St Therese of Lisieux The Little Flower

We continue our Saints in Mercy series this week with St Therese of Lisieux. Many people associate Valentine's Day with roses and interestingly, roses have also been described as St Therese's signature. "My mission - to make God loved - will begin after my death," she said. "I will spend my heaven doing good on earth. I will let fall a shower of roses." Shortly after her death, cures of painful and fatal diseases and many other miraculous experiences were attributed to her intercession. Sometimes roses literally appeared and sometimes just the fragrance of them accompanied these experiences. Thousands of people have given witness to the way Therese responds to their petitions and prayers with grace and roses.

Find out more on page 2.

The Law of Love

Let us ask the Lord to help us understand the law of love. How good it is to have this law! How much good it does us to love one another, in spite of everything. Yes, in spite of everything! St. Paul's exhortation is directed to each of us: "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Rom 12:21). And again: "Let us not grow weary in doing what is right" (Gal 6:9).

- Pope Francis in Evangelii Gaudium

Reflection: What is the law of love? Loving even when it hurts. Doing what is right even when no one is looking. In God's mercy, he's done all of these things for us. He had taught us a new way, and now it is our turn to do this for others.

+ PARISH BUZZ

Saints in Mercy • St Therese of Lisieux

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Generations of Catholics have admired this young saint, and found in her short life of 24 years more inspiration than in volumes by theologians. St Therese never went on missions, never founded a religious order, and never performed great works. However, the world came to know Therese through her autobiography, "Story of a Soul". "What matters in life," she wrote, "is not great deeds, but great love." Therese lived and taught a spirituality of attending to everyone and everything well and with love.

She loved flowers and saw herself as the "little flower of Jesus," who gave glory to God by just being her beautiful little self among all the other flowers in God's garden. Because of this beautiful analogy, the title "little flower" remained with St. Therese.

Infant Baptism Congratulations!

Congratulations to the parents and godparents whose infants received the Sacrament of Baptism last weekend. Photographs are available on our website <http://divinemercury.sg/services/index.html>



Fr Johnson's 45th Sacerdotal Anniversary

Congratulations, Fr Johnson on the occasion of his 45th Sacerdotal Anniversary!

Thank you for your dedicated and loving service to our Lord and his Church. We greatly appreciate the many ways God has touched us through your life.

Starting the Season of Lent

Each year the Church gives us six weeks to take a long, loving look at our lives to see if our values and priorities are in line with God's desires for us. Since most of us find that we've wandered from God's path, Lent becomes that second chance, or do-over, to "return to God with our whole heart." The goal of every Christian is to leave Lent a stronger and more vital person of faith than when we entered.

Thank You!

Did you know that every single Mandarin orange that was blessed and distributed for our Chinese New Year Mass was individually cleaned? Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to do so! Thank you also to those who helped to clean and decorate the church!

+ PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Masses on 14 Feb

At the end of all Masses, there would be a brief adoration followed by healing prayer. All masses will be celebrated by Fr Thomas Bobby. Thank you Fr Bobby for conducting the Parish Retreat!

Catechism Sessions

Catechism sessions for all levels will start on the weekend of 20/21 February. The 2016 Class Lists are available on our Parish website and on the Notice Board at Level 3.

If your name is not on the list, please contact Allyson Fong @ 92990997, Leonard Louis @ 81333078 or email catechism@divinemercury.sg

Level 1 Parents Briefing

There will be a briefing for all parents whose children will be starting Level 1 this year. Details are as follows:

When 20 Feb, Saturday @ 4.15pm - 5.15pm
or 21 Feb, Sunday @ 10.15am - 11.15am

Where Chapel

Home Rosary Session

Host Nancy Wee

Dates 15 - 21 Feb 2016

Rosary days with community:

Mon, Tues and Wed at 8:15pm; Sunday at 3pm

Venue Blk 574 Pasir Ris St 53 #03-26

For more info, contact Susan Tan at 9119 5909 or visit the Ministry's webpage.

Retreat by The Bible Apostolate

Consoling the Heart of Jesus by Fr Michael Gaitley

When Every Wednesday (17 Feb - 20 April)
(10 sessions) from 8pm to 9.45pm

Where Parish Hall, Level 3

Registration at the foyer. Contact Jenny Krishnamoorthy at 96792415 or email jennykrishnamoorthy15@gmail.com

Pilgrimage to Spain • Portugal •

France | 25 May - 9 Jun 2016

Kindly confirm your bookings with Raymond at 91807887 or Julia at 91474938

Survey: Update on Parish Mass Attendance

The Archdiocesan Strategic Planning of Resources team will be undertaking a **Parish and Mass attendance update** and an ethnographic research on **"What it is like to be a Catholic in our Singapore Church" today.**

One representative per household that visits this parish/church is to fill up this Update on Parish Mass attendance.

This simple on-line (internet/smartphone) survey can be found at: survey.catholic.sg. It has only 8 short questions and takes only about 3 minutes! Thank you for your participation!

Who is the Holy Spirit?

Let us come together and reflect on who the Holy Spirit is to us and where it is in our lives, especially as we prepare ourselves during this period of Lent. Come join us!

When 18 Feb 2016 @ 8pm

Where Parish Hall (Level 2)

Milestones: Stages of Life in the Light of Meditation

When 12-13 Mar, 9am-5pm

Where Catholic Junior College, \$80.00

Childhood, adulthood, old age, and death are stages of life we all pass through. Fr Laurence will discuss how meditation can help us experience these milestones as stages of maturing in Christian faith. Fr Laurence Freeman OSB is a Benedictine monk and Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM). **For more information & registration:** www.gevme.com/milestones
Enquiries: Ruth wccmretreat2016@gmail.com 90260326
Cecilie cecilie.dee@gmail.com 96610362