

**CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES  
ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST 2020**

You **MUST** be registered in the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes at **myCatholic.sg**. You will be required to show the registration to volunteers to participate in the following activities. Please follow the volunteers' instructions and cooperate with them fully. Please ensure that your

- mobile phones are equipped with the QR code scanner (you will need it to scan for SafeEntry as well as for the pew where you are seated)
- mobile phone has a data plan.
- mask is always worn.

Please bring along your NRIC or Work Pass for verification. Temperature taking will also be administered.

**PRIVATE WORSHIP**

1. Opening hours are on weekdays from 2pm and 5pm
2. Only 5 households will be permitted per time slot. A maximum of 5 members from each household can be praying together at any one time in the Church with safe distancing measures.

**Link for booking:** <https://calendly.com/ololsec/private-worship-at-church-of-our-lady-of-lourdes>

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)**

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) times are on Wednesdays and Fridays from 2pm to 5pm

**Please click to register:** <https://calendly.com/ololsec/confession-at-olol>

**MASS**

Church Mass times in August are:

**Weekdays** – 12.30 pm & 7pm (Tamil)

**Weekends**

Saturday – 5pm, 6pm and 7.30pm

Sunday – 8am, 9.30am (Tamil), 11am, 12.30pm, 6.30pm (Tamil)

(All Masses are in English unless otherwise stated)

For the following Mass times;

**10 August 2020 (Public Holiday)** – 9am (English) & 10am (Tamil)

**14 August 2020 (Friday)** –

12.30pm – Feast of St Maximilian Kolbe (Friday of 19<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time)

6pm – Sunset mass for Solemnity of the Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary (English)

7pm – Sunset mass for Solemnity of the Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary (Tamil)

**15 August 2020 (Saturday)** –

12.30pm (Solemnity of the Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary)

5pm, 6pm, 7.30pm – Sunset Mass for 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Link for first Mass booking for the month:** <https://mycatholic.sg/login>

**Link for subsequent Mass booking:** <https://calendly.com/ololsec/mass-at-olol>

Thank you for your understanding.

God Bless  
Rev Fr Michael Sitaram  
Parish Priest

*Church of Our Lady of Lourdes*

50 Ophir Road, Singapore 188690 Tel: 6294 0624  
[www.lourdes.sg](http://www.lourdes.sg)

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Michael Sitaram  
Email: [frmichaelsitaram@gmail.com](mailto:frmichaelsitaram@gmail.com)

Asst. Parish Priest: Rev Fr Nithiya Sagayaraj  
Email: [nithiya@catholic.org.sg](mailto:nithiya@catholic.org.sg)

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

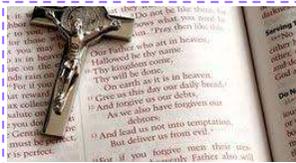
Parish Secretariat: [ololsec@gmail.com](mailto:ololsec@gmail.com)  
and [ololpastoral@gmail.com](mailto:ololpastoral@gmail.com)

16 AUG 2020

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A





## Sunday Readings

First reading	Isaiah 56:1,6-7
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 66(67):2-3,5-6,8
Second reading	Romans 11:13-15,29-32
Gospel	Matthew 15:21-28

## Mass Schedule @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

Weekdays	12:30pm (English) 7:00pm (Tamil)
Saturday (Sunset - English)	5:00pm, 6:00pm and 7:30pm
Sunday (English)	8:00am, 11:00am and 12.30pm
Sunday (Tamil)	9:30am and 6:30pm
Public Holiday	9:00am (English) 10:00am (Tamil) - August Onwards

## Important Parish Information

<b>Wedding Arrangements</b>	Church Wedding bookings must be made in advance. Please contact the Secretariat.
<b>Infant Baptism</b>	Register at the Parish Office. <b>Please provide photocopy of church marriage certificate of parents, birth certificate of infant and confirmation certificate of Godparents.</b>
<b>Mass Intentions</b>	Please drop your Mass intention into the Box located outside the Parish Office <b>by 7pm on Friday</b> for the following week's intentions.
<b>Lourdes Prayer Hall Anointing</b>	For bookings contact the Parish Office at 6294 0624 Make an appointment with a priest before planned admission to hospital.
<b>Holy Communion for the Homebound</b>	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!**

## To make a donation or contribution to Mass collection

As the parish will still need funds for the general operations and maintenance of the church, we seek your kind generosity and support to continue making a weekly donation to the Church by electronic bank transfer using PayNow at the current time.

Here is what you need to do:

- Step 1: Select bank transfer
- Step 2: Key in Parish UEN # **T08CC4026C**
- Step 3: Check Name – **Church of Our Lady of Lourdes**
- Step 4: Key in amount
- Step 5: Key in Ref - **Mass Collection**

Alternatively, you can issue a cheque and mail it to the Parish Office. If any parishioner chooses to give cash, please drop the cash in the existing donation box at the Parish.

Thank you for your generosity.

## Church of Our Lady of Lourdes Online Masses

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

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

We started a new RCIA process on Tuesday 23 June 2020 at 7.30pm and continue to welcome anyone who wishes to join. Every **Tuesday at 7.30pm**.  
We welcome non-Catholics to find out more about our faith and baptised Catholics to be part of our team as a sponsor and to journey together with the inquirers. If you are interested please register via email at [ololsec@gmail.com](mailto:ololsec@gmail.com) or at the parish office. Due to Covid-19 situation, RCIA will be conducted via an online platform.

**Catholic Welfare Tickets** - All ticket stubs and money raised from the sale of the tickets must be handed over to the office by 17th August 2020.

## food for thought

*Jesus heals the daughter of the Canaanite woman because of her great faith.*

Today we move ahead in our reading of Matthew's Gospel. Last week we read about Jesus walking on the water and the disciples' confession of faith that Jesus is the Son of God. If we were reading Matthew's entire Gospel, we would have read about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees about Jewish purity laws. Jesus argues that it is not what goes into us that makes us unclean; he is referring to the strict Jewish dietary rules. Instead our words and our actions—what comes out of us—make us unclean because they emerge from a heart that is unclean.

Knowing about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees helps us to understand today's Gospel. In fact the story heightens the surprise and shock we feel as we hear Jesus' exchange with the Canaanite woman. The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone.

The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her, using a Jewish word of derision for Gentiles, "dog." But the woman cleverly turns Jesus' insult into an affirmation of faith. Only then does Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Jesus' unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today's Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world.

Behind Matthew's text we can hear this early Christian community's struggle to understand how God's selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel's rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles' acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ. In today's second reading from Paul's letter to the Romans, we hear the apostle Paul considering this same concern.

The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.