

The **6th Christ@Work Conference** is back on 18 November 2017! Dynamic group of industry leaders as key speakers and panelists to talk about practicing their Christian faith in the marketplace. Join us for a dynamic day of high-octane inspiring talks and networking as we are expecting a crowd of 700 attendees. Individual Registration: \$60/- per person. Group Registration (Minimum 5 participants): \$55/- per person. <http://www.cbn.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](mailto:info@charis-singapore.org) for further information.

## food for thought

*Jesus warns against following the example of the scribes and the Pharisees and teaches that those who would be great must be servants.*

Today's Gospel continues to elaborate on the tension between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees. Our Lectionary sequence at this point, however, is not quite a continuous reading of Matthew. In between last week's reading from Matthew and this week's, we find Jesus' question to the Pharisees about the Messiah being "David's son." Having concluded a series of dialogues with the Pharisees and other religious leaders, Jesus now directs his words to the crowds, warning them not to follow the example of the scribes and Pharisees.

The scribes and Pharisees were teachers of the Mosaic Law. They were entrusted with its interpretation and, thus, were influential in determining Jewish practice. In order to appreciate the conflict that is evident in this passage, we must understand that Jesus was basing his teachings on the same laws and traditions available to the Pharisees. Both were interpreting the Law of Moses in order to better adapt it to contemporary Jewish life. The differences between their teachings, therefore, are often highlighted and amplified by Matthew.

This part of Matthew's Gospel reflects aspects of the conflict between his Christian community and Pharisaic Judaism. Matthew's Church is thought to have included many Jewish Christians who may not have believed that a break with the synagogue was necessary to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus tells the crowd that it is correct to do and observe what the scribes and Pharisees teach; it is their example that is to be avoided, namely, their love of being honoured and exalted. Hence, the Gospel reflects the tension of an active internal debate within the early Church.

Jesus references two aspects of Jewish spiritual life prescribed by the Law of Moses. Phylacteries are small boxes which contain Scripture verses that are placed on the left forearm and forehead. Tassels refer to the fringes worn on the corners of a person's garments; the tassels help to remind those who wear them to keep the commandments.

The warning Jesus gives against seeking places of honour in the community was directed as much toward the Christian community as the named Jewish leaders. Indeed, it is a warning that resonates with us today. Christian leadership is a call to service for the glory of God; those who would be leaders among us must, like Jesus, be servants of all.



## Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

50 Ophir Road, Singapore 188690 Tel: 6294 0624  
[www.lourdes.sg](http://www.lourdes.sg)

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Michael Sitaram  
 Email: [frmichaelsitaram@gmail.com](mailto:frmichaelsitaram@gmail.com)

Asst. Parish Priest: Rev Fr Paul Yeo  
 Email: [fryeopaul@gmail.com](mailto:fryeopaul@gmail.com)

Asst. Parish Priest: Rev Fr Nithiya Sagayaraj  
 Email: [nithiya@catholic.org.sg](mailto:nithiya@catholic.org.sg)

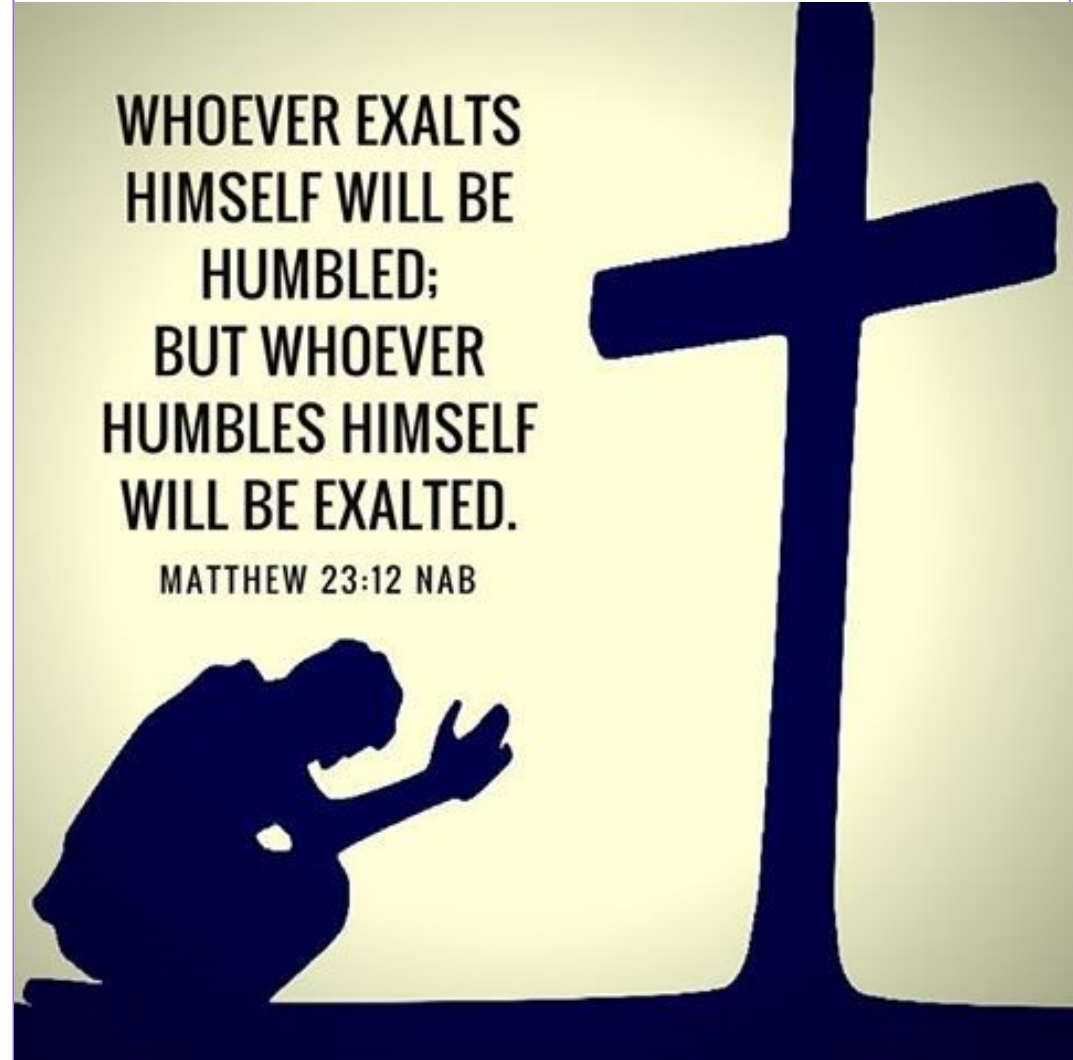
5 NOV 2017

31ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

WHOEVER EXALTS  
 HIMSELF WILL BE  
 HUMBLED;  
 BUT WHOEVER  
 HUMBLER HIMSELF  
 WILL BE EXALTED.

MATTHEW 23:12 NAB





### Sunday Readings

First reading	Malachi 1:14-2:2,8-10
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 130
Second reading	1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13
Gospel	Matthew 23:1-12

### 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

<b>English</b>	- 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
<b>Tamil</b>	- Infant Jesus (Tuesday)	4:30pm
	- Divine Mercy (Friday)	5:45pm
	- OLPS Novena (Every Saturday)	8:00pm
	- Rosary & OLOL Devotion (1st Sunday)	8:30am
<b>Indonesian</b>	- Karismatik Katolik Indonesia Holy Spirit (Thursday)	1.00pm
	- KKIHS Youth Group (2nd & 4th Friday)	7.30pm
<b>Filipino</b>	- 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](mailto:olopastoral@gmail.com) or [ololsec@gmail.com](mailto:ololsec@gmail.com)

### 1st Sunday's 2nd Collection

2nd Collection taken during Masses this weekend will be for the poor of St Vincent de Paul Society. Thank you for your kind donation.



We wish you a wonderful birthday. And may God give you the power, courage, knowledge and wisdom to propagate His words to mankind.

**Happy Birthday Fr. Michael Sitaram!**  
**6th November 2017**

*"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."* – Mathew 23:11

### Villagefest 2017

Gather as a family for sessions promoting healthy family relations, spiritual inputs, prayers and the consecration of families to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

When: 18 Nov 2017 Time: 930am - 4pm

Where: St Joseph's Institution Junior.

Organised by: Office for the New Evangelisation and Archdiocesan Commission for the Family. Free admission. For more info and to register: Visit [www.one.org.sg/events](http://www.one.org.sg/events)

### Choice Weekend

It takes that 1 weekend to inspire you for the rest of your life. Come away for a Choice Weekend - it is by the choices we make that we define what our life is all about.

Date: 24 - 26 Nov 2017 (Friday evening to Sunday evening)

Venue: Choice Retreat House, 47 Jurong West Street 42, Singapore 649368

Enquiries: Hillary (9790 0537) or Francesca (9710 9680)

Register & Info: [http://www.choice.org.sg/?page\\_id=8](http://www.choice.org.sg/?page_id=8)

### An Ignatian Inspired Writing & Conversation

A conversation with Chris Lowney and his writings inspired by Ignatian Spirituality. Titles include 'Heroic Leadership', 'Heroic Living', and 'Pope Francis: Why He Leads the Way He Leads.'

Date & Time: Monday, 20 November 2017, 7pm – 9pm. Contribution: \$30 (if attending this and the event on 19 Nov – \$70)

### Mass with Prayers for Healing (All are welcome and no registration is needed)

4 November 2017 (Saturday)

Church of Sts. Peter and Paul (main church)

2.00 PM - Praise and Worship

2.25PM to 4.00 PM – Mass celebrated by Fr. Thomas Curran, followed by prayers for healing.

For enquiries, please email [praiseatworksg@yahoo.com](mailto:praiseatworksg@yahoo.com) or call 9747 2467 Organised by SACCRE and Praise@Work

### 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](http://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](mailto:pieta.Singapore@gmail.com).