

## + REFLECTION

SUNDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2016 • SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT  
Gen 15: 5-12,17-18 Ps 27:1. 7-9. 13-14  
Phil 3:17-4:1 Luke 9: 28b-36

### “Holy Spirit, I am sleepy. Wake me up to God’s presence. I want to be fully in touch with you today.”

It had been a long day. Troubles at work, financial challenges, infuriating traffic—and now, he was driving home from work feeling tense and anxious. But then he crested a hill and saw a beautiful sunset over the valley where he lived. His heart lifted, and he remembered why he was doing it all in the first place.

How easy it can be to get bogged down with our obligations! And how deeply the Holy Spirit wants to get our attention! Look at the disciples. They fell asleep while Jesus was praying. Imagine their surprise as they opened their drowsy eyes and saw him transfigured. Or look at Abraham: he and Sarah had longed for children for decades. Think of how hard it was for him to believe that he would have just one child, much less a sky full. He probably never looked at the night sky the same again.

God wants to get our attention. He wants to nudge us and readjust our focus. Maybe something special happens, and the “light goes on,” changing our perspective. Or maybe we’re trying to become more attentive to God’s presence, and he sends a blessed moment when he “pulls back the curtain,” revealing a glimpse of his glory.

You don’t have to wait for God to surprise you. You can put yourself in a position where he can open your eyes and change your perspective. Today, try to slow down a couple of times, and look for God’s presence. Maybe you can take a walk and immerse yourself in the beauty of nature. Or maybe visit a church and sit before the Blessed Sacrament. No matter how you do it, know that the Lord is near you. Nothing makes him happier than when one of his children “wakes up”!

### Daily Readings

#### Feb 22 Mon: Chair of Peter, Feast

1 Pt 5: 1-4 Ps 23: 1-6 Mt 16: 13-19

#### Feb 23 Tue: Lenten Weekday/ Polycarp, bishop, martyr

Is 1: 10. 16-20 Ps 50: 8-9. 16bc-17. 21 & 23 Mt 23: 1-12

#### Feb 24 Wed: Lenten Weekday

Jer 18: 18-20 Ps 31: 5-6. 14. 15-16 Mt 20: 17-28

#### Feb 25 Thu: Lenten Weekday

Jer 17: 5-10 Ps 1: 1-2. 3-4 & 6 Lk 16: 19-31

#### Feb 26 Fri: Lenten Weekday. Day of abstinence from meat (age 14 and up).

Gn 37: 3-4. 12-13a. 17b-28a Ps 105: 16-21 Mt 21: 33-43. 45-46

#### Feb 27 Sat: Lenten Weekday

Mi 7: 14-15. 18-20 Ps 103: 1-4. 9-12 Lk 15: 1-3. 11-32

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

20/21 FEB 2016 • VOL. 08

2ND 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 John Vianney Minister of Mercy

We continue our Saints in Mercy series this week with St. John Vianney.

St. John Mary Vianney is the patron saint of parish priests. His feast day is celebrated on 4 August. He was ordained a priest in 1815. This, however, did not come easy for him as he was first expelled from the Grand Seminary to his weakness in Latin. It was only when Father Bailey, a family friend and local pastor, who decided to help tutor Vianney that he was finally able to be successfully ordained.

Find out more about St John Vianney on page 2

## Why Must We Return to God?

The exhortation which the Lord addresses to us through the prophet Joel is strong and clear: “Return to me with all your heart” (Joel 2:12).

Why must we return to God? Because something is not right in us, not right in society, in the Church, and we need to change, to give it a new direction. And this is called needing to convert!

Once again Lent comes to make its prophetic appeal, to remind us that it is possible to create something new within ourselves and around us, simply because God is faithful, always faithful, for he cannot deny himself he continues to be rich in goodness and mercy, and he is always ready to forgive and start afresh. With this filial confidence, let us set out on the Lenten journey! - Pope Francis Lenten Homily, 2014

**Reflection:** What’s not right with you at the moment? Do you want to return to God with all of your heart in this area? Do you trust that he can create something new in your life?

## + PARISH BUZZ

### Saints in Mercy • St John Vianney

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St John Vianney was most notable for his confessional works, which drew thousands of penitents to line up, sometimes three days in advance, to his humble parish in Ars, a small city northwest of Lyon, France. It was said that it was a mystical experience to be kneeling in his confessional as he had the ability to look into the depths of one's soul to make a very touching and personal connection with his penitents. Due to his overwhelming popularity in the confessionals, he often spent up to 16 hours a day listening to confessions from people all over the world.

### Parish Retreat and Healing by Fr Thomas Bobby



Dulsy Paul (2nd from left) with her friends.

Last Saturday, our parishioners were privileged to attend an uplifting Lenten Retreat conducted by Father Thomas Bobby, a Vincentian priest from the Potta Team. Many visitors also came especially for this retreat especially those from the Malayalam community. Father Bobby spoke about rejoicing in the Lord, and the need for faith to be accompanied by obedience and humility. He also shed light about the insidious effects of "small sin" which has a big impact in our lives and that all sins should be confessed, since God knows everything.

**"The talk was very fruitful. It gave me insights that our small sins can become obstacles to receiving the full graces of God. I also learnt to give first priority to God, the importance of the Holy Mass, family prayers, reading the Bible daily and spending time for personal prayers. I experienced a special Grace of God! This great experience helped strengthened my faith."**

– Dulsy Paul, Holy Trinity Church parishioner, who hails from Kerala, Fr. Bobby's hometown.

### Rite of Election

Last Sunday, the Rite of Election was held at the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. 27 Catechumens and 2 Candidates from CDM joined with those from the East & City Districts parishes and Novena Church for the celebration of the Rite. Now as Elects in the Church, they will undergo a more intense preparation through Lent for Baptism and Reception into the Church at Easter. Let us continue to pray for them in their journey.



## + PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 24 Hours for the Lord • 4 & 5 Mar

This worldwide initiative by Pope Francis calls for all Catholics to receive the mercy of God through Eucharistic Adoration and Confession. Join us for our 24 hours Adoration and Confession starting from:

**4 March, Friday @ 6:30pm** Chaplet / Mass / Stations and ends on **5 March, Saturday** with Sunset Mass at 5:30pm (Main Church). The Blessed Sacrament will be brought to the Chapel on Friday after 10pm and adoration will continue there until 4pm the following day when it returns to the Main Church.

### Fridays of Lent

3.00pm Way of the Cross/Divine Mercy Chaplet  
6.30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet  
7.00pm Evening Mass & Way of the Cross  
All sessions will be at the Main Church

### More Hands Needed!

It's time for our church cleaning ahead of Holy Week. In the spirit of Lent, we seek volunteers to join us on **19 March, Sat, 8 – 10:30am**. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Please contact Peter Augustine @ 96322618 / Peter143@gmail.com to register your interest

### Home Rosary Session

**Host** Zap & Marissa  
**Dates** 22 - 28 Feb 2016  
**Rosary days with community:**  
Mon, Tues and Wed at 8:15pm; Sunday at 3pm  
**Venue** Blk 716 Pasir Ris St 72 #02-11  
For more info, contact Susan Tan at 9119 5909 or visit the Ministry's webpage.

### "Poverty Meal" on 6 March

Wondering what acts of love to do this Lent? The Children Liturgy Ministry will be running the canteen on **6 March** selling a simple meal of vegetarian bee hoon. Show your support and donate your love offerings to the needy to support their tuition sessions initiated by the Society of St Vincent de Paul. Food will be available after the 7am Mass till after the 1130am Mass (lunchtime).

### Survey: Update on Parish Mass Attendance

Just a reminder to participate in the above survey, commissioned by the Archdiocese. 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! Those without a smart phone / internet can get a copy of the survey form from our Hospitality Ministers. Thank you for your participation

### Living Life with a Grateful Heart

*"Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honour me; to those who go the right way, I will show the salvation of God."* - Psalm 50:23  
The Children of Praise extends a warm invitation to all for the above talk.

**Speaker** Fr Charlie Oasan, OLPS Church.  
**When** 25 Feb 2016, 8pm  
**Where** Parish Hall (level 2)

### Charities Week 2016

Charities Week 2016 is an Archdiocesan annual fundraising project. Proceeds will enable Agape Village, a project of Caritas Singapore, and other Catholic organisations to reach out to those in need, including the poor, migrant workers, people with physical and mental challenges, overseas humanitarian aid, etc.

Pick up an appeal envelope this weekend. You can mail your donation directly to Caritas Singapore (for cheques only) or drop them at your parish. For walk-in donations, please visit us at Caritas Singapore, 55 Waterloo Street #08-01, Catholic Centre, Singapore 187954.

Your contribution will make a difference in the lives of those in need.

For more information, please contact us at 6338 3448 or visit our website at [www.caritas-singapore.org](http://www.caritas-singapore.org).