

2020 EASTER REFLECTION BOOKLETS “SINGING ALLELUIA IN COMMUNION”

The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced a booklet of reflections for the season of Easter in English, Mandarin and Tamil.

The overall theme for the Easter Reflections is “*Singing Alleluia in Communion*”.

Please take a copy of the booklet for your household. It is also available online at: tinyurl.com/20easterbooklet

ADULT CONFIRMATION 2020

Because of the prevailing Covid-19 situation, the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation scheduled for the 3rd May 2020, will have to be postponed to a later date which we will announce when the present virus situation stabilizes. Therefore the four preparatory sessions that were originally scheduled to be held will be cancelled and moved to a later date.

In the meanwhile adults who have been baptised but not confirmed may apply for confirmation using the Church of the Holy Family Adult Confirmation Form available from the Parish office. Submit the form to the office together with a copy of your baptism certificate (and marriage certificate, if married).

We will inform you later of the date of confirmation and the four preparatory sessions that are compulsory to prepare you for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

TEEN CONFIRMATION 3RD MAY 2020

This has been postponed to a date nearer the end of the year which will be announced later.

INFANT BAPTISM

The infant baptism scheduled to take place on 12th April 2020 will have to be postponed in view of the prevailing government regulations. We will announce the new date for infant baptism when the situation improves.

‘CRUCIS SINGAPURA’

Jesus Youth invites you to join ‘**Crucis Singapura**’ - a ‘virtual’ Way of the Cross on the **4th April 2020 at 3pm**. There will be a guided reflection with touching testimonies, interactive prayers and worship music. Link will be provided upon registration. Register for free on www.singapore.jesuyouth.org or call 90874674/83286194 for details.

CHARITIES WEEK 2020

Charities Week is an annual fundraising event organised by Caritas Singapore, the social and community arm of the Catholic Church in Singapore.

Please consider donating to Charities Week 2020 so that we can continue to serve our needy brothers and sisters. Envelopes are available at Church entrances or online <https://www.caritas-singapore.org/donate/>



CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Mass Times

Weekdays:

6.15 am (Mondays to Saturdays)

6.15 pm (Mondays to Fridays)

8.30 am

(Public

CANCELLED

Holidays)

Saturday Sunset

Masses:

6.00 pm (English) 8.00 pm (Mandarin)

Sunday Masses:

7.15, 9.15 & 11.30 am & 6.00 pm

Adoration Room
 Columbarium

Mon – Sat 7am to 10 pm, Sun | Public Holidays: 7am to 8.30pm

Mon–Fri: 6.00am to 7.00pm | Sat: 6.00am to 9.00pm

Sunday: 7.00am to 7.00pm | Public Holidays: 8.00am to 12noon

Please refer to **Church website** or the **Secretariat Office** for dates.

Infant Baptism

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Elders Catechism (Dialect)

Meditation Classes

Divine Mercy

Family Rosary

Family Eucharistic Adoration

Weddings

Every Saturday, 6pm Mass or Every Sunday, 11.30am Mass

Every Thursday, 1pm to 3pm @ Church Function Hall

Tuesdays/Thursday 8pm : Wednesdays 7.30pm

Every Friday, 7pm @ Main Church

1st Saturday of every month, 3.30–4pm @ Main Church

1st Saturday of every month, 4–5pm @ Adoration Room

Apply at Parish Office at least 1 year in advance

Fifth Sunday of Lent



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 Sunday Missal
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DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?

This day Jesus weeps for his dead friend, Lazarus. He asks Martha, “If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live. Whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” After Martha’s “yes,” Jesus raised Lazarus, and we are witnesses. Paul adds: “If the Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies.” Resurrection is the key to our witness and our faith in Jesus.

Sunday Missal Readings for next weekend — 5 Apr

Mt 21:1-11 Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11 Mt 26:14-27:66

REFLECTION

Once again I want to greet you all. I want to let you know that Fr Stanley, Fr Alphonsus and I are praying for you every day. We miss celebrating the Eucharist in our parish, we miss our community gathering, we miss your physical presence in our church premises. We miss you!

But we pray that you are all keeping well and healthy. We pray you are growing in your faith. We pray that Jesus Christ is becoming more and more the centre of your life.

On this 5th Sunday of Lent, this is exactly what we are called to do. We are called to focus on Jesus Christ who breathes into us his living spirit.

The readings at Mass today are very consoling and encouraging. We are living this moment today when it seems the whole world is like a grave, with the Corona virus leading thousands of people into it. It is so easy to be afraid and worried, discouraged and disillusioned, hopeless and helpless.

Yet the first reading from the prophet Ezekiel 37:12-14 is reminding us what God had promised: "And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live".

Yes, God wants us to live. Then why are people dying? Because they are interested only in unspiritual things.

St Paul puts it very beautifully in the second reading of today's Mass. He makes it clear that our interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in us. In fact, unless we possess the Spirit of Christ we would not belong to him. Then he continues: "Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you". It is from this death of sin that Jesus is raising us up today, as we see in the Gospel passage narrating the raising of Lazarus.

He calls us out of the grave. He calls us by name: "...Come out!" Each one of us can hear our own name being called by Jesus. Jesus wants us to come out of our grave, whatever that may be. What is our grave? What is causing us to be in the grave? We were not made for the grave. Come out! We were made for another place. We were made to be with God. Come out and come to me all you who labour and are burdened. I will give you rest.

But Jesus knows that we find it difficult to live his call fully because we are all bound up with all sorts of stuff. So, Jesus orders: "Unbind him, let him go free".

This is what Jesus is doing to and for all of us. He is calling us to himself – to life – and he is unbinding us from all that is hindering us from going to him and living in him.

Are we enjoying this?

Family Connection

Jesus' promise of eternal life is a central element of our Catholic faith. Even though Easter is still two weeks away, our Gospel today invites us to acknowledge Jesus' power over death, evidenced in the raising of Lazarus, and to anticipate Jesus' conquering of death once and for all in his death and Resurrection. We sometimes use examples from nature to help describe this mystery of our faith. Jesus himself talked about the seed that dies when planted in the ground in order to produce new life (John 12:24). Using that image and others, we find hope and confidence in Jesus, the Resurrection and the life.

Gather your family today and read today's Gospel in its shorter form, John 11:3-7,17,20-27,33b-45. Write Jesus' promise from today's Gospel ("I am the resurrection and the life.") on a large sheet of white paper. As your family talks about what Jesus means by this promise, decorate Jesus' words with symbols that will remind you of his promise of eternal life. Display this reminder of Jesus' promise in a prominent place in your home and keep it there until Easter. Pray that you will always remain confident in Jesus' promise of eternal life. Conclude by praying together the Apostles' Creed.

God bless

Fr Eugene Vaz