

Third Sunday of Advent (Year C)

Readings: Zep3:14-18a Ps 25 Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18

The Third Sunday of Advent focuses our attention on the spirit of joyfulness. All the readings are full of joy and the thrill of happy expectation. In the Gospel reading, John the Baptizer preaches good news to the people, and they are filled with joyful anticipation for whatever God is about to do.

Do you know that joy is a ministry? And that you have a calling to do this ministry whenever there is misery and hopelessness where you live, worship, work, and everywhere else you go?

Let's look at how John fulfilled this ministry of joy. We might think he was anything but joyful in his robe of scratchy camels hair and his fiery message of the need for repentance. But look closer. His ministry prepared people's hearts to receive Jesus.

You and I are not responsible for the feelings of others. If they don't feel joyful after we've tried to cheer them, it's not because we've failed in our ministry of joy. It's because they're not yet receiving Jesus into the situation that's been stealing their joy.

Jesus is the only true source of joy. When we're united to him, we experience the joy of being loved by God and receiving his comfort in the midst of even the worst hardships. Our ministry of joy is the reaching out that we do to help people open their hearts to this. We have the ministry of helping people discover the joyful side of Jesus and the joyful purposes behind all of his teachings.

Jesus preached going the extra mile, loving our enemies, and doing good to those who cause us hardships, none of which is fun. What we need to discover and then share with others is that holy living, although not always fun, is what unites us to the joyful love of Jesus and the joyful purposes of everything He preached. Remember, even going to the cross produces joyful results.

The good news is: Jesus didn't just tell us how to be holy, He gave us the power to be holy. He gave us his Holy Spirit. And we don't have to be fiery like John the Baptist in telling people to repent; we show others the joy of holy unity with Christ by letting them see the Holy Spirit's activity in us and letting them know that Jesus is the reason for our joy.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

Think of a recent sin you've committed. How did it prevent you from experiencing joy? The next time, how will you rely on the Holy Spirit to help you turn temptation into joy?

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Weekly Parish Bulletin

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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Kindergarten : Tel: 67874651; Fax: 67830559; email: admin@holytrinitykindergarten.edu.sg

WELCOME: Our warm welcome to all who worship with our parish community. If you are new to the parish, please fill in a census form at the parish office. You may request to have your house blessed.

INFANT BAPTISMS are celebrated at the 6pm Mass on the 2nd Sunday of each month, except during the season of Lent. Parents and Godparents are required to come for a preparatory session at 5pm in the Chapel. Please register at the parish office.

CATECHISM CLASSES: Pri.1 - Sec.4 are offered in the parish as well as the FIRE programme - Family Integrated Religious Education. Please enquire at the parish office.

WEDDINGS: Arrangements for a Church wedding should be made at least six (6) months in advance. This would give the couple adequate time to attend either a Marriage Preparation Course (MPC) or an Engaged Encounter Weekend (EE). Application forms and booking of wedding date at the parish office.

PRAYER & BLESSINGS at all Masses for wedding anniversary couples on the 1st Sunday of the month and for expectant parents on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Please be seated near the sanctuary.

MASS OFFERING: To offer Mass for any intention, please fill in the special Mass offering envelope, enclose the stipend and drop it into the steel box in the lobby.



DURING THE WEEK (Chapel)

Monday 8pm Powerhouse Prayer Assembly
Tuesday 5pm Prayer for Vocation
Tuesday 8pm Charismatic Prayer
Friday 8pm Divine Mercy Hour

Church Cleaning (Willing Hands)

Wednesday & Saturday, 9.00am.
Volunteers are most welcome.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday : 6:30am
5:00pm (Novena)
6:00pm (Sunset Mass)
2nd Saturday : 7:30pm (Mass in Tagalog)
Sunday : 6:45am; 8am(Mandarin);
9:30; 11am; 12:30 & 6pm
Weekdays : 6:30am & 6pm
Public Holidays : 9am only

3rd Sunday of Advent

PRIESTS:

Fr. Edward Lim 6784 1211
Fr. Albert Ng 6784 3190
Fr. Paul Ngo Thanh Phong 6784 6418

PARISH STAFF:

6784 2332
Sr Magdalen Ee Finance
Julie Chan Secretariat
Raymond Tan Maintenance
Thomas Cheang Hon Accountant

13th December 2009 (Year II)

Mon, 14 Dec: St John of the Cross
Nm 24:2-17 Ps 25 Mt 21:23-27
Tue, 15 Dec: 3rd week of Advent
Zep 3:1-2,9-13 Ps 34 Mt 21:28-32
Wed, 16 Dec: 3rd week of Advent
Is 45:6c-8,18-21 Ps 85 Lk 7:18b-23
Thu, 17 Dec: 3rd week of Advent
Gn 49:2,8-10 Ps 72 Mt 1:1-17
Fri, 18 Dec: 3rd week of Advent
Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72 Mt 1:18-25
Sat, 19 Dec: 3rd week of Advent
Jgs 13:2-7 Ps 71 Lk 1:5-25

During the week

MONDAY, 14 DEC

POWERHOUSE FOR YOUTH

By Youth Intercessory Group. 8pm Room 19. Contact Timothy 92956442. All are welcome!

RCIA CHINESE 7:45pm in the parish hall

TUESDAY, 15 DEC

CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY

No more sessions until Tues, 5 Jan 2010.

Christian Meditation at 8pm in room 16.

RCIA ENGLISH 7:45pm in the parish hall.

FRIDAY, 18 DEC

PENITENTIAL CELEBRATIONS

Penitential Services for Holy Trinity will be at 10.30am & 8.00pm. Please be punctual.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER DEVOTION

NO session this week as well as 25 Dec and 1 Jan 2010. Next session will be on 8 Jan.

CHANGE OF MASS TIMES

FROM NEXT SUNDAY, 20 DEC ONWARDS, THERE WILL NOT BE ANY MORE 12.30PM MASS. AND THE 11AM MASS WILL BE MOVED TO 11.15AM

MASSES AT DIVINE MERCY

SATURDAY SUNSET MASS AT 5.30PM
SUNDAY MASSES AT 7, 9, 11AM AND 5.30PM
WEEKDAY MASSES AT 6.30AM & 6PM

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve Masses on Thur, 24 Dec will be at 8.00pm & 12.00 Midnight.

Christmas Day Masses on Fri, 25 Dec will be at 8am (Mandarin), 9.30, 11.15 & 6pm.

THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

would like to thank all their benefactors for their generous contributions of \$15,230.20 for the month of November.

HOLY FAMILY SHRINE

14 to 20 Dec at the home of Christina Koh.

20 Sunbird Road.

Tel: 9677 4998.

Rosary devotion on Monday, Tuesday & Sunday at 8:15pm. All are welcome.

Enquiries: Phillip Fan: 6585 6410 / 9746 5678



4TH STARLIGHT YOUTH MASS

On Sat 19 Dec at 7:30pm at Church of Divine Mercy. Celebrant: Rev Fr Simon Pereira, CSSR. For enquiries please contact Leonard at 8133 3078.

Neighbourhood

SIMEI CNG

4th Advent Reflection on Thur, 17 Dec at 8:15pm at the home of Daniel & Lucy Tan, Blk 117 Simei St 1 #08-540

All are welcome. Please bring your Bible.

Contact : Daniel 9752 2402

website : www.simeicng.com

TAMPINES CNG

4th Advent Sharing on Sun, 20 Dec, 8:00pm, at the home of Jeffrey De Souza, Blk 306 Tampines St 32 #02-08.

All are welcome. Please bring your Advent booklet. Enquiries: Jeffrey 9673 0576

web: <http://tampinescng.livejournal.com>

email: tampinescng@gmail.com

Services

FREE COUNSELLING SERVICES

Ms Jackie (Appointment coordinator)
Please call after office hours: 9797 8319

BETHANY FREE THERAPY

Please call Yvonne at 9681 8849.

FREE LEGAL COUNSELING CLINIC

NO session in December. Other clinics at St Joseph's - 17 Dec.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

For cancer patients / caregivers call:
Patrick 9728 7425 or Theresa 9681 9205

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Jumble Sales group is seeking volunteers to sort and pack donated items ie clothes, books, shoes, bags etc. every Monday between 12noon & 3pm. Those able to help, please leave your contact particulars with the church secretariat.

HEY KIDS! COME AND SEE

The Three Wise Kings coming alive in search of the Baby Jesus!

Please bring along a small gift (worth \$3.00) for exchange with other children.

Venue: Church of Holy Trinity Parish Hall.

Date: Sunday, 3 Jan

Time: 3pm to 5pm.

Organized by:

The Neocatechumenal Communities.



CANTEEN

Canteen will be closed from 20 Dec and will resume business on 17 January 2010.

SALE OF RELIGIOUS PICTURES

A Sacred Heart worker from Karachi, Pakistan will be selling religious pictures this weekend. He is raising fund for orphans and the needy. Please give him your support.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

by Fr Ambrose Vaz

12 Tues: 9.30-11.30am or 7.45 to 9.45pm
Jan 12, 19, Feb 2, 9, 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and Apr 6, 13.

At CAEC, 2 Highland Rd. Contribution: \$45
To register call SPI at 68583011 or email spi@catholic.org.sg

Registration closes on 5th January 2010.

CHINA-SINGAPORE RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL EXHIBITION 2009

Suntec City Convention Centre (6th floor)
16 to 22 Dec 10.30am to 8.30pm daily.

Exhibitions! Seminars! Performances! Art! Calligraphy! And more!!!

For details: www.china-singapore2009.com
All are Welcome! Free Admission!

CATHOLICISM 101

Why is the Church described as mystery?

How do Catholics worship?

What is the "Golden Rule" and where does it come from?

Get answers to your questions and learn more on Catholic Teaching at Catholicism 101 organised by Singapore Pastoral Institute, starting in February 2010.

Pick up an application form at your Parish office. All are welcome

Call 68583011 for more details.

Registration closes 14 January 2010.

CATHOLIC SINGLES EVENTS

Calling all Catholic Singles to come to mingle & enrich ourselves on Sun, 27 Dec for a New Year Party. Volunteers like Musician & event organisers needed for this bashing event.

Please email to CatholicSingle@gmail.com

or call Adeline 9385 0386 if u like to join us.

U are most welcome to join us at our facebook group.

THE PATRICIAN SOCIETY OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION OF ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

Christmas Eve Mass for old boys of St Patrick's School and their families.

Date: 24th Dec 2009 at 8pm.

Venus: St Patrick's School Chapel

Celebrant: Rev Fr Adrian Yeo.

All are welcome!

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE (MPC)

FOR COUPLES INTENDING TO GET MARRIED

1st Quarter Course Starts: 28th Feb 2010

Allocation of places is on a first-come-first-served basis

Application forms in the church office or

website: www.catholic.org.sg/mpc

Enquiries: John & Joan @ 98482864 or

email: marthasohtsk@yahoo.com

THE CATHOLIC NEWS IS AVAILABLE THIS WEEKEND