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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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## The Inclusive Language of the Holy Spirit

Fifty days after the Resurrection of Jesus, the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples who were praying in the upper room. In the form of “tongues of fire” the Spirit rested on them. Then, filled with courage, they left that upper room and went out onto the streets of Jerusalem to proclaim the Good News of Jesus. Locals as well as visitors from various parts of the ancient Near East understood the message of the disciples in their own native language. It amazed them as well as confused them. Some cynics among the crowd accused the disciples of being drunk. Peter had to stand up, raise his voice and declare: **Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it only nine o'clock in the morning.** (Acts 2:15) Drunks, in fact, babble and speak incoherently. The words of the disciples, however, were clear and direct, **...everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.** (Acts 2:21) And, everyone understood it and felt included by this powerful message.

Jesus, the Eternal Word, became flesh and lived among us so that he could be seen and heard and touched in human form. The Holy Spirit descends with the gift of human language that can be heard and understood by everyone, a language that unites peoples and touches every human heart.

What is the language of the Holy Spirit that we can use and become fluent in? It's **peace** rather than violence; **reconciliation** rather than conflict; **co-operation** rather than competition; **forgiveness** rather than vengeance; **hope** rather than despair; **unity** rather than division; **love** rather than fear.

Pentecost reverses the Babel experience found in the Book of Genesis - **...the whole earth had one language and the same words.** (cf. Gen. 11:1-9). Sadly, they (mis)used this great gift and squandered the power to communicate with each other. They wanted to be like God and equal to God. They started to build a tower to reach heaven so that they could do things without God's help. They wanted to make a name for themselves. It's at this point, at this height of ambition and arrogance, that they were thrown into confusion. They started to babble and were scattered. Today, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, people of many languages can come together as one, to profess one faith and be saved in the name of Jesus, and to build up one church for the Kingdom of God.

**Reflection by Clement Lee, CSSR**

## Readings & responses for the week

Sunday, 28 MAY	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7,12-13; Jn 20:19-23 Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.
Monday, 29MAY Our Lady, Mother of the Church	Gen 3:9-15,20; Jn 19:25-34 Of you are told glorious things, O city of God!
Tuesday, 30 MAY	Sir 35:1-12; Mk 10:28-31 I will show God's salvation to the upright.
Wednesday, 31 MAY Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Zeph 3:14-18; Lk 1:39-56 Great In your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
Thursday, 1 JUNE St. Justin	Sir 42:15-25; Mt 10:46-52 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.
Friday, 2 JUNE SS. Marcellinus & Peter	Sir 44:1,9-13; Mk 11:11-26 The Lord takes delight in his people.
Saturday, 3 JUNE SS. Charles Lwanga & Companions	Sir 51:12-20; Mk 11:27-33 The percepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

### NOVENA DEVOTIONS ON SATURDAY

8.00am, 10.00am, 12.00pm,  
4.00pm, 6.00pm

2.00pm (Mandarin)

### MASS ON WEEKDAYS

12:15pm, 6.30pm

9.00am Public Holiday

(confession will be 30 minutes before Mass)

### MASS ON SATURDAY

7.00am

### MASS ON SUNDAY

8.00am, 10.00am, 12.00pm, 5.30pm

(confession will be 30 minutes before Mass)

### 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

### SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES UPDATE

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

## Living Joy

The Office for Young People is excited to bring to an outreach programme for Secondary 4 and 5 students! On this day, we gather to experience the joy of the Lord in the midst of their busy school life.

Date : Friday, 16th June 2023

Time : 1400 - 1700

Venue : Catholic Centre, Level 8,  
55 Waterloo Street,  
Singapore 187954

Cost : Free!

Registration : <https://tinyurl.com/juneseoutreach>

Know someone who is graduating from secondary school this year? Invite them to come and see! For enquiries, please email to [neumann.oyp@catholic.org.sg](mailto:neumann.oyp@catholic.org.sg)

## Month of the Rosary

We will pray the Rosary at 6pm followed evening Mass from Monday to Friday during the month of May.



## Chinese RCIA

We are starting the Chinese RCIA from 1st July 2023 to 27th April 2024, every Saturday from 3pm to 5pm. Application forms are available at the Reception lobby.

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

We are starting the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) on 3rd & 4th July 2023 for 18 years and above. The closing date is 31st May 2023. Those who are interested to know about the catholic faith, for more details, please obtain the application form at the reception lobby.

## Vesak Day, 2nd June 2023

Please take note there will be **NO** lunch time Mass on 2nd June 2023, Friday. Masses will be at 9am and 6.30pm.

## Welcoming Home Catholics Seeking A Reconnection

Landings Singapore presents a new 10 week programme for Catholics seeking a reconnection to the faith. It runs from 4 September 2023 through 14 November 2023, every Monday or Tuesday from 8pm to 10.00pm. All sessions will be held in person at Church of the Holy Spirit or Church of Queen of Peace. We invite you to register your interest or to find out more using the QR code in the poster.

For more information on Landings, please email [returning@landings.org.sg](mailto:returning@landings.org.sg) or visit [www.landings.org.sg](http://www.landings.org.sg)

## Feast of Corpus Christi (11th June)

There will be a procession of the Blessed Sacrament on 11th June 2023, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) immediately after the 5.30pm evening Mass.

