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# Novena Notes

## Do I know you?

We have seen many 'rags to riches' stories in the movies. When the hero and his family are suffering a crisis, their relatives and friends pretend that they do not know the hero or his family. They do not want to get involved in case they have to lend money or render other assistance. The hero and family struggle on their own. But the hero works through the various challenges and overcomes every obstacle through patient endurance. Then his fortune changes and he becomes successful. His problems are solved and he now emerges prosperous. He wears fine clothes, drives a huge car and brings his family to their new home, a magnificent mansion with many servants waiting on them. Then we get to see the come-uppance when the relatives and friends suddenly come on to the scene, ingratiating themselves. The hero finally delivers his punch dialogue: "Do I know you?" He then recounts how his family had to suffer on their own. He then turns his back and orders the servants to send "these people" out and to close the gate after them. Yeah!

This is an invaluable lesson of supporting one another and "being there" for family and friends, especially in times of difficulties. This is a lesson of fidelity and loyalty.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says that "once the master of the house has got up and locked the door", he will not readily open the door to those knocking on the door calling out to him, "Lord, open to us". The master will say: "I do not know where you come from". These people will

try and say: "we once ate and drank in your company, you taught in our streets". But the master will merely repeat: "I do not know you."

This is an invaluable lesson of faithfulness to God. When Jesus taught and healed, did the people believe him and his promises? If they did believe Jesus and accepted him as their Saviour, did they stick with him? Were they faithful and committed disciples? So what if they happened to see Jesus come by or happened to share a meal with him. After Jesus left, did they go back to their usual lives and routine? These are not enough for Christian discipleship. Jesus is asking for commitment. Jesus is asking for faithfulness. Jesus is asking for an enduring faith relationship with each one of us.

At the end of the day, each of us will seek to be remembered by God: "Lord, do you know me?"

I pray that Jesus will look at me and say: "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." (Matthew 25: 21)

"The higher a man's conception of God, the better will he know Him. And the better he knows God, the nearer will he draw to Him, imitating His goodness, His mercy and His love of man."

Leo Tolstoy

Reflection by Ros

## Readings & responses for the week

Sunday, 21 AUGUST	Is 66:18-21; Hebr 12:5-7,11-13; Lk 13:22-30 Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.
Monday, 22 AUGUST The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Is 9:1-6; Lk 1:26-38 May the name of the Lord be blessed for evermore!
Tuesday 23 AUGUST St. Rose of Lima	2 Th 2:1-3,14-17; Mt 23:23-26 The Lord comes to rule the earth.
Wednesday, 24 AUGUST St. Bartholomew	Rev 21:9-14; Jn 1:45-51 Your friends, O Lord, make known the glorious splendour of your reign.
Thursday, 25 AUGUST Blessed Methodius Dominic Trcka, CSsR	1 Pet 4:12-19; Mt 10:28-33 Those who sow in tears will reap in joy.
Friday, 26 AUGUST	1 Cor 1:17-25; Mt 25:14-30 The Lord fills the earth with his love.
Saturday, 27 AUGUST St. Monica	1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 25:14-30 Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

### NOVENA DEVOTIONS ON SATURDAY

Vaccinated Status required  
8.00am, 10.00am, 12.00pm, 4.00pm

No Vaccination Status/ No MARS required  
2.00pm (Mandarin), 6.00pm

### MASS ON WEEKDAYS

Vaccinated Status required  
12:15pm

Vaccinated Status required  
9.00am Public Holiday

No Vaccination Status/ No MARS required  
6.30pm

### MASS ON SUNDAY

Vaccination Status required  
8.00am, 10.00am, 12.00pm, 5.30pm

### SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES UPDATE

No booking is required. There will not be standing room allowed in the main church.

### RECEPTION OPERATING HOURS

Monday to Friday  
9.00am to 8.00pm

Lunch Hour  
11.45am to 12.45pm

Saturday  
7.30am to 7.00pm

Sunday  
8.30am to 1.30pm & 4.30pm to 7.00pm

# Novena notes

## Upcoming Activities in preparation for Novena Annual Procession

20 August : Praise & Worship Workshop by Andrew Soong from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.

26 August : Parenting Talk by Andrew Soong from 7.30pm to 9.00pm.

### Important Notice

Please note that there'll be NO 4pm & 6pm Novena Devotion on 3rd September, as there will be preparation for the Annual Procession. The Church and the carpark will be closed immediately after the 2pm Mandarin Devotion.

There will be ONLY one Mass at 8am on 4th September (Sunday) and there will be NO parking in the Church. The Church will be closed immediately after the Mass in preparation for the Annual Procession at 6pm (Fully Vaccinated Mass). The Church door will only be opened at 3.30pm.

There'll will be NO Evening Mass on 5th & 6th September as we'll be having the Youth Rally and Reds Concert on those evenings (Fully Vaccinated Events).



A Triduum in Honour of and Thanksgiving to our Mother of Perpetual Help will be held from 31st August to 2nd September 2022 (Fully Vaccinated Mass).

Rosary at 7.30pm followed by the Mass at 8.00pm.

- Day 1 : Mary, Hope for Family
- Day 2 : Mary, Hope for Society
- Day 3 : Mary, Hope for the World

Forms for Consecration of the Families are available around the Church and online. Please drop them in the boxes after you have written the families for consecration.

Specially printed Annual Procession Envelopes are available around the Church. All the collection will be used to defray the cost of the Annual Procession. We thank you for your generous support.

## Novena Theme in Preparation for Annual Procession

www.novenachurch.com

The 9 week Novena in preparation for our Annual Procession will begin on Sat, 9th July 2022.

The Theme for this special Novena "Mary, in solidarity with our wounded world".

9th Jul	<b>Hope</b> Mary, Mother of Hope
16th Jul	<b>Solidarity</b> Mary, Comforter of the Afflicted
23rd Jul	<b>Womanhood</b> Mary, Wife and Mother
30th Jul	<b>Reconciliation</b> Mary, Refuge of Sinners
6th Aug	<b>Healing</b> Mary, Health of the sick
13th Aug	<b>Missionary</b> Mary, The First Evangelist
20th Aug	<b>Mercy</b> Mary, Mother of Mercy
27th Aug	<b>Youth</b> Mary, Virgin most Pure
3rd Sept	<b>Spiritual Motherhood</b> Mary, Mother of the Church
<b>TRIDUUM</b>	
31st Aug 1st Sept 2nd Sept	Mary, Hope for Family Mary, Hope for Society Mary, Hope for the World
<b>PROCESSION</b>	
4th Sept	Mary, in solidarity with our wounded world