

MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

Dear Parishioners of Holy Family, we had a meeting with Fr Adrian Yeo and Deacon Clement Chen on Wednesday 1st July.

We have agreed to effect the transfer of priests at Holy Family on 1st August 2020, as mandated by His Grace the Archbishop.

Fr Alphonsus and I will be in the parish till 31st July 2020.

We will be putting out our final message to the Parish on Sunday 26th July 2020.

We are, in the course of these weeks, in the process of packing and shifting and so may not be in the parish all the time. Please contact the parish office or Fr Stanislaus Pang for any emergency.

Thank you and God Bless!

Fr Eugene Vaz

JUNE 2020 BRIEF FINANCIALS FOR SSVF

Brief financial for SSVF Holy Family Church Conference for month of June 2020:

- a) Amt collected thru First Sunday-2nd Collections : \$ 0.00
- b) Donations received (up to 30 June): \$ 1,800
- c) Amt disbursed in June: \$ 22,905.40

AN URGENT PLEA FOR DONATIONS

Our poor needs your continued support

We are humbled and grateful to the tremendous response to our first appeal for donations.

Given the ongoing pandemic and continues suspension of masses, we will need a further S\$3m to meet the basic needs of the poor till the end of the year.

We once again appeal to your kindness and generosity to meet that target. Many lives have been turned upside down by the current crisis and we anticipate more coming forward to seek our help. Please help them tide over this crisis.

PayNow Donations: UEN Code: S61SS0149BNCS

Cheque Donations: "SSVF NC Singapore"

Mailing Address:

Society of St Vincent de Paul

7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh

#04-01 Agape Village,

Singapore 319264



DONATIONS TO CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Parishioners who wish to continue their weekly donations may consider sending your cheque favouring **Church of the Holy Family**.

Alternatively you may also send via PayNow. Please enter **T08CC4048E** Unique Entity Number (UEN) for "**Church of The Holy Family**" and in the reference, type **Mass Collection**.

For more information, please refer to Church of the Holy Family website <http://holyfamily.org.sg>.

Additional instructions on how to use PayNow is available on <https://www.catholic.sg/offertory>.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Adoration Room

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

Columbarium

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

Infant Baptism

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

Liturgy of the Word for Children

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

Elders Catechism (Dialect)

Every Saturday, 6pm @ Church Function Hall

Meditation Classes

Every Thursday, 7pm @ Church Function Hall

Divine Mercy

Tuesday, 7pm @ Church Function Hall

Family Rosary

Every Sunday, 11.30am @ Main Church

Family Eucharistic Adoration

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

Weddings

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

Apply at Parish Office at least 1 year in advance



15th Sunday In Ordinary Time

July 12, 2020 – Year A

Sunday Missal Page No: 530

RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

Parables put things or events side by side so that something profound can be seen and understood. Jesus uses parables to open our eyes and ears to His good news. At baptism, the priest opens our ears to receive the faith and our mouths to proclaim it. Today's Gospel does just that for the Apostles and for us. Receiving the seed of God's Word is our best way to richness and fruitfulness beyond our imaginings. Are we, are you, good ground for God? Hear God's Word and keep it!

Sunday Missal Readings for next weekend – 19 July

Wis 12, 13:16-19 Rom 8:26-27 Mt 13:24-43

Mass Times

Weekdays:

6.15 am (Mondays to Saturdays)

6.15 pm (Mondays to Fridays)

8.30 am (Public Holidays)

Saturday Sunset Masses:

6.00 pm (English) & 6.00 pm (Mandarin)

Sunday Masses:

7.15, 8.30, 9.30 am & 6.00 pm

(Columbarium 30 minutes before weekend masses)

Novena: 5.00 pm Saturday

DIVINE MERCY - Every Friday @

7.00pm in Main Church

POSTPONED

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THE POWER AND EFFICACY OF GOD'S WORD

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 55:10-11. The word of God which came to the Chosen People through the prophets, and the divinely inspired writers, came out of God's loving interest in His people. He wanted to prepare them for the inheritance, the real "promised land," that, when the messianic age (the "fullness of time") came, would be theirs, provided their lives on earth were lived as they should be. — *The Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.*

The **second reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:18-23 and is about present suffering and the glory of God. Suffering is an essential part of the Christian life and one who truly believes will have his or her share of hardships and trials. Yet, these are not ends in themselves, as there is hope that they will terminate with the full revelation of the glory of God. The theme and message of St. Paul is not to lose hope in the Lord into whose risen life we have been initiated by Baptism. — *A Celebrants Guide to the New Sacramentary - A Cycle by Kevin W. Irwin*

The **Gospel** is from St. Matthew 13:1-23. Christ's description of His audience, that day in Galilee, is unfortunately as true today as it was then. His message of salvation has been preached to a great part of the world's population, but the proportion of those who accept it and live up to it, is about the same today as it was then. There are millions of men and women today, who are like the seed sown on the unploughed path. They refuse to accept the message, they have no thought for their future, they are content to end in the grave after their few years of misery and hardship on this planet. There are others who see the truth and the consolation of the Christian gospel, but when it comes to making sacrifices for it, they give up. The message did not sink into their hearts and minds. They are like the seed which fell on rocky ground because the faith had no deep roots in their lives. Others again, and they are legion, are like the seed that fell among the briars and thorns. They accepted the faith and it took root in them, but later on, "the cares of the world and the delight in riches chokes the word and it proves unfruitful," - these are our Lord's own words. The last class of Christians are like the seed sown on good soil. They not only accept Christ and his teaching, but they live up to it, and, come what may, they are faithful to it. These will produce fruit and will earn for themselves eternal happiness.

Each one of us can look into his own conscience today and discover to which class he or she belongs.

- Are some of us perhaps, like the seed that fell on the rocky ground? While Christianity makes no very difficult demand we are all for it, but when it demands mortification, the curbing of passion, real sacrifices for our neighbour, do we forget our Christian calling then and ignore its precepts?
- And how does our type of Christianity stand up to the temptations of the world - the desire to get all the enjoyment we can out of this life, licit or illicit, breaking God's commandments weekly or maybe daily? Are we chasing after wealth and power, using all our energies to rise in the world to be above our neighbour by fair or foul means?
- If the above are our aims in life, our Christianity has been or is being choked out of us. There are millions of saints in heaven today, enjoying eternal happiness, who had some, if not all, of our present failings. We, too, can be with them one day, provided we do what they did. They repented sincerely and remained God's close friends, until he called them to himself.

May the merciful God give us the grace to imitate them while we yet have time.

For our personal and communitarian Reflection:

- What can the parable say to the Church of today? Which soil does our ecclesial community represent? On the personal level, what interior availability and understanding do we manifest in our listening to the Word?
- Is it not true that the dangers Jesus pointed out to His disciples concerning the welcoming of the Word are relevant to us, too, for instance, fickleness before difficulties, negligence, anxiety for the future, daily worries?
- The disciples were capable of asking Jesus, of questioning Him about their worries and difficulties. On your journey of faith to the Word of God, to whom do you address your questions? The replies that Jesus communicates to us in our intimate and personal relationship with Him depend on the sort of question we ask.
- The figure of the sower recalls that of the Church in its commitment to evangelization: to know how to communicate in a new way the person of Jesus and the values of the Gospel.

The Church has to stand out for the authoritative character of its teaching, for its outspokenness and for the force of its actions. Today we need to be confident, eager and tireless evangelizers.

Every ecclesial community is urged by the parable of the sower not to be selective of persons or social contexts for the proclamation of the Gospel; we must have a broad vision and dedicate ourselves, even in what seem to be impossible situations, to communicating the Gospel.

Every pastoral action of evangelization experiences a first moment of ephemeral enthusiasm, which, however, may be followed by a cold reaction and opposition.

Pastoral attempts are comparable to the threefold attempt of the sower. In the end they are rewarded by the threefold harvest.

It is certain that the word of Jesus buds and bears fruit in hearts open to His action, but we must not cease from shaking our sluggishness, our indecision and the hardness of hearing of many believers.

“And we can ask ourselves: how is our heart? Which soil does it resemble: that of the path, the rocks, the thorns? It's up to us to become good soil with neither thorns nor stones, but tilled and cultivated with care, so it may bear good fruit for us and for our brothers and sisters.

And it will do us good not to forget that we too are sowers. God sows good seed, and here too we can also ask ourselves: which type of seed comes out of our heart and our mouth? Our words can do much good and also much harm; they can heal and they can wound; they can encourage and they can dishearten. Remember: what counts is not what goes in but what comes out of the mouth and of the heart. (Pope Francis, Angelus address, July 13, 2014).”

Fr Eugene Vaz, Parish Priest

THANK YOU AND GOODBYE MESSAGES FOR FR VAZ AND FR ALPHONSUS ON PARISH WEBSITE

Fr Vaz and Fr Alphonsus will be leaving us shortly. It would not be possible for us to gather as a community to convey our gratitude to them for all they have done. As such, a message board has been set up on the parish website that would allow you to post a message and upload, if you wish, a picture or card, to convey your own farewell message. Should you wish apart from posting on the website, emails/emails could be sent or physical cards mailed or dropped off in the offertory box in church. The priests have requested that there be no gifts.

David Nayar, Church of the Holy Family PPC Chairman