

May, over 6 Thur evening sessions and retreat on 20 May (PH). 7.45pm to 9.25pm (Thur sessions) and 10.30am to 5.30pm (retreat). CANA The Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo St #02-01 Catholic Welfare Centre Singapore 187954 Email: LiSS-paw@mail.com About Praise at Work: <https://praiseatwork.wordpress.com/about>

**CLARITY'S BETTER AND HAPPIER PROGRAMME.** Weekly workshops from Mar till May (Fri), 10.00am - 11.30pm at Clarity Yishun. Like a rice bowl filled with different ingredients that bring nourishment to our physical bodies, our in-house programme aims to bring the different ingredients of wellness together as nourishment to our mental wellbeing. Come join us to find out how you can use these ingredients to improve your mental wellbeing. Fees \$5. To Register, E: [ask@clarity-singapore.org](mailto:ask@clarity-singapore.org) or T: 6757 7990.

Clarity's **SPACEBAH** workshops. 13, 27 Apr, 4 May (Sat), 10.00am - 12.00pm at Agape Village. Do you find it hard to fall asleep or find yourself waking up several times throughout the night? Do you experience irritability, low mood levels and difficulty focusing during the day? Our SPACEBAH workshops aim to help youths with mental health needs improve their sleep quality and make lasting changes to their sleeping habits. Fees \$0. To Register, E: [ask@clarity-singapore.org](mailto:ask@clarity-singapore.org) or T: 6757 7990.

**LOVE, FOOLISHLY: A LENTEN DRAMA RETREAT** Journey with Jesus as he enters Jerusalem and embraces his Passion. Through imaginative contemplation and pray-acting, enter into and share in his Passion. Will you be a fool for Christ? Presented at Montfort Centre. 12 - 14 April. Contribution: \$345 (Single) \$270 (Twin). Details/Registration: [anthonyatmontfort@gmail.com](mailto:anthonyatmontfort@gmail.com) or 96311943.

**SPP Columbarium** - To all the niche applicants & other persons concerned. The Parish Building is closed to the public for extensive renovation works which will include the columbarium. For the safety of the public, the columbarium will be closed, except for the following periods when it will be accessible for visits: **(1) Qing Ming Festival period: 30 Mar - 07 Apr '19 (2) All Souls' Day period: 27 Oct - 10 Nov '19. Visiting Hours: 9.00am to 5.00pm.** Subsequent niche blessings and interment of urns will take place on Saturdays (1.00pm to 3.00pm), on appointment basis only. For your safety, a maximum of 2 family members will be allowed to witness the niche blessing and interment (with the priest and the niche contractor), and will be required to put on personal protection gears when they enter the columbarium.

**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  
**Intercensory 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  
**Secretariat's Operating Hours** : Mon - CLOSED, Tues to Fri - 10.00 m to 7.30pm, Sat & Sun - 9.30am to 1.30pm  
 Lunch hours: 11.45am - 12.45pm. Closed on Public Holidays.

**Columbarium Opening Hours** : Please refer to SPP Columbarium announcement stated above.

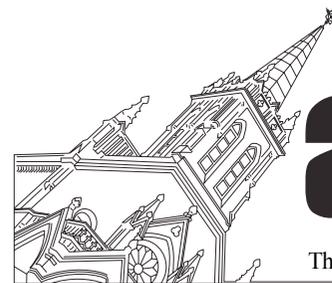
**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** - The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be administered from 5.00pm - 5.20pm on weekdays and Saturday at the confessionals at the baptistery (back of the church). On Sunday, it will be available 30 minutes before each mass.

**Parish Priest:** Rev Fr EDWARD LIM, OCD, **Asst Parish Priest:** Rev Fr THOMAS LIM OCD, **Priests in Residence:** Rev Fr TOM CURRAN, OCD **Parish Secretariat:** Jannie Lui, **Liturgical Co-ordinator:** Alex Wong, [alexdominic@gmail.com](mailto:alexdominic@gmail.com)

**Church Donations - Please make your cheque payable to:**

**(i) Church of Sts Peter & Paul** - for contributions/donations for general maintenance of our Church and Mass offerings; **(ii) Carmelite Friars (S) Ltd** - for contributions/donations to the Friars Formation and Community; **(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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# the apostles

Third Sunday of Lent

24 March 2019 Year C

**READINGS:** Sunday Missal (Year C) Pg 849

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** The Lord is compassion and love.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:** MON 25 March 2019 - SAT 30 March 2019

**MON:** Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord **TUE:** DN 3:25, 34-43, MT 18:21-35 **WED:** DT 4:1, 5-9, MT 5:17-19 **THU:** JER 7:23-28, LK 11:14-23 **FRI:** HOS 14:2-10, MK 12:28-34 **SAT:** HOS 6:1-6, LK 18:9-14

## Daily Prayer This Week

This is a pivotal week of Lent. We can solidify the patterns we have begun or we can make a new start, if we haven't been able to get started yet. If we have begun to recognise what needs realigning in our lives and have begun to fast and abstain from some things that get in the way of our relationship with the Lord, then we are engaging in a struggle. We are likely uncovering resistance and experiencing our personal sinfulness face-to-face.

This is all preparing us for a deeper conversion, a readiness for reconciliation with God and the graces that will allow us to be a source of reconciliation with others. This is the time when we begin to see and experience how much God loves us at a new and more personal level. These graces prepare us to keep our eyes focused on Jesus in the weeks ahead - to learn from him, to fall in love with him more deeply and to be drawn to imitate him more completely. If we are just getting started with our Lenten journey, renewing our desires for these graces will be all we need to begin with a renewed openness. God does not need a lot of time to convince us of his love for us.

This is a week about God's love for us and

our call to love others the same way. It is a week to keep our daily focus on naming a desire each morning. The day ahead will shape what we ask for as our feet hit the floor in the morning. Pausing to thank the Lord for this day and to ask for the grace to let our mind and heart be renewed in the concrete circumstances, relationships and obligations of our day. Throughout the day, we can then return to those desires in background of our awareness. Our request for the Lord's help is always there and our consciousness of it will help us make the choice we desire to make, to let go of what we need to let go of, to add what we need to add. This will take us deeper and deeper into self-awareness and a sense of our need for a Savior, who is right there to embrace us and give us the graces we ask for.

## A Lent Reflection

### Why do I make my life so busy?

I have always been busy, and I've always had excuses. For many years as a working wife and mother, my life was full, happy and slightly frantic. Now that I am retired, my life remains full and happy, but still remains too frantic and busy. As I try to add more time for reflection during Lent, it's also a good time to look at why I'm having

such a difficult time slowing down to pray. Have I made myself too busy to “do Lent”? In these weeks, we can reflect and pray with our calendars and look at the patterns that we have perhaps mindlessly followed for decades, including those habits that keep us from a greater closeness with God.

St. Ignatius wrote that each one of us is created to praise, reverence and serve God and by doing those three things we will become our happiest and best selves. From there, everything that comes into our lives will either help us to praise, reverence and serve, or will draw us away from that intimacy with our Creator.

So how do our calendars fit into this? St. Ignatius suggests a regular, prayerful review of our day and to note when and where we found closeness with God and when we did not. Perhaps a regular examination of our schedules can be a similar exercise. But part of making room in my day for more frequent and deeper reflection, is clearing out my mind and heart from fear and anxiety.

Asking for the grace to do things more peacefully, with more courage and trust, is a real Lenten journey. It places me more closely with Jesus. It prepares me to celebrate the mystery of his death and resurrection for me. The Lenten purification becomes a releasing from fear and distress. I may not free up more time, but I will become freer to do what I do with more boldness and with less energy lost on anxiety.

When we look at our calendars for the week or month ahead, do we see any blank spaces for prayer and reflection?

### **For I was hungry and you gave me food**

Yet, if I pray with my calendar and ask God to open my heart, perhaps I see a glimmer that I also get to “shine” by working on this.

Yes, this is a good venture, but perhaps a second motivation is that I enjoy people telling me how much I contribute to this. It is a good thing to be able to be a vital part of it, but how much space have I given in my calendar – or my life - for silence and listening?

### **I was thirsty and you gave me drink**

Serving on a parish or community project is wonderful. But will it allow us time to care for those who might need our attention a little more? How much of that parish work do we do because we are told how invaluable our work is? Is it really where the greatest need is?

### **I was a refugee and you welcomed me**

Are we choosing to do things that feel good for us and fit our comfort zones? Do we neglect those ventures where we may be more hidden but more desperately needed? What are our real motivations?

### **I was naked and you clothed me**

In a quiet moment of silent prayer, we can ask God to help us see our busy-ness with his loving gaze on us. If we have been asked to add yet another meeting or project to our calendar, we can ask how this will draw us closer to God? Which is a stronger motivation: This obligation will give us a chance to be flattered? Or this will help us to better praise, love or serve God?

### **I was sick and you cared for me**

As humans, each one of us has mixed motivations about so many things. Contributing to a wonderful project is good. Hearing how wonderful I am is a thrilling, but perhaps addictive, side effect, that goes along with that. St. Ignatius knew the human heart so well and knew that our best intentions can be mixed. He suggests that when we are unsure of our real motivations,

we pray for the desire to do to fulfill this project as a way to increase our love and service to God.

When I look through my calendar for the weeks ahead, I have to ask myself in front of my loving God: What it is about being so busy that will draw me closer to God? I have to admit that the answer is less clear than I want it to be.

As we sit in the silence, we open our hearts and ask Jesus to give us the desire

## **PARISH NEWS**

**2019 HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE**  
- **18 April - Holy Thursday:** 7.00pm, 10.30pm Tenebrae. **April 19 - Good Friday:** Way of the cross (Mandarin): 11.15am, Chinese service: 12 noon. Way of the cross (Eng): 2.15pm, English service: 3.00pm. **April 20 – Holy Saturday:** 8.00pm (no baptism) **April 21 - Easter Sunday:** 8.30am (Mandarin), 11.00am (Eng) 2.00pm (Cantonese) 4.00pm (Eng)

**STATION OF THE CROSS** during the season of Lent, every Friday 5.30pm followed by Mass.

### **LENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE (8.00pm):**

1 Apr (Mon) - Sts Peter & Paul  
2 Apr (Tue) - St Bernadette  
3 Apr (Wed) - Novena Church  
4 Apr (Thu) - Our Lady of Lourdes  
8 Apr (Mon) - St Teresa  
9 Apr (Tue) - St Michael  
10 Apr (Wed) - Sacred Heart Church

**FAMILY LIFE SOCIETY** - Qualified therapists from Family Life Society is providing counselling service on Tuesday & Wednesday nights at Cana, 55 Waterloo Street, #02-01, S(187954). Counselling is strictly by appointment. If you need help on issues like marital, relationship, grief, loss, parenting, anxiety, stress etc, please call 64880278 during office hours.

## **NEWS AROUND THE PARISH**

**PARENTS INFORMATION DAY (PID)** on 27 Apr '19 (Sat) at Catholic Junior College. 9.00am

that all our appointments, obligations and commitments are for the greater glory of God - not ourselves. At this point in Lent, we can bow low in humility and gratitude for the great love and understanding Jesus offers us.

And we can echo John the Baptist as we pray to a faithful and loving Jesus:

*You must increase; I must decrease.*

Source: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/Busy-ness-in-Lent-Waldron.html>

- 10.00am: Principal's Talk. 10.00am to 11.00am: General enquiries/Subject Consultations & Guided Tours of the College Campus Sign up now at <https://tinyurl.com/2019CJCPID> latest by 19 Apr '19.

**LENTEN RECOLLECTION 2019** - 7 April, 9:30am - 5.00pm (Mass included) Venue: St Patrick's House, 490 East Coast Road (behind St. Patrick's Sec. Sch.). Love Offering. Spend a day reflecting and praying on the invitations of the Lenten season, as deepening dispositions in us, not only for this season but throughout the year, and in our daily lives. This retreat will also invite participants to be present to the passion of Jesus Christ. By Cenacle sisters. Please register at [www.cenaclemission.com](http://www.cenaclemission.com)

**FAMILY CAMP 2019** - 01 Jun - 04 Jun '19 at HARRIS Resort Waterfront Batam. Cost: \$350 per adult / teen, \$200 per child. Organised by: Office for the New Evangelisation. Growing together as a family has to be a decision! Come and spend some time away to encounter God in one another. Spiritual Director: Fr Cornelius Ching. To register visit: [www.one.org.sg/events](http://www.one.org.sg/events)

**PIETA** is a support group for bereaved parents who seek God's comfort, wisdom and hope through prayer and reflection on the WORD OF GOD. Our next monthly session (every 4th Tuesday of the month) is on Tue 26 Mar '19, 7:30pm at Agape Village, Toa Payoh Lorong 8. Contact us via email: [picta.singapore@gmail.com](mailto:picta.singapore@gmail.com) or facebook: <https://facebook.com/PietaSingapore>

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR** organised by Praise @ Work Come and experience Christ's love through the baptism of the Holy Spirit. 25 Apr - 30