

*We would like to wish Fr Nithiya Sagayaraj
a very happy and blessed birthday on Wednesday the 25th of April!
God Bless you today and always for the special love and concern you minister to
all of those in your care. May your life be filled with God's many gifts.
Happy Birthday!*



JC/NS Day of Recollection

Are you a JC/NS student or serving National Service? You are not alone in your faith walk nor in your life's journey. Come join fellow Catholics for a day of recollection on 5th May at the Office for Young People. Make time to pray, listen to sharings, relax and have good conversations. Discover how we can encourage one another to keep the flame of our faith alive amidst the stresses and pressures of life.

Date & Time: 5th May 2018, from 10am – 6pm (lunch is provided). Venue: Office for Young People, 2 Lorong Low Koon, SG 536449 Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/JCNSDOR2018>.

food for thought

Jesus says that he is the good shepherd who knows his sheep.

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.



Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

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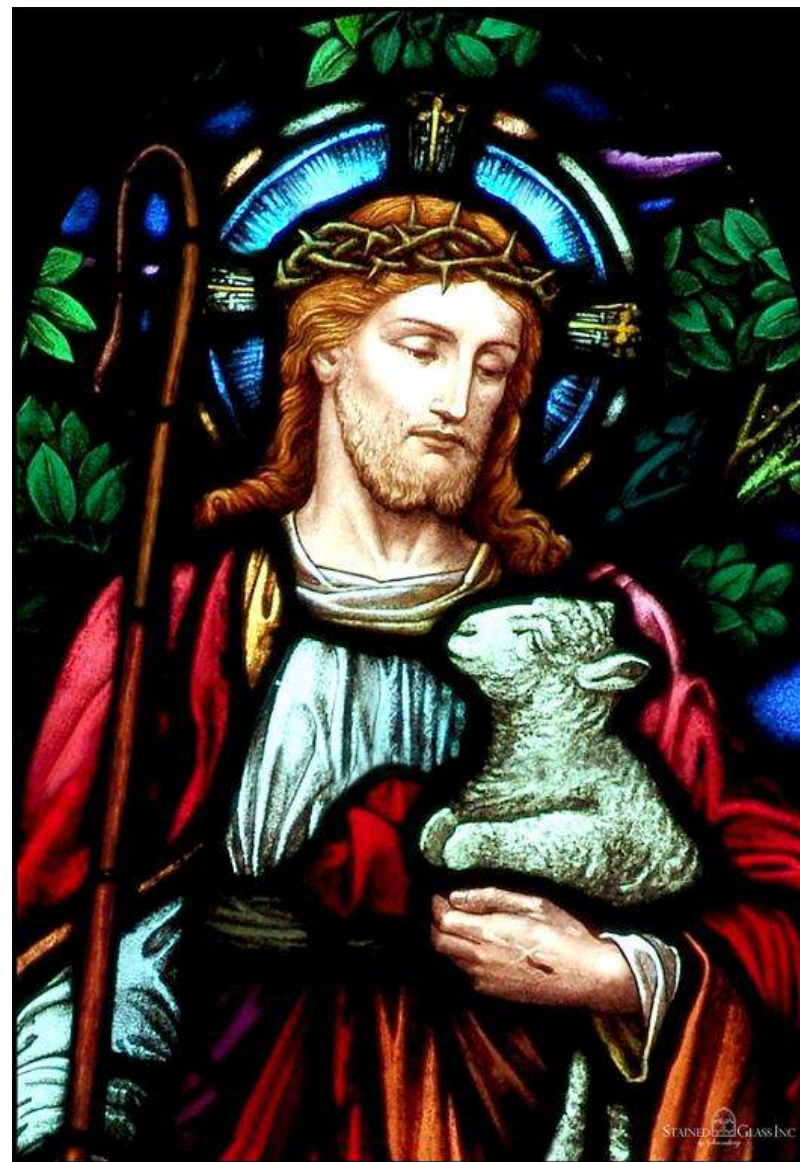
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22 APR 2018

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B





Sunday Readings

First reading Acts 4:8-12
 Responsorial Psalm Psalm 117:1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29
 Second reading 1 John 3:1-2
 Gospel John 10:11-18

Mass Schedule @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

Weekdays (English) 12:30pm & 6:30pm
 Saturday (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) 7.00pm
- Sacred Heart Devotion (Friday) 7.00pm
- Divine Mercy (Tuesday) 5:45pm
- Legion of Mary (Tuesdays) 7.30pm
- Infant Jesus (Thursday) 5:45pm
- Charismatic (Every Friday) 7.45pm
- Divine Mercy (Every Saturday) 3.00pm
- 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
- All Night Vigil (2nd Saturday) 9.30pm to 5.30am

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 @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

Come and join us starting the 21st of April 2018, every Saturday at 3pm!
"...that it is for them the Blood and Water flowed from My Heart as from a fount overflowing with Mercy. For them I dwell in the tabernacle as King of Mercy." (Diary 367)



Public Holiday

Public Holiday Mass Times

Date : Tuesday, 1st May 2018
 Time : 9.00am in English
 Rosary will commence at 8.25am
 10.00am in Tamil

***Parish office will be closed.**

***Main Entrance Gates will be closed at 12 noon.**



The Ascension of the Lord Day of Obligation

Mass times as follows:

Wednesday 9th May 2018 Sunset Mass - 6.30pm (English)
 - 8.00pm (Tamil)

Thursday 10th May 2018 - 12.30pm, 6:30pm & 8.00pm. All in English no Tamil Mass.



Fr. Nithiya Sagayaraj will be leaving for a short break from the 10th of May onwards.
 Happy Holidays!

Holy Hour

"I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts."
 -St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Come and spend some time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday of the Month.

4th May 2018 @ 7pm AFTER 6.30pm Mass.



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.

CENACLE WOMEN'S CIRCLE invites you to

UNFOLDING THE ROSE

"...The desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose."
 (Isaiah 35:1)

Women gathering to create a safe space for inner reflection and conversation, nurturing and encouraging each other in their spiritual journey. By Cenacle Sisters and team.

Conversations over 4 weeks - May 9, 16, 23 and 30 2018

Time: 9.00am to 12.00nn

Venue: LaSalle Retreat House (at premises of St Patrick's School, East Coast Road)

Registration: cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com or call Mary Rose 85228428

"CHARIS Mission Trip – Join us in building Water filtration Systems for the people of Philippines. From 12 May – 18 May 2018, \$870 per pax. T&C apply. Limited spaces on a first come first served basis. For more information, contact Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives Singapore (CHARIS), Gabriel Lee at gabriel@charis-singapore.org or Tel: 6337-4119. Website www.charis-singapore.org"