



*All are invited to join this Filipino traditional novena Mass before Christmas Day!*

# Simbang Gabi Mass

**18, 19 & 20 Dec @8pm**  
followed by carolling and fellowship

**Simbang Gabi 2019 @ OLOL**  
18th to 20th of December 2019 at Church of Our Lady of Lourdes.

15 Dec Church of St. Vincent de Paul  
16 Dec Blessed Sacrament Church  
21 Dec Blessed Sacrament Church  
22 Dec Blessed Sacrament Church

**All Masses in Tagalog at 8pm.**

**Organised by the Filipino Parish Communities in Singapore.**

## 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 Paul Yeo  
Email: fryeopaul@gmail.com

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

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

8 DEC 2019

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR A

### Love in the City

Have you been reaching out to someone who needs Jesus or journeying with someone to know Jesus better? Why not come and watch Minister of Loneliness, a 75 mins drama by Walk on Water Productions and the Office for the New Evangelisation (ONE). It tells the story of David's travels by foot on the Camino de Santiago. Free. 2:30 to 4pm, 28 Dec 2019 @ Agape Village (Multi-purpose Hall). Register: [tinyurl.com/2019loveinthecity](http://tinyurl.com/2019loveinthecity). For more info, visit [one.org.sg/events](http://one.org.sg/events)



In this season of Advent, in preparation for Christmas, you may want to consider a journey of deeper faith and hope by telling others about Jesus.  
*"Lord Jesus, grant me the courage and opportunities to share the faith with (insert name of family/friend)."*

## food for thought

*John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.*

In this week's Gospel Reading and next week's, our Advent preparation for Christmas invites us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. In this week's Gospel, Matthew describes the work and preaching of John the Baptist.

John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets of Israel, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. In fact, the description of John found in this reading is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah (2 Kings 1:8). In this reading, John directs a particularly pointed call to repentance to the Pharisees and Sadducees, parties within the Jewish community of the first century.

John marks the conversion of those who seek him out with a baptism of repentance. Other groups in this period are thought to have practiced ritual washings for similar purposes, and John's baptism may have been related to the practices of the Essenes, a Jewish sect of the first century. John's baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. In this passage, John himself alludes to the difference between his baptism and the one yet to come: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11).

In this reading, John makes very clear that his relationship to the Messiah yet to come (Jesus) is one of service and subservience: ". . . the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals" (Matthew 3:11). In the context of Matthew's Gospel, today's passage is followed by Jesus' baptism by John, an event that is attested to in all four of the Gospels and appears to have been the start of Jesus' public ministry.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.

## A PRAYER FOR THE Second Sunday of Advent

Jesus, you came among us  
with the irresistible power of a baby,  
requiring both our hands  
and captivating our whole hearts.

Help us to cast aside the sin  
and brokenness that we cling to,  
so we might be ready to hold you  
when you come again.

Amen.





### Sunday Readings

First reading  
 Responsorial Psalm  
 Second reading  
 Gospel

Isaiah 11:1-10  
 Psalm 71:1-2,7-8,12-13,17  
 Romans 15:4-9  
 Matthew 3:1-12

*May showers of blessings fall upon you as you celebrate this very special day of your birth.*

**Happy Birthday Fr. Paul Yeo!  
 7th December 2019**



*Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. Psalm 19:4*

### Mass Schedule @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

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

### 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 (Last Friday of the month) 7.30pm
- Mass in Indonesian (1st Sunday) 3.30pm

**Filipino**

- Light of Jesus Bible Sharing (Monday) 7.30pm

### SSVP Collections

The cash collected on the first Sunday of this month for the Society of St. Vincent De Paul was \$4483.00. The amount given to fins (friends in need) was \$6660.00. Thank you for your generous donation.

### Advent Penitential Service For City District

**Church of Our Lady of Lourdes**  
**15 Dec Sun 8.45am & 5.30pm (both in Tamil)**  
**17 Dec Tue Our Lady of Lourdes 8pm (English)**

9 Dec Mon Sts. Peter & Paul 8pm  
 10 Dec Tue Sacred Heart 8pm  
 11 Dec Wed St Michael's 8pm  
 12 Dec Thu St Bernadette's 8pm  
 13 Dec Fri St Teresa's 8pm  
 16 Dec Mon Novena Church 8pm

### Advent Reconciliation Service!

Prepare for the Christmas Season by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent!



### Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

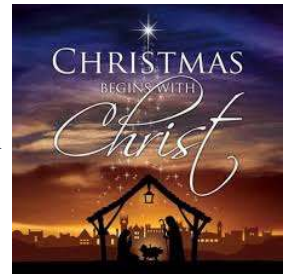
**24th December 2019 Tuesday**  
 12.30pm: Mass (English)  
**Christmas Eve Masses**  
 8pm: Carolling followed by Mass in English at 9pm  
 11pm: Carolling in Tamil followed by Mass in Tamil at 11:30pm

**25th December 2019 Wednesday - Christmas Day (Day of Obligation)**  
 7:30am: Mass (English)  
 9:15am: Mass (Tamil)  
 11:30am: Mass (English)  
 1pm: Mass (English)

**31st December 2019 Tuesday**  
 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 2020 Wednesday - New Year's Day**  
 9:00am: Mass (English). Rosary Recitation at 8.15 am.  
 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.*



### 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 soon. Cheque donations can be made in favour of 'Church of Our Lady of Lourdes' with 'Building Fund' written on the back. Please give generously!**

### Divine Mercy @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

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!