

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

There will be two masses on **Ash Wednesday (17th February) at 6.30pm and 8.00pm.**



FRIDAYS IN LENT 2021

For each Friday in the season of Lent, there will be a combined worship event (2-in-1) of the Stations of the Cross and Mass at **7.30 pm**. To attend, please book online at mycatholic.sg.



INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS DURING LENT TIME

Fr Adrian Yeo and Fr Stanislaus Pang will be available for Individual Confessions in the **Main Church** on the following dates / times:

Saturdays - 6 March, 20 March and 27 March

Time – 10.00 am to 12.00 noon on each of the days

To book a session for your confession, please go to calendly.com/holyfamilysg/ confession

Alternatively for weekdays, you can make appointments by email directly to Fr Adrian Yeo (adrian.yeo@catholic.org.sg) or Fr Stanislaus Pang



MASS OFFERINGS—3 WAYS

Cash—drop your envelopes in the donation boxes in Church or at 2nd Level Pastoral Centre.
Cheque favouring Church of the Holy Family with the time, date of mass, intention and name(s)

Paynow T08CC4048E Unique Entity Number (UEN) for "Church of The Holy Family" and in the reference, type **Mass Offering**. Send a screenshot of the acknowledgement of transfer by email to chf.secretariat@catholic.org.sg with time, date of mass, intention and name(s).

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**.

SSVP JANUARY 2021 BRIEF FINANCIALS

Brief financials for SSVP Holy Family Church Conference for month of January 2021:

- a) Amt collected through Church Collections: \$ 4,650.00
- b) Donations received (up to 31 Jan 2021): \$ 10,565
- c) Amt disbursed in December: \$ 16,291.35

COLUMBARIUM OPENING HOURS

The Columbarium is open **Mondays to Fridays, 9.30am to 5.30pm except 12.30—2.30pm and Saturdays 9.30am—12nn**. Please book online minimum 48 hours in advance via this link: <http://calendly.com/holyfamilysg/columbarium>.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Mass Times

Weekdays:

6.30 pm (Mondays to Fridays)

8.30 am (Public Holidays)

Saturday Sunset Masses:

4.00 pm & 5.30pm (English)

Mandarin Mass

8.00 pm (1st & 3rd Saturdays)

Sunday Masses:

8.00, 9.30 & 11.00 am

5.30 pm

Columbarium

Mon—Fri: 9.30am to 5.30pm except 12.30—2.30pm. Online booking only,

Infant Baptism

Please check with the Secretariat Office for dates.

Weddings

Apply at Parish Office at least 1 year in advance

Adoration Room

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

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Every Saturday, 6pm Mass or 9.30am Mass

Elders Catechism (Dialect)

Every Thursday, 1pm to 2pm @ Conjunction Hall

Meditation Classes

Tuesdays/Thursdays 7.30pm

Divine Mercy

Every Friday, . . . Church

Family Rosary

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

Family Eucharistic Adoration

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

SUSPENDED



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 14, 2021 – Year B
Sunday Missal Page No: 720

DISEASE AND SIN

The begging leper and the paralytic dropped in, and both wanted to be cured of their ailments, including their sin. Overcoming religious fears and social customs, they made their requests. Jesus replied, "Yes, of course," and then made the point that healing from sin and healing from disease are two sides of the same coin. Do we have courage enough to overcome worries and beg healing from the Lord in the Church? If we seek sacramental reconciliation, Jesus will surely reply, "Yes, of course."

Sunday Missal Readings for next weekend – 21 February

Gen 9:8-15 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15

MESSAGE FOR 6TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, 14 FEBRUARY , YEAR B, 2021

Lepers were among the most piteous of people in ancient (and in even not-so-ancient) times. Although little was known then, it was clearly known to be contagious and therefore greatly feared. The only solution was to isolate the victim and not allow him/her to approach other people.

Apart from the appalling physical disintegration of body and limbs, there was the social ostracism, the contempt and the fear which the victim engendered. The real pain and suffering were here. It seems the disease itself was, for the most part, not particularly painful.

What was probably even more tragic was that many who were branded as lepers were suffering from some other ailment, which may not have been contagious at all – such as ulcers, cancer, eczema or other skin diseases (some of them perhaps purely psychosomatic).

Permanent exile

The signs for diagnosis are given in First Reading from the book of Leviticus, one of the books of the Jewish Law. To our ears they sound primitive indeed: “If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man’s skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected.” This was clearly a very crude and arbitrary diagnosis but, such was the fear of the disease, it was a case of being safe rather than sorry. It was very hard, however, on a victim who in fact did not have leprosy at all.

Whether the person really had leprosy or not, the judgement was severe.. As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart: he must live outside the camp.” It was a sentence of indefinite exile from society.

Approaching Jesus in desperation

The scene in today’s gospel occurs during a longer passage which describes a Sabbath day in the public life of Jesus. It involves Jesus going to the synagogue, healing the sick and driving out evil spirits.

Then this leper approaches Jesus. He is desperate. He falls on his knees before Jesus, his last resort. There is marvellous faith in his heart-rending appeal: “If you want to, you can cure me.” This is not to say that Jesus only heals those he wants to heal but that Jesus has only to wish for his healing to be brought about. It expresses the man’s faith in the power of Jesus. He has already seen it at work in the other people who were healed that day. It is this faith which again and again in the Gospel is the necessary and sufficient condition for being made whole again.

Touched by Jesus

Jesus is filled with a deep sense of compassion for the man’s plight. Jesus then does something very significant: he physically touches the leper to indicate his compassion. In doing so he rendered himself ritually unclean, opened himself to the risk of contagion but also expressed solidarity with the sick man. It reminds one of Francis of

Assisi overcoming his own fear and loathing by embracing a leper he met on the road. In none of these cases was actually dangerous but it sent a very strong message of affirmation to the sick person – and to the rest of us. “I do want it,” says Jesus to the man, “Be healed!” The man is immediately healed, made whole.

Re-entering society

But that is not the end of the story because the physical healing alone does not solve the man’s problem. He has still to be reintegrated into the community – this is the second part of the whole-making process. Leviticus had said: “As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart: he must live outside the camp.” He now had to get an official endorsement of his being healed. He is told to go to the priests who will examine him and then pronounce him fit to re-enter society. At the same time, he is strongly warned by Jesus not to say anything to anyone about it. Jesus wanted no sensationalism. The healing was for the man’s sake; it was not a publicity stunt to enhance Jesus’ public image. Jesus’ mission was to bring wholeness into people’s lives but he did not want to be seen as just a wonderworker. Jesus’ healing work cannot be understood apart from his teaching about how we should lead our lives. Even today there are people who rush to this and that shrine to see wonders while having little awareness of what really constitutes the life of the Christian.

A secret that could not be kept

“The man went away but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town but had to stay outside in the places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.”

Indeed, how could the man refrain from telling everybody about his wonderful experience of coming in contact with the whole-making power of Jesus? He becomes an ardent evangeliser, a spreader of good news – something we are all called to be. It was no wonder that people went out into the deserted places looking for Jesus. But what were they looking for?

And we can ask ourselves today, what has our experience of knowing Jesus been like? How come we do not have the enthusiasm of this man? So much of our religious living is focused just on ourselves. It is perhaps worth noting that the man’s experience was the result of having first been the victim of a terrible cross. It is often in our crosses that grace appears

— *Living Space*

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Little Shepherds' Schoolhouse @ Church of the Holy Family is open for registration for children age 3 to 6 years.

Enquiries are welcome and please contact the Kindergarten office from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm @ 6440 4344 or email us at lss-cohf.admin@catholicpreschool.edu.sg.