

COLUMBARIUM VISITS AND BOOKINGS UNDER PHASE 3 HEIGHTENED ALERT

The Columbarium is now open for visitors from **Monday to Friday 9.30am to 6.00pm** (last booking at 5.30 pm) and **Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm** (last booking at 12 noon) only. It will be closed on Sundays and Public Holidays.

To schedule your visit, please visit our website (www.holyfamily.org.sg). Maximum group size will be 5 persons per group, with a maximum number of 3 groups for each half-hour time slot.

PRIVATE PRAYER TIME UNDER PHASE 3 HEIGHTENED ALERT

The Church is also open for the above on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 4.30 pm to 5.15 pm and 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm; Sundays from 12.45 pm to 4 pm, except Public Holidays.**

Should there be other activities being conducted in Church during the above times, the Private Prayer Time will be cancelled.

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 JUNE 2021 BRIEF FINANCIALS

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

- Amt collected through Church Collections: \$ 2,845
- Donations received (up to 30 June 2021): \$ 930
- Amt disbursed in June: \$14,834.40



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).

For those who wish to have your Mass Offerings printed for the upcoming masses from Saturday to Friday, please submit them by dropping it into Mass Offering Box at the Office, Pastoral Centre Level 2 latest by Friday 12 noon.

Mass Offerings placed into the black boxes at the exits of the Church during the week will only be updated once a week on the following Monday for upcoming masses from Saturday to Friday.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Website: <http://www.holyfamily.org.sg>

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Website: <http://www.holyfamilykindergarten.com/>

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Mass Times

Weekdays:

6.30 pm (Mondays to Fridays)

9.00 am (Public Holidays)

Saturday Sunset Masses:

3.45pm & 5.30pm (English)

Mandarin Mass

8.00 pm (1st & 3rd Saturdays)

Sunday Masses:

7.45am, 9.30 & 11.30am &

5.30 pm

Columbarium Mon—Fri: 9.30am to 6.00pm and Sat: 9.30am to 12.30pm except 12.30—2.30pm. Online booking minimum 48 hours in advance via <http://calendly.com/holyfamilysg/columbarium>.

Infant Baptism 26th Sep and 28th Nov 2021, **subject to change**

Weddings Apply at Parish Office at least 1 year in advance

~~ All other activities and events remain suspended ~~



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 4, 2021 - YEAR B

Sunday Missal Page No: 747

STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS

"No profit in prophecy." In his hometown, Jesus found people were too close to him to have faith in him, his words and his work. Amazed at their lack of faith, he felt the strength of his weakness. Our task is to learn the fragility of our own status and find our strength in the Lord. Then we can prophesy: tell the truth about reality and speak of the Lord's steadfast care for each and every one of us. Come, Lord Jesus! Maranatha!

Sunday Missal Readings for next weekend – 11 July

Am 7:12-15 Eph 1:3-14 Mk 6:7-3

MESSAGE FOR 14TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, 4TH JULY, YEAR B, 2021

Jesus goes back to his hometown, Nazareth. And he is accompanied by his disciples. As was the right of any devout Jew, he gave the homily in the synagogue on a Sabbath. The townspeople are amazed. They are astonished at the wisdom with which he speaks, and the power of the miracles they had heard he was performing.

They are even more amazed because they think they know who Jesus is. He is the carpenter, the son of Mary and Joseph, and they know all his relatives. They grew up with him. And because they think they know him, they refuse to accept him. They see the outward person but they do not listen to the words. They had made up their minds about him long ago.

So many people in our society have made up their minds about Jesus and presume that what they know is the whole story about him. And what they reject is often not the real Jesus, the Jesus of the Gospels, but some distortion that has found its way into their thinking.

Dangers of familiarity

They do not hear the message because they are blinded by the familiarity of the person. A perfect example of the saying that familiarity breeds contempt, not just boredom but contempt.

We are not much different from the people of Nazareth. The same thing can happen to us all the time. God is constantly speaking to us through the people we know, through things that happen to us, through situations in which we find ourselves. Again and again we do not recognise his voice, his message because he is speaking through someone we know very well, or someone we do not like, or someone who is a total stranger or a foreigner.

Because of their blindness, we are told that Jesus was not able to do any of his great works there. How often have we too blocked out God's love and healing power because we refused to recognise him in a particular person or a situation? Yet, it was precisely through this person or experience he was trying to reach us.

Jesus now makes a sad comment on his townspeople. "A prophet is only despised in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." While people in other places greeted Jesus with enthusiasm and hung on his words, his own townspeople, his own family wrote him off, treated him with cynicism.

A prophet's lot is not a happy one

It is an experience all prophets must be ready for. A prophet is a person who has been commissioned to proclaim God's message, to call people to accept God's word, to urge them to change their lives and base them on truth and love.

Traditionally, prophets both in the Hebrew Testament and in the long history of Christianity have met with resistance, hostility and even violent deaths. We have a perfect example in the prophet Ezekiel, who speaks to us in the First Reading. He has been called to proclaim God's message to his people. God does not promise him an easy time. "I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against

me... Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them."

It is strange that messages urging truth, love, justice, freedom and peace arouse such opposition, hostility, hatred and violence. But it is happening all the time. Because, in many parts of the world, words like 'truth', 'justice', 'freedom' are seen as dangerous and threatening. Strange as it may seem, there are people who do not want to hear them. And more Christians have died for their faith in these enlightened and civilised(?) times than in any other.

Martin Luther King died for promoting the equality of all human beings irrespective of race. Mahatma Gandhi died because, as a Hindu, he was friendly with Muslims. Bishop Oscar Romero died because he denounced the exploitation of the poor. Dietrich Bonhoeffer died because he attacked the racist evils of Nazism. And the list could go on and on...

All called to be prophets

It is something each of us needs to remember. Every one of us, simply because of our baptism, has been called to be a prophet. We have all been called to spread the message of the Gospel in our families, in our working places, among our friends, in our society.

Whatever is happening we have to be ready to proclaim and defend truth, love, justice, freedom, people's rights and dignity. There are some things over which we cannot compromise, there are some times when we cannot keep silent.

There are times when we may be afraid, or when we feel incompetent or inadequate. We can take encouragement from Paul in the Second Reading today. He had some very painful handicap which he felt prevented him from preaching the Gospel effectively. He begged God to take away this affliction.

The answer to his prayer was surprising. He was told that God's power working through him shone more in his weakness. Otherwise what he said and did might have been attributed to his own brilliance. So he now totally accepts all his weaknesses, because then Christ's power and light shine more clearly through him. "That is why," says Paul, "I am content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong." That is the voice of a true prophet. He is the fragile vessel of clay.

So let us too not be discouraged by our shortcomings – spiritual, psychological, social, physical. God wants us to be his instrument. He will stand by us and give us what we need when we need it. And when the Church and its message are accepted with open arms by any society, then we need to be suspicious about the genuineness of what we proclaim.

~ *Living Space*

PARA-COUNSELLING SERVICE BY CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE

Need someone to journey with you through the stages and challenges of life? Trained Para-Counsellors are available via Zoom. **Please call 66318963 (Mon – Fri 12pm to 4pm)**, email paracounselling-info@familylife.sg or visit <https://cpc.familylife.sg/> to book your session.