

PRO BONO MEDIATION Catholic Lawyers Guild (“CLG”) Pro Bono Mediation
You can resolve your disputes without going to Court. An accredited Mediator can assist disputants to enter into a legally enforceable Settlement Agreement which provides a win-win situation for both sides. The service is free, for eligible applicants. Please email the CLG at admin@clgsingapore.com, or call the Pro Bono hotline at 65164279 or our CLG administrator at 68017494.

PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND WITH MARIAN FATHERS

September 22-29 Walk in The Footsteps of St John Paul II, St Faustina Kowalska and Stanislaus Papczynski and be part of the Worldwide Congress of Lay Collaborators of Marian Fathers.
Information: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1xtsuvNnYZ0uhucUIo_o83L911h4u4Nhq

Make your marriage a priority! “Marriage is a project to be worked on together ... and a process of growth.” - Pope Francis (Amoris Laetitia, no. 218, 221). Good marriages can always be made better. To deepen and refine your couple relationship, sign up for one of the upcoming Marriage Encounter Weekends: 6-8 March; 20-22 March (Mandarin) & 1-3 May & 5-7 Jun 2020. Contact David & Clara @ 96705390 or mewkend@gmail.com

OYP: SHINE COMBINED TERTIARY RETREAT 2020

Calling all polytechnic, ITE and private diploma students: whether you are starting school or are an existing student, do mark your calendars to join us for **SHINE 2020!** Don't miss this opportunity to be with the Lord and meet like-minded Catholic students!
Date: Tue 24 Mar, 10am - Fri 27 Mar, 6pm Venue: Office for Young People (2 Lorong Low Koon, S536449) Cost: \$50 Register: <https://tinyurl.com/shine2020>

food for thought

My command to you is: love your enemies, pray for your persecutors.

The last two antitheses offered in the Sermon on the Mount deal with love of enemies. We should not look at “an eye for an eye” as an inordinately strict punishment. It is actually meant to limit acts of revenge by making sure the punishment is not excessive but fits the crime. However, Jesus asks his followers to take a different approach by resisting retaliation altogether. The response to a stronger person who slaps us on the cheek, takes us to court, or demands a service of us is not to resist. Similarly, for a weaker person, such as a beggar or borrower, we are to give him or her what he or she asks for. Those who are called to the Kingdom of Heaven are to go beyond the way the world usually works and serve God's kingdom here on earth.

The other difficult demand of those who are called to the kingdom is to embrace the enemy. There is no command in the Old Testament to hate individuals in a personal or vindictive way. But there is a religious stance that calls one to hate evil and to distance oneself from those who participate in evil. In contrast, Matthew emphasizes that love of God and love of neighbor are the fundamental commands on which all else depend. Because God's love is unconditional, we are to strive to love as God does, though, of course, it is challenging. Is it even possible?

The key is in the final verse. We are to be perfect as our heavenly father is perfect. Matthew uses the Greek word telos, which is probably better translated here as “complete.” We are not to be perfect as in doing everything correctly, that is, as in being absolutely morally correct. We are to be perfect as in striving to reach the completeness we are called to in the Kingdom of Heaven. Attempting to love our enemies is part of striving for that completeness.



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

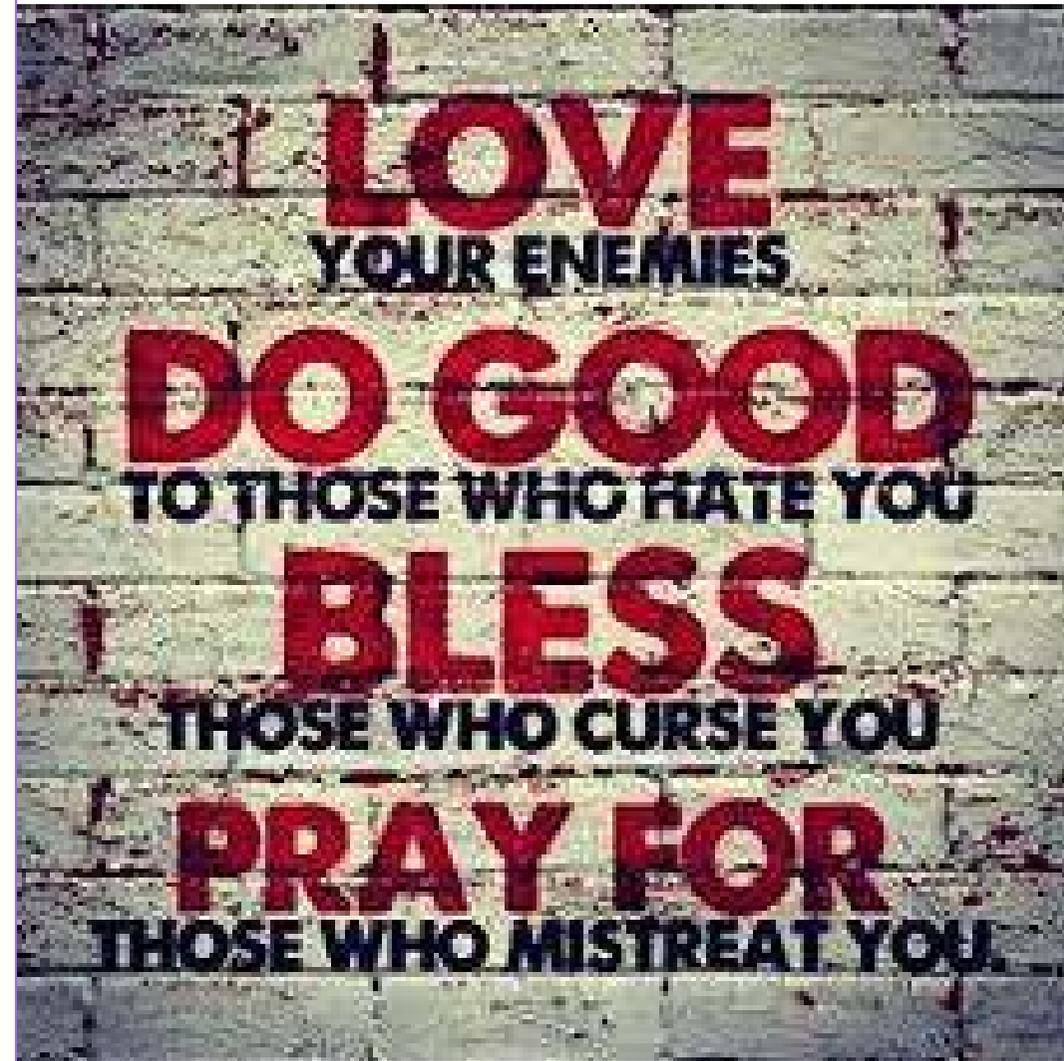
Asst. Parish Priest: Rev Fr Paul Yeo
Email: fryeopaul@gmail.com

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

23 FEB 2020

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A





Sunday Readings

First reading	Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 102:1-4,8,10,12-13
Second reading	1 Corinthians 3:16-23
Gospel	Matthew 5:38-48

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	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

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!

Church of Our Lady of Lourdes Online Masses

Please follow our Masses online at
<https://www.facebook.com/ChurchOfOurLadyOfLourdes>
 or on the Church of Lourdes YouTube channel at <http://tiny.cc/ololsq>.
 Do remember to click **Subscribe** to receive notifications when we upload the videos.



Journeying towards the Cross (Walking with the Bible)

Fr Michael Sitaram's talk on **Overcoming Temptation**, will be postponed due to COVID-19. Do check the bulletin for further updates.

Lenten Information

Ash Wednesday 26th of February 2020

No Ash Wednesday Masses. Please view our Masses online.
 Kindly leave your old palms in the baskets near the entrance of the church before Sunday the 23rd of February 2020.

Divine Mercy @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

"Be always merciful as I am merciful. Love everyone out of love for Me, even your greatest enemies, so that My mercy may be fully reflected in your heart. (Diary, 1695; 1768)"

Please be informed that there will be no 3pm DMD sessions on Saturdays from this Saturday 15 February 2020, until further notice. Divine Mercy Devotions every Tuesday at 5:45pm and in Tamil on Fridays at 5.45pm will be as per normal.

Suspension of Catechism Classes

The Archbishop, in consultation with his Consultors have decided to suspend all Catechism Classes for children until 1st March, 2020 in view of the COVID-19 virus as precautionary measures to protect our children.

Lenten Reflection Booklets

The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced a booklet of reflections for the season of Lent, with the theme "Communion in Growth". Please take a copy of the booklet for your family. It is also available online tinyurl.com/onelent2020.

The following events/services are postponed due to COVID-19:

- ◆ EMHC/ Wardens Day of Recollection on 15 Feb
- ◆ Lectors/ Choirs/ Small Christian Communities Day of Recollection on 29 Feb
- ◆ PIETA on 29 Feb
- ◆ Brave Conference 2020
- ◆ Couple Empowerment Programme on 6 Mar
- ◆ School of Witness (SOW) 2020 outreaches including Nox Gaudii @ Cathedral
- ◆ All events and paracounselling services by Family Life Society