

life-changing weekends for married couples. By transforming the way husband and wife communicate, it forges greater intimacy and a closer relationship. Slots are still open for the next ME Weekend from Feb 2-4. E-mail mewkend@gmail.com or visit wwmesg.org

AT HOME RETREAT (2 choices) - 10-week programme based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola to know Jesus more intimately in the midst of life's daily routine. Includes weekly meeting of faith sharing, daily prayer with Scripture and one spiritual direction by Cenacle Sisters & Team. This will be from Ashes to Easter - a retreat in preparation for Easter. **MORNINGS:** Date: 5 Feb - 9 Apr, Mondays Time: 9.30am - 11.30am (Morning Venue: LaSalle Centre- St. Patrick School - 490 East Coast Road OR **EVENINGS** Date: 5 Feb - 9 Apr, Mondays, Time: 7.30 - 9.30pm (Evening), Venue: Cana - the Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo St, Contribution: \$250.00. To register, Tel: 65652895/97223148, Website: www.cenaclemission.com, Email: cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com

EVENT: ONE DAY - Date: 10 Feb '18 (Sat) Time:

1.30pm-4.00pm Venue: Catholic Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland Road, S549102. Be part of the New Evangelisation! The Office for the New Evangelisation (ONE) is seeking for Collaborators who are fired up to build the Kingdom of God. Collaborators will use their unique gifts to share in the work of ONE. ONE Day serves to introduce the work of ONE to potential Collaborators and to explore opportunities on how YOU can contribute to the work of the New Evangelisation. To register and attend ONE Day, visit: www.one.org.sg/events

UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS 9 - 11 Feb '18. This weekend retreat will help you understand the different aspects of human sexuality from a developmental perspective, and how sexuality helps us grow in self-intimacy, intimacy with others, God and creation. This program is open to all and highly recommended for young dating couples. Facilitated by Sr. Linda Lizada, rc; Organised by Cenacle Mission Venue: Choice Retreat House, 47 Jurong West Street 42, S649368. To register: Contact: cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com; Tel. 65652895; 97223148; website for online registration: www.cenaclemission.com

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.
Columbarium Opening Hours	: Mon - Sun: 7.00am - 7.00pm. Closed on Public Holidays.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be administered from 5.00pm - 5.20pm on weekdays and Saturday at the confessionals at the baptistery (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 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 SPP Friars Community, Friars 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_peterpaul@singnet.com.sg www.spchurch.org.sg

church of saints peter & paul

page 4



READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year B) Pg 717

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 5 February - SAT 10 February 2018

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:** 1 KGS 10:1-10, MK 7:14-23 **THU:** 1 KGS 11:4-13, MK 7:24-30 **FRI:** 1 KGS 11:29-32; 12:19, MK 7:31-37 **SAT:** 1 KGS 12:26-32; 13:33-34, MK 8:1-10

The Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time has readings that deal with suffering and weakness. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus go to Simon Peter's house to heal Peter's mother-in-law. Crowds of people gather for healing outside the house. In the morning, Jesus slips away to pray, only to be searched out by Peter. Jesus says, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come."

Monday is the Memorial of St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr, Tuesday is the Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions. Saturday is the Memorial of Saint Scholastica.

The first reading this week, from the First Book of Kings, continues the story of David's family as his son the wise Solomon is now King of Israel. He is honoured and praised for his wisdom, but falls away from the Lord and worships false gods, and for that the Lord tells him he will lose the Kingdom of Israel.

During the week, the fast-paced Gospel of Mark continues with stories of Jesus healing, teaching and challenging the authorities. As Jesus and his disciples step on shore, people scurry from all over to bring those in need of healing. The Pharisees, watching for Jesus to break rules, criticise his followers for not washing their hands. Jesus responds, "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." Jesus teaches his followers, "Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." Jesus goes to Tyre and tries to slip into a house unnoticed, but a

foreign woman finds him and Jesus, impressed by her faith, heals her daughter. He heals a man of his deafness and speech impediment and like so many others he healed, he orders him not to tell anyone. "But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it." Moved with pity, Jesus feeds the huge crowds who had followed him for three days. "They ate and were satisfied. They picked up the fragments left over - seven baskets. There were about four thousand people."

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time offers a dramatic look at leprosy. The first reading from Leviticus has clear instructions: A leper has to live away from the community, cover his head and call out, "Unclean, unclean!" as people go near him. It emphasises even more what it means that Jesus speaks with and touches someone who was such a pariah as he heals the leper in Mark's Gospel.

Daily Prayer This Week

"My heart is moved with pity," Jesus says in one of the gospels this week, and we see his compassion in the healing stories in this week's gospels. This seems like the perfect time for us to ask Jesus for the healing we need in our lives.

We can take one gospel and pray with it as if we were in the story. Jesus and his disciples cross the sea and as soon as they land, people rush to bring those who need healing to him. We can imagine ourselves seeing Jesus, the crowds gathering, the jostle of people bringing their sick on mats. People yelling for Jesus' attention.

Then we can imagine a moment where Jesus steps

church of saints peter & paul

Information is correct at time of publication.

away from the throng and takes us aside. With loving eyes he looks at us and asks us, "Where do you need healing? Where can I be with you?"

It is there in that powerful moment that we can speak to Jesus as we would a friend. We can search our hearts and ask Jesus for the healing he already knows we need:

- "Help me, Jesus, with my impatience with my family. Let me not nag at those I love so much. Heal my lack of compassion for them."

- "Touch my heart, Jesus. Give me the selfless love I need in my marriage not to 'keep score.' Only with your help can I continue to be loving, even when it feels like some days I am the only one carrying my marriage."

- "Jesus, I become afraid of failing and I feel like one of those people lying on a mat, waiting for you to touch my life. Yet when I sense your healing presence coming close, I roll away from you so you don't see me. Give me the courage I need to ask for your healing and to get up and answer your call for me to serve."

When we pray with a gospel, we can carry an image of that prayer with us all day long. As we get out of bed in the morning, cook meals or go about our day, we can be aware of Jesus standing with us, ready to heal us, if only we would ask.

What is it that needs healing in me this week? Where will I allow Jesus to touch my life?

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.

Reflection

Recently a family in the parish went through a series of tragedies which required them to move. They are a three generation family, including a terminally ill grandmother, an elementary school age child, and the daughter/mother. They did not have the finances to hire somebody to move them, they didn't have a lot of friends who could help them, so they turned to me to see if I could find some help. In this case I turned to the Knights of Columbus and several people volunteered to meet on a Saturday morning and load the moving van. Several days before the day of the move, I started to get sick. On the day of the move I was indeed sick but I couldn't stand the thought of lining up a work crew to help me and then not showing up. Several days later the group needed to do another load and this time they told me to stay home. I think I felt a lot like Simon's mother-in-law in today's gospel.

She has been looking forward to Simon and his friends coming. The thought of having the new, dynamic teacher with them excites her. She wants everything to be just right. Hospitality is her thing. But she has a fever and cannot even get out of bed. I know that terrible feeling. All she wants to do is serve her guests and she cannot. What a delight it must have been for Jesus to cure her. In my case the irritation wasn't even the sickness; it was the inability to fulfill my offer of hospitality. You see the servant heart in Simon's mother-in-law; as soon as she realises she is healed, she begins to serve the group and make them comfortable in her home.

We see the heart of a servant in Jesus, too. He spends most of the day healing the sick and they keep coming and coming until after sunset. "The whole town was gathered at the door." Jesus had to be worn out but he kept on serving. When he awoke from sleep the next morning, but before anyone else was up, he needed to get away to pray and he found a deserted place. Simon and the other disciples looked for him and on finding him essentially said, "Jesus, you've made it big. Everyone is looking for you. Now's the time to negotiate that big television contract or get an advance on a book." Jesus will have none of that.

Throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus appears to want no one to know who he is. The demons shout out who he is and he tells them to be quiet. Of course, Jesus doesn't need a recommendation from demons but it appears to be more than that. He heals people and then tells them not to tell anyone about it. Most of them go out and tell everyone they can. In today's story, Jesus can stay and make a name for himself but he says that it is time to move on. Why? Jesus is a servant of God. He does not come to make a splash - to impress people - to become well known. He simply wants to proclaim the good news and heal people.

How many servants of God have fallen away from their first love because of human adulation which led to pride? They made a name for themselves and true service to others became a thing of the past. They now spend their time marketing themselves. Is it possible to remain a humble servant of God when you are famous? Jesus shows us that it is. He knows who he is. He is not full of himself. He does not forget his mission.

Famous or not, may God grant us the grace to

remember why we have been sent into the world and to fulfill our calling as servants of our Lord

PARISH NEWS

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK - 11 Feb '18, Sun at 4.00pm. Kindly note the following Canonical Conditions for Anointing: Can. 1004 §1. The anointing of the sick can be administered to a member of the faithful who, having reached the use of reason, begins to be in danger due to sickness or old age. §2. This sacrament can be repeated if the sick person, having recovered, again becomes gravely ill or if the condition becomes more grave during the same illness. For the sick who satisfy the Canonical Conditions and wish to receive the Anointing, please approach the Parish Secretary's Office to furnish the details. **Deadline: Sun 4 Feb '18**

ASH WEDNESDAY - 14 Feb '18: 7.20am (English mass) & 5.30pm (English mass followed by Way of the Cross). 12.15pm (Chinese mass followed by Way of the Cross). 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).

CHINESE NEW YEAR EVE MASS - 15 Feb '18, Thur: 7.20am (English). NO Infant Jesus devotion. NO evening mass.

CHINESE NEW YEAR MASS - 16 Feb '18, Fri: 8.30am (Chinese), 10.30am (English), 2.00pm (Cantonese). NO evening mass. **17 Feb '18, Sat: 7.20am** (English), 5.30pm (English Sunset mass)

WAY OF THE CROSS - From Fri 23 Feb, it is held every Friday during Lent at 5.30pm. Evening mass will follow after prayers.

THANK YOU - Church Collection for our SPP Society of St Vincent de Paul for the month of December 2017 amounted to \$7,189.05. Donations amounted to \$110. Expenditure was \$14,509. In December we celebrated Christmas lunch with our Friends-In-Need and residents from St Vincent Home at Grand Banquet restaurant with games and singing. The Society thanks Saturday Sunset Mass Choir for providing singing entertainment to the event. We support 89 Friends-In-Need (FINs), comprising elderly poor and needy families with young children living in Chinatown and Beach Road/North Bridge Road and Queen Street areas. If

Jesus Christ.

Source: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/020218.html>

you know of families in need in our parish, please email us with details to ssvp.spp@gmail.com. We appeal to your generosity in caring for the poor and needy families through our SSVP, St Peter's Conference.

BOYS' TOWN FLAG DAY 2018 - Volunteers/staff/beneficiaries from Boys' Town will be in the parish during the weekend of 24/25 Feb to raise funds for the programmes, services and maintenance of Boys' Town's facilities. Help us make a difference in the lives of the children and youth under our care. Thank you for your generosity and support. For more information, please call 66905420 or email info@boystown.org.sg.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

Clarity's Baby Massage. Self-care leads to better baby care! workshop. 10 Mar, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Agape Village. Express love and care for your baby through massage! Baby massage has been proven to provide numerous benefits, not only to baby but also for parents. Soothing and rhythmic stroking of baby's body with your hands stimulates feel good hormones in you and your baby, reduces stress and improves sleep. Fees \$0. Love offerings appreciated. To Register, W: <https://tinyurl.com/Babymassage10Mar> or T: 68017466.

Clarity's Lighting the Way Introductory Workshop. 24 Mar, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Agape Village. This workshop is for individuals that have direct or indirect experiences with friends or loved ones who may be suffering from depression but have difficulty getting them to seek help. Fees \$15. To Register, W: <https://tinyurl.com/LTW24Mar> or T: 6757 7990.

A LOVE LIKE THIS - AN ACOUSTIC JOURNEY TO WHAT LOVE REALLY MEANS - Date: 10 Feb '18, Sat, Time: 6.30pm - 9.30pm, Venue: Crossings Cafe, The Catholic Centre (#01-01, 55 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187954). Tickets are on sale now at \$20 with a buffet-style dinner spread. Find more information and to purchase tickets, visit: cfyfcingsingapore.wixsite.com/loveliketthis. RSVP to the event now: www.facebook.com/events/540195666341547/

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER facilitates