

Archbishop Emeritus Nicholas Chia 80th Birthday

The Archdiocese of Singapore will be celebrating the 80th Birthday of Msgr. Nicholas Chia with a Thanksgiving Mass on Saturday, 7th April 2018 at 10:30am at the Church of the Holy Cross, Clementi. All are invited. After the Mass, there will be a reception buffet for invited guests only.

food for thought *The women find that the stone from Jesus' tomb has been rolled back, and an angel reports that Jesus has been raised from the dead.*

Each of the four Gospels reports that the women who had been followers of Jesus discovered the empty tomb after his death. Today we read from the Gospel of Mark, which contains the most succinct of all the reports of Jesus' Resurrection in the Gospels.

Scholars have long noted some irregularities about the ending of Mark's Gospel. The report of the discovery of the empty tomb comes to an abrupt conclusion after verse 8. While some believe this is the original ending of Mark's Gospel, others theorize that there was a longer ending that was lost.

Some manuscripts of Mark's Gospel, written between the fourth and ninth centuries, include what scholars have termed the Shorter Ending, which is often printed in our Bibles for reference. This ending indicates that the women told their story to Peter's companions. Scholars believe that this ending was not written by Mark, but was probably added by later copyists who sought to resolve the abrupt ending at verse 8.

Other early manuscripts include a Longer Ending, which scholars also believe was written by someone other than the evangelist Mark. Quotations from this Longer Ending are found in the writings of the early Church Fathers, however, indicating that this Longer Ending has been included as part of Mark's Gospel for some time. This Longer Ending, Mark 16:9-20, was accepted at the Council of Trent as part of the canonical Gospel. Portions of this Longer Ending are read as part of our weekday lectionary cycle and on the Feast of the Ascension in Cycle B. Without this Longer Ending, the Gospel of Mark would report no post-Resurrection appearances of Jesus.

In today's Gospel, Mark reports the names of three women who go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. They are Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary, the mother of James. According to Mark, these are the same women who were among those watching Jesus' Crucifixion from a distance. Mark reports that these women were followers of Jesus in Galilee and that they ministered to him. Mark also reports that Mary Magdalene and Mary observed where Jesus' body was laid. After his death, these women came again to minister to Jesus.

Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary, the mother of James, go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. It is clear from Mark's report of their conversation that they had not worked out all the necessary details. They know that a very large stone was used to seal Jesus' tomb, but they do not know how they are going to remove it. When they arrive at the tomb, they find that the stone has already been rolled back. Upon entering the tomb, they meet an angel who tells them that Jesus has been raised from the dead. The angel then recalls Jesus' promise to his disciples that he would go before them to Galilee.

Amazement would seem to be a natural reaction to the experience that the women had that morning. Yet the angel chides them for being amazed. Perhaps the reason is found in the words that follow, as the angel reminds them that Jesus himself had told his disciples that he would see them again in Galilee. If the women had listened and heeded Jesus' words, they would not have been surprised to find the tomb empty. This highlights a theme of Mark's Gospel: the disciples of Jesus are often clueless about the true identity of Jesus and confounded by his message to them.

Nonetheless, we can find some hope for the disciples, just as there is hope for us when we find ourselves unsure about Jesus. The disciples in today's Gospel were faithful followers of Jesus and remained present through Jesus' death on the cross. In fact, they came to the tomb that morning expecting to minister to Jesus once again. Instead, they were sent to minister in a different way, as apostles to Peter and the other disciples. Because we hear this Gospel proclaimed today, we know that they honored Jesus by accepting this mission.

Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

50 Ophir Road, Singapore 188690 Tel: 6294 0624
www.lourdes.sg

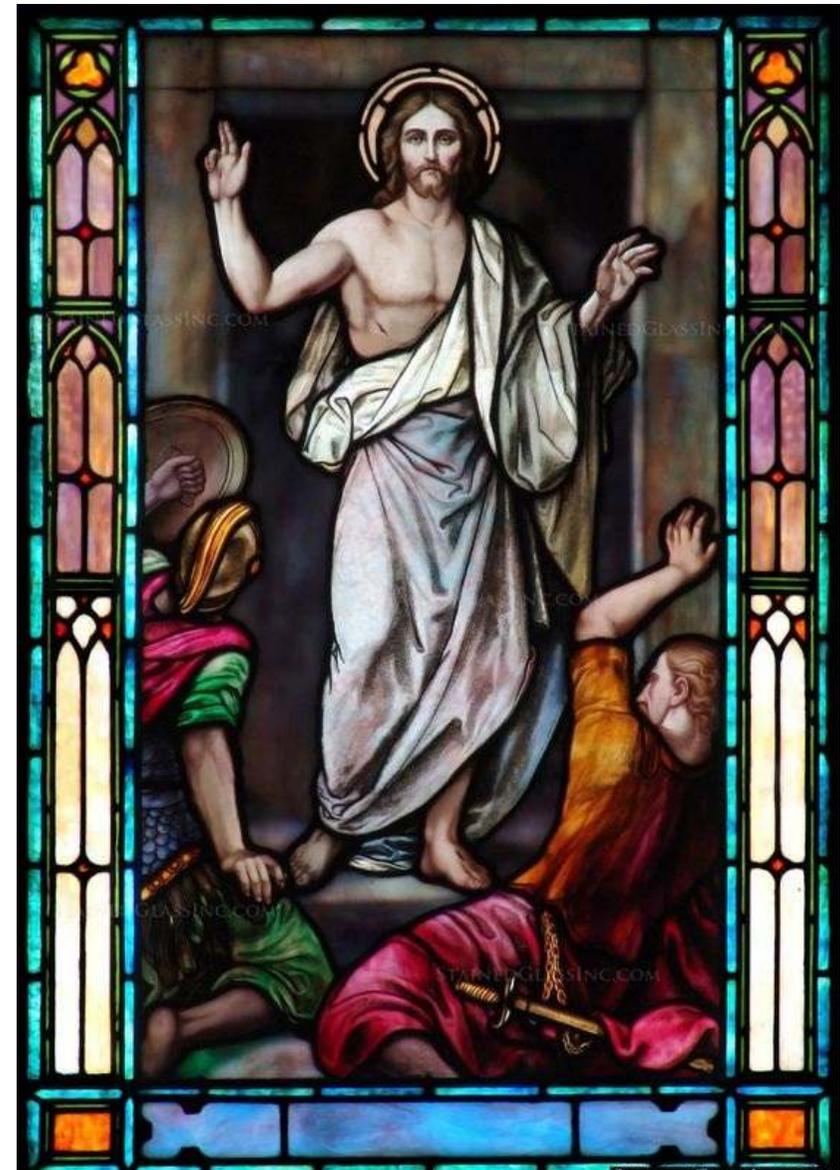
Parish Priest: Rev Fr Michael Sitaram
Email: frmichaelsitaram@gmail.com

Asst. Parish Priest: Rev Fr Nithiya Sagayaraj
Email: nithiya@catholic.org.sg

Asst. Parish Priest: Rev Fr Paul Yeo
Email: fryeopaul@gmail.com

Parish Secretariat: ololsec@gmail.com
& ololpastoral@gmail.com

31 MAR 2018 EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION YEAR B





Sunday Readings

First reading Acts 10:34,37-43
 Responsorial Psalm Psalm 117:1-2,16-17,22-23
 Second reading Colossians 3:1-4
 Gospel Mark 16:1-8

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)	8:30pm
	- Rosary & OLOL Devotion (Sunday)	8:30am
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.

Divine Mercy Triduum @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes
 3 Evenings Dedicated to God Our Eternal Father
 Divine Mercy Chaplet - Intercessions - Mass - Preaching

4th to 6th April 2018
Wednesday to Friday @ 7.00 pm
No Mass at 6.30pm

Ministers: Fr. Michael Sitaram and Fr. Paul Yeo



Charities Week 2018

The season of Lent is the time when the Church conducts its annual Archdiocesan fundraising campaign – Charities Week 2018. Your donation will provide much needed funding to support our Catholic Charities and Agape Village, a project of Caritas Singapore, to serve over 50,000 beneficiaries in need such as the poor, families, youth and children, prisoners, migrant workers, and persons living with HIV / AIDS. Please pick up an appeal envelope and give generously. Your donation will enjoy a tax deduction of 250 percent.

ACCIRD Interreligious Panel & Discussion on "Birth" on 10 Apr (Tue), 7.15pm-9.30pm, Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, Annex Building Level 3.

Rabbi Fettmann (Chesed El Synagogue), Ms Suhailah (Muis) and Sr Maria Lau, IJ will share about the meaning and significance of birth and religious initiation into their respective religions as well as the attendant rituals, rites and customs. Register name, parish/organisation and contact number by 9 Apr at gerald.accird@catholic.org.sg

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: 27 - 29 Apr 2018 (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

PIETA is a support group for bereaved parents. We come together as bereaved parents - in prayer, in WORD and in faith. The session, run by bereaved parents, meets monthly to pray, reflect and break open the WORD OF GOD. We invite any parent who has lost a child (regardless of age and no matter how recent or long ago) to unite with us in faith. Our monthly session is on every 4th Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm to 9:00pm at Agape Village, Toa Payoh Lorong 8, and the next one would be held on Tue 27 March 2018. Our contact details are email: pieta.singapore@gmail.com and we can also be found on Facebook: <https://facebook.com/PietaSingapore>

Retrouvaille – A Lifeline for Troubled & Hurting Marriages

1. Has your marriage become unloving and uncaring?
2. Has your marriage grown cold and distant?
3. Has there been little or no meaningful communication between the two of you?
4. Do you feel disappointed or even despair thinking about your marriage?

A Retrouvaille weekend can help you.
 Weekend date: 27 - 29 April 2018
 For confidential enquiry, Tel: 6522 8750
 Online registration: www.helpourmarriage.sg