



Apostolic Nuncio to Singapore, His Excellency Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli, will be celebrating Mass at Church of Our Lady of Lourdes on **Thursday the 26th of October 2017 at 12.30pm.**

Do join us at this special celebration as we bid farewell and thank His Excellency for his hard work and mission here in Singapore. All are welcome!

food for thought

Immediately after criticizing the religious leaders through the parable of the tenants in last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus proceeded to tell another parable, again directed at the religious leaders. We hear this parable in today's Gospel.

In the parable of the wedding feast, Jesus offers an image of the kingdom of heaven using the symbol of a wedding banquet. In today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah and in today's psalm, the Lord's goodness is evident in the symbol of a feast of good food and wine. Jesus' listeners would have been familiar with the image of a wedding feast as a symbol for God's salvation. They would consider themselves to be the invited guests. Keeping this in mind helps us to understand the critique Jesus makes with this parable. The context for this parable is the growing tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders in Jerusalem. This has been the case for the past two Sundays and will continue to be true for the next several weeks.

The parable Jesus tells is straightforward. The king dispatches his servants to invite the guests to the wedding feast that he is planning for his son. The listeners would have been surprised to learn that the first guests refused the invitation. Who would refuse the king's invitation? A second dispatch of servants follows. Again to the listeners' great surprise, some guests ignore the invitation. Some of the invited guests even go so far as to mistreat and kill the servants. The king invokes his retribution against these murderers by destroying them and burning their city.

We might stop here for a moment. Why would some guests kill the servants sent to invite them to the king's wedding feast? It might be possible that the king was a tyrant, evidenced by the destruction of the city of those who refused his invitation. But if we follow this idea, then the allegory seems to be about something other than the kingdom of heaven. It is more likely that the destruction of the city would have been a powerful image corresponding to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70, which would have been an important event for Matthew's audience.

With the invited guests now deemed unworthy to attend the king's wedding feast, the servants are sent to invite whomever they can find. The guests arrive, but it appears that accepting the king's invitation brings certain obligations. The guest who failed to dress in the appropriate wedding attire is cast out of the feast. We are reminded that while many are invited to the kingdom of heaven, not all are able to meet its requirements. God invites us to his feast, giving us his salvation. Yet he asks us to repent for our sins.

Jesus' message in the parable cautions against exclusive beliefs about the kingdom of heaven. The parable also teaches about humility. Those who assume that they are the invited guests may find that they have refused the invitation, and so others are invited in their place. To accept the invitation is also to accept its obligations. God wants our full conversion in complete acceptance of his mercy.



Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

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15 OCT 2017

28TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A





First reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second reading
Gospel

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 25:6-10
Psalm 22
Philippians 4:12-14,19-20
Matthew 22:1-14

Mass Schedule @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

Weekdays (English)	12:30pm & 6:30pm
1st Friday	7.30pm
Sat (Sunset - English)	6:00pm & 7:30pm
Sunday (English)	7:30am, 11:30am & 1.00pm
Sunday (Tamil)	9:30am & 6:30pm
Public Holiday (English)	9:00am
Public Holiday (Tamil)	10:00am

Parish Activities

English	- Our Lady of Lourdes Novena (Saturday)	5:30pm
	- Rosary Recitation (Weekdays)	11.55am
	Monday & Wednesday	5.55pm
	- Holy Hour with Benediction(1st Friday)	6.30pm followed by Mass 7.30pm
	- Sacred Heart Devotion	6.30pm followed by Mass (All other Fridays)
	- Divine Mercy (Tuesday)	5:45pm
	- Legion of Mary (Tuesdays)	7.30pm
	- Infant Jesus (Thursday)	5:45pm
	- Charismatic (Every Friday)	7.45pm
	- Legion of Mary (Sundays)	9.45am
Tamil	- Infant Jesus (Tuesday)	4:30pm
	- Divine Mercy (Friday)	5:45pm
	- OLPS Novena (Every Saturday)	8:00pm
Indonesian	- Karismatik Katolik Indonesia Holy Spirit (Thursday)	1.00pm
	- KKIHS Youth Group (2nd & 4th Friday)	7.30pm
Filipino	- Filipino Christian Professionals	8.00pm (1st Friday Mass)
	- Light of Jesus Bible Sharing (Monday)	7.30pm

Important Parish Information

Wedding Arrangements	Church Wedding bookings must be made in advance. Please contact the Secretariat.
Infant Baptism	Every 4th Sunday in English and every 3rd Sunday in Tamil @ 4.00pm. Register at the Parish Office. Please provide photocopy of church marriage certificate of parents, birth certificate of infant and confirmation certificate of Godparents.
Mass Intentions	Please drop your Mass intention into the Box located outside the Parish Office by 3pm on Wednesday for the following week's intentions.
Lourdes Prayer Hall	For bookings contact the Parish Office at 6294 0624
Anointing	Make an appointment with a priest before planned admission to hospital.
Holy Communion for the Homebound	Register with the Parish Office.

Kindly be aware of people who profess to pray over others in the Parish Grounds, and/or in your homes for the purpose of soliciting funds without the approval of the Archdiocese and Priests of the Parish.

The building project of Our Lady of Lourdes parish is at present under review, and its fund raising project is being put on hold until further notice by the Archdiocese.

For further enquires, kindly email the Parish Secretariat at olopastoral@gmail.com or ololsec@gmail.com



Church Cleaning
Date : Sunday, 22nd Oct 2017
Time : 2.30pm
Church will be closed for cleaning from 2.30pm to 4.00pm
All are welcome to help! Registration is not required.



Public Holiday Mass Times
Date : Wednesday, 18th October 2017
Time : 9.00am in English
10.00am in Tamil
Parish Office will be Closed
Main Gates will Close After the Tamil Mass



GIFT programme

This being the third Sunday of the month, there will be a collection for the GIFT programme. The GIFT or "Giving in Faith and Thankfulness" programme seeks to support the archdiocese's 10-year pastoral plan for a more vibrant, missionary and evangelistic Church. The Catholic Foundation will have to raise \$238 million over the next seven years for the operating costs of various archdiocesan organisations involved with families, youth, evangelisation, etc, and building projects such as Bethany East and the Seminary and Formation Building. Details of the funds needed and the GIFT programme can be found in the GIFT booklet and on the Foundation's website.

Catholic Theological Institute of Singapore (CTIS) welcomes applications for the Certificate in Theology programme for Semester 1, 2018. Please download a copy of our Prospectus from our website. Application forms are available at CTIS Office or you may download it from our website. Please join our Information Night on November 3 (Friday), 2017 from 7:30pm to 8:30pm to know more about CTIS and the programmes we offer. Closing date for all applications is December 2 (Saturday), 2017. Contact us for more information. CTIS, 55 Waterloo St, #05-04 Catholic Centre, Singapore 187954. Telephone: 6434-8000, Email: admin@ctis.sg, Website: www.ctis.sg.

Appeal for the Humanitarian Aid Fund

CHARIS is making its annual appeal for the Humanitarian Aid Fund to support the Archdiocese's overseas humanitarian work and disaster response. Appeal flyers and envelopes are available in the parish. Alternatively, you can send a crossed cheque payable to "Humanitarian Aid Fund" with your name and contact information to: CHARIS, #07-02 Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187954. Please contact Victoria Lim at 6337-4119 or info@charis-singapore.org for further information.

Crossings Café in collaboration with the South Central Community Family Service Centre invites you to participate in "I Wish You Enough". This movement promotes neighbours sharing with neighbours, especially with those who do not have enough, so that Everyone Has Enough. From 16 October to 3rd November 2017, support the I Wish You Enough movement of making a difference in someone's life through sharing of food. Here's how : Pay it forward by buying an extra meal(s) at Crossings Café for someone who cannot afford it. Approach the staff for more information on how to be part of 'I Wish You Enough'. Tel. 63366203 or email manager@crossingscafe.com.sg

PIETA First Memorial Mass for Children who have died

Fri 10th Nov 2017 at 7pm Venue: Good Shepherd Place Chapel Toa Payoh Lorong 8
www.facebook.com/pg/PietaSingapore/events

The child bereavement support group PIETA is organising a Memorial Mass for children who have died (including unborn and adult children). Parents, families and friends are welcome to attend and celebrate the gift of their children who are now in heaven. If you wish to include mention of your child in this mass, please REGISTER via email with your Name, Telephone and Email details by 15th Oct at pieta.Singapore@gmail.com.