

+ REFLECTION

SUNDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2016 • FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Is 2: 1-5 Ps 122: 1-9 Rom 13: 11-14 Mt 24: 37-44

“O come, O come, Emmanuel!”

Today marks the beginning of the Advent season. History tells us that Advent has been observed since around the fourth century AD. Initially, Advent was seen as a time of preparation, both for new believers to be baptized and for all believers to look forward to Jesus' return in glory. As time went on, the emphasis on the Second Coming and baptism remained, and a new emphasis on Jesus' first coming as a baby grew along with it.

Today, it seems that Advent is much more about celebrating Jesus' first coming rather than anticipating his Second Coming. Still, the Church reminds us to use this time to prepare for Christmas and to let it “renew [our] ardent desire for [Jesus'] second coming” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 524).

So with this double goal of celebration and anticipation in mind, Advent has become a season of hope – hope that the baby born in Bethlehem will return one day and usher in the kingdom of God. Hope is what helps us step out and believe in what we cannot see. Hope is God's grace to accept that there is a certain amount of mystery to our faith and to still be confident that God can work in our lives. This is not a blind hope, and it's not all an impossible mystery that we will never understand. In the midst of all the mysteries of our faith, we can still believe because of what we do understand: that God's Son came to us on Christmas in order to save us from our sins and fill us with his Holy Spirit.

So for the next four weeks, let's set our hearts on preparing – first, for Christmas, and second, for Jesus' return in glory. Let's tell Jesus, “This world is not my permanent home. I long for a heavenly home. I long to be with you forever. Come, Lord Jesus.”

Daily Readings

Nov 28 Mon: Advent Weekday

Is 4: 2-6 Ps 122: 1-9 Mt 8: 5-11

Nov 29 Tue: Advent Weekday

Is 11: 1-10 Ps 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Lk 10: 21-24

Nov 30 Wed: Andrew, FEAST

Rom 10: 9-18 Ps 19: 8, 9, 10, 11 Mt 4: 18-22

Dec 1 Thu: Advent Weekday

Is 26: 1-6 Ps 117: 1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a Mt 7: 21, 24-27

Dec 2 Fri: Advent Weekday

Is 29: 17-24 Ps 26: 1, 4, 13-14 Mt 9: 27-31

Dec 3 Sat: Francis Xavier, priest, missionary

1 Cor: 9, 16-19, 22-23 Ps 116: 1-2 Mk 16: 15-20

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

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

26/27 NOVEMBER 2016 • VOL. 48

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Bulletin

Parish Priests

Fr Johnson Fernandez

Tel | 6583 6393

Fr Terence Kesavan

Tel | 6583 8789

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

Staying Connected

To offer feedback, email us at

stayingconnected@divinemercury.sg

Subscribe to our e-bulletin at

www.divinemercury.sg

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Church of Divine Mercy

First Sunday of Advent



This Sunday marks the start of the season of Advent, a time for us to prepare for the coming of Christ through prayer and penance. It is a time to renew ourselves so that we can truly embrace and welcome the Lord.

4 candles of the Advent Wreath will be gradually lit every Sunday leading up to Christmas to welcome Christ, the ‘Light of the World’. This Sunday will see the lighting of the first candle symbolizing Hope (purple). The wreath, which is evergreen, represents the Lord's everlasting life, and the pines and cones symbolise the fruitfulness of the Christian life. As we light the candles, may we also be reminded of God's promises and to prepare ourselves for His coming.

Read more on Advent on page 2.

The Leftovers

Human beings are themselves considered consumer goods to be used and then discarded. We have created a “throw away” culture which is now spreading. It is no longer simply about exploitation and oppression, but something new. Exclusion ultimately has to do with what it means to be a part of the society in which we live; those excluded are no longer society's underside, or its fringes, or its disenfranchised — they are no longer even a part of it. The excluded are not the “exploited” but the outcast, the “leftovers.” - Pope Francis in ‘Evangelii Gaudium’

Reflection: Who is excluded in your community, your parish ministry, your workplace, or your family? Who needs mercy? Reach out to that person this week.

+ PARISH BUZZ

Advent Wreath Making



Last Friday, members of the Divine Mercy Apostolate bonded over a DIY Advent wreath session. Almost a third of them were men! This is part of DMA's Friday gathering where members will share on the Advent reflections.

CDM Pilgrimage Walk • 19 Nov



33 parishioners from CDM embarked on their 4th pilgrimage walk last Saturday. The 11km route began at the Henderson Waves, continued through the Southern Ridges, Science Park and NUS, and ended at the Church of the Holy Cross in Clementi where they entered the Holy Door of Mercy. The Rosary was recited during the walk at various spots like the Bukit Chandu War Memorial. The pilgrims were pleasantly surprised to meet Archbishop William Goh at the Church of Holy Cross, and they all received a prayer blessing from His Grace.

Infant Baptism Congrats!

Congratulations to the parents and godparents whose infants received the Sacrament of Baptism on 13 November 2016. Photographs are available on our website: www.divinemeracy.sg/main/the-gift-of-faith-infant-baptism-november-2016



+ PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Home Rosary Session

Host Agnes Matthew

Dates 28 Nov - 4 Dec 2016

Rosary days with community:

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

Venue Blk 638 Pasir Ris Dr 1 #05-558

For more info, contact Sharon Khng at 9631-7575 or visit the Ministry's webpage.

Saying Yes to God as Mary Did

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

- Colossians 3:17

Are we ready to say 'Yes' to God and let the Holy Spirit lead us? Come join us in our session.

When 1 December 2016 @ 8pm

Where Parish Hall Level 2

Last Catechetical Sessions

The last catechetical sessions for ALL levels will be on 26/27 November. Sessions for 2017 will commence on 25/26 February.

Blessing of Advent Wreath

The Blessing of Advent Wreath will take place on the first Sunday of Advent, 26/27 November at All Masses. At the end of Mass, please bring the advent wreath to the front for the priest to bless the wreath.

Distribution of Advent Booklet

Advent booklets will be distributed at all Masses this weekend. Please take a copy for your family.

Prayer for Priests Group

The Prayer for Priests Group will not be having their prayer sessions in December. They will resume prayer sessions in January 2017.

Launch of GIFT Campaign by the Catholic Foundation

A GIFT booklet will be distributed at all Masses this weekend. Please take a copy for your family.

Recruitment of Couple Mentors

The Couple Mentor Journey (CMJ) ministry invites married couples (5 years or more) to share their blessings with engaged and newly married couples in our parish. Join us for an information session on 28 November, 8pm at St. Faustina auditorium. Come register at our booth in the church foyer this weekend. Contact: Matthew & Joanne, 9769-0543 or CMJ@divinemeracy.sg

Special Marriage Encounter Outreach

Marriage Encounter (ME) facilitates very special weekends for married couples. Present a ME Gift Voucher to your spouse or friends this Christmas. Discounted vouchers are available from Cana (55 Waterloo Street, Level 2) in December. Slots are still open for the Dec 2-4 and Jan 6-8 ME Weekends, where you can pick up communication skills for a stronger marriage. E-mail mewkend@gmail.com or visit www.mesg.org.

Family Life Society Mass

Come pray for the end of abortion, the protection of unborn babies and their mothers on the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe – the protectress of the unborn – on 12 Dec (Mon) at St Ignatius Church. Pro-life rosary will be recited at 7:30pm followed by Mass at 8pm. There will be special blessings for pregnant mothers, their spouses and families. This event is organised by the Pregnancy Crisis Service, a service of Family Life Society. All are welcomed.