



**Fr. Michael Sitaram,  
Fr Nithiya Sagayaraj, Fr. Paul Yeo  
and Fr. Victor Ramisetty  
would like to wish all parishioners a  
Happy and holy Christmas  
and a blessed New Year.**



**Catholic News** is conducting a survey to better serve our Catholic Community. Survey is available online at [tinyurl.com/y9qq7kgj](http://tinyurl.com/y9qq7kgj). The next issue of Catholic News will be available on the week-end of Dec 22-23.

**Book of Psalms** By Fr Ferdinand Purnomo OCD 22 January to 28 May, every Tuesday, 9.30am-11.30am at 2 Highland Road, #03-17 CAEC Building, S549102 Organised by Archdiocesan Biblical Apostolate Info and registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/ooXUGzFcXAD5gpG63>

**LOVE IN THE CITY!** In a light-hearted talk show, come and discover the reasons for the ways we celebrate Christmas. Invite nonCatholic friends and family to help them understand and experience Christmas with a difference. When: Saturday 29 December Time: 2pm - 4pm Where: The Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo St, S187954 Organised by: Office for the New Evangelisation Registration: [www.one.org.sg/events](http://www.one.org.sg/events)

The **Chancery Archives**, a department supporting the Archdiocese in records management and archives, is seeking self-motivated and detail-oriented interns who have academic training in historical research and/or are interested in history and heritage matters. Applicants should be students with minimum 'A' level or diploma qualifications, and should be able to commit to the internship for at least 3 months or longer. Kindly submit your resume, your available period for internship and a recent photo to [chanceryrecruitment@catholic.org.sg](mailto:chanceryrecruitment@catholic.org.sg) by 23 December 2018.

## food for thought

*Mary visits Elizabeth, who sings praise to Mary and her child.*

On this the last Sunday before Christmas, our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. The Gospel turns our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded John the Baptist's birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah.

Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel.

In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary. Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy.

It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

## Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

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[www.lourdes.sg](http://www.lourdes.sg)

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

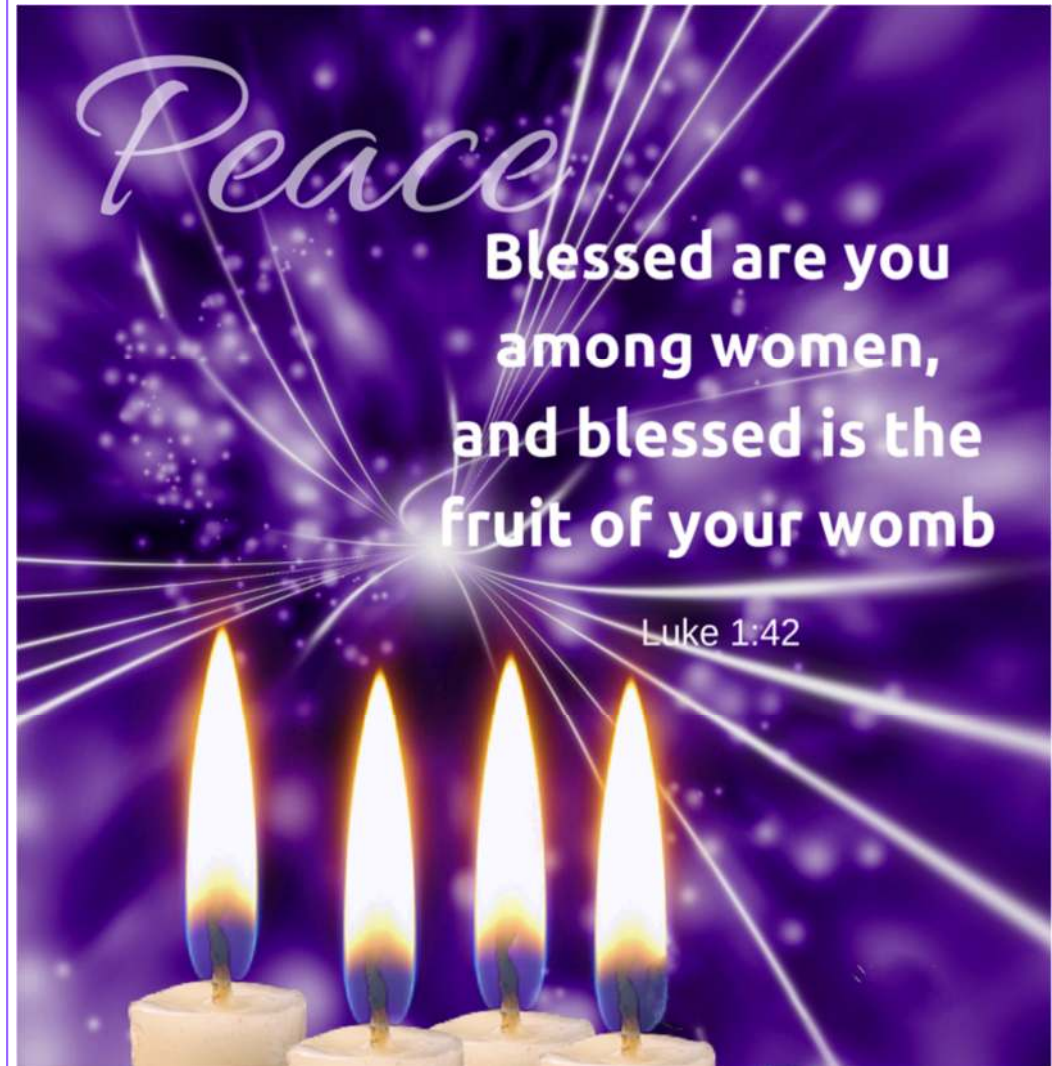
Asst. Parish Priest: Rev Fr Nithiya Sagayaraj  
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and [ololpastoral@gmail.com](mailto:ololpastoral@gmail.com)

23 DEC 2018

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR C



Luke 1:42





## Sunday Readings

First reading Micah 5:1-4  
 Responsorial Psalm Psalm 79:2-3,15-16,18-19  
 Second reading Hebrews 10:5-10  
 Gospel Luke 1:39-44

## Mass Schedule @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

Weekdays (English) 12:30pm and 6:30pm  
 Saturday (Sunset - English) 6:00pm and 7:30pm  
 Sunday (English) 7:30am, 11:30am and 1.00pm  
 Sunday (Tamil) 9:30am and 6:30pm  
 Public Holiday (English) 9:00am  
 Public Holiday (Tamil) 10:00am

## Parish Activities

**English**

- Our Lady of Lourdes Novena (Saturday) 5:15pm
- Rosary Recitation (Weekdays) 11.55am
- Monday and Wednesday 5.55pm (Sunday @ 10.55am)
- 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 (Friday) 7:45pm
- Divine Mercy (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 and OLOL Devotion (Sunday) 8:30am
- All Night Vigil (2nd Saturday) 9.30pm to 5.30am

**Indonesian**

- Karismatik Katolik Indonesia Holy Spirit (Thursday) 2.30pm
- KKIHS Youth Group (2nd and 4th Friday) 7.30pm
- Mass in Indonesian (1st Sunday) 3.30pm

**Filipino**

- 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** 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 7pm on Friday** 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 restoration of Our Lady of Lourdes parish will begin in April 2019. Cheque donations can be made in favour of 'Church of Our Lady of Lourdes' with 'Building Fund' written on the back. Please give generously!**

## Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

**24th December 2018 Monday**  
 12.30pm: Mass (English)  
**Christmas Eve Masses**  
 8pm: Carolling & Pageant followed by Mass in English at 9pm  
 11pm: Carolling in Tamil followed by Mass in Tamil at 11:30pm

**25th December 2018 Tuesday - Christmas Day (Day of Obligation)**

7:30am: Mass (English)  
 9:15am: Mass (Tamil)  
 11:30am: Mass (English)  
 1pm: Mass (English)

**31st December 2018 Monday**

12.30pm: Mass (English)  
**New Year's Eve Masses**  
 9pm: Mass (English)  
 11pm: Thanksgiving Adoration followed by Mass in Tamil at 11:30pm

**1st January 2019 Tuesday - New Year's Day**

9:00am: Mass (English)  
 10:30am: Mass (Tamil)

*Please note that the church gates will be closed after the last Mass on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. The parish office will be closed on Public Holidays.*



## Church Cleaning

Date : Sunday, 23rd December 2018  
 Time : 2.30pm  
 Church will be closed for cleaning from 2.30pm to 4.00pm  
 All are welcome to help!  
 Registration is not required.

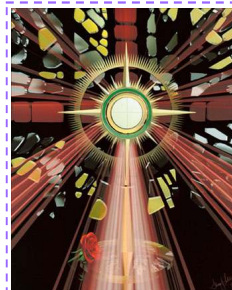


## Holy Hour

*"St. Vincent de Paul would make a Holy Hour asking the Lord blessings on important business transactions and, afterwards, returned to thank the Lord." - St. Vincent de Paul*

*"Do you want the Lord to give you many graces? Visit Him often. Do you want Him to give you few graces? Visit Him rarely. Do you want the devil to attack you? Visit Jesus rarely in the Blessed Sacrament. Do you want him to flee from you? Visit Jesus often!" - St. John Bosco*

Come and spend some time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday of the Month.  
**4th January 2018 @ 7pm AFTER 6.30pm Mass.**



## Divine Mercy @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

*"The Word becomes flesh; God dwells among us, the Word of God, Mercy Incarnate. By Your descent, You have lifted us up to Your divinity. Such is the excess of Your love, the abyss of Your mercy. You are the God of mercy. You have compassion on misery (Diary, 1745).*

*God wants us to grow in joy and wonder at the coming of His Son, Mercy Incarnate. Then our hearts will be prepared to receive Him on Christmas."*

Come and pray with us every Tuesday at 5:45pm (Divine Mercy in Tamil on Fridays at 5.45pm) and on every Saturday at 3:00pm, the Hour of Mercy and Great Grace, in the main worship hall of the Church. Bring your prayer petitions!