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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Novena Notes



Pursuit of God versus Pursuit of Money

Quick poll question: What is the root of all evil? Many will say “money”. But St. Paul is more precise:

“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.” (1 Timothy 6:10)

In today’s Gospel, Jesus does not say that money is good or evil. But because we love money, Jesus says: “You cannot serve God and money”. Jesus is calling us to reflect on the pursuit of money. Is it the reason and purpose of our life? Have we wandered from the faith?

We will all declare – *We love and serve God; our God is first in everything.* But let’s be honest. When it comes to money, what will we do for more money? Will we be prepared to compromise our Christian values for more money? Jesus teaches an important legal principle. In the Law of Agency, an agent cannot serve 2 Principals (or Masters). Reason: There will arise a Conflict of Interest – the choice between two competing interests. Between God and money, who should we serve more? Where there are two competing actions or outcomes, do we do as God commands or do we pursue money (and its benefits) and relegate God to 2nd place?

Agree, we need money to live and pay for the basic necessities for our family. But we do not seem to know when to stop in our pursuit for more money.

Maybe because we do not know when to stop pursuing things: A bigger house, a more luxurious car, the latest appliances and gadgets, a more lavish lifestyle, etc. Simple test: How many of us want the latest version of the iPhone, when the one we are still using is still working and has enough features and functionalities?

I recently came across a podcast where the Speaker said that he and his wife have decided not to get into debt. So they have decided not to upgrade. They live in their present house and drive their current car. They consciously only use their credit cards for essentials. They recycle, re-use and re-purpose things and not just throw away things still serviceable. They want to live simply!

They say they are now free. Yes, they are tempted when they see new things. They also see what their friends have recently acquired and the desire slowly creeps up. But they make the decision every time – *We do not need it. We are content.* And the time and money they have not spent, they give to God and in his service.

I too want to adopt this philosophy of life. I do not need so much. The God I serve has abundantly provided for my family and me. He has also showered us with many graces and blessings: BIG and small. At the end of the day, I hold fast to Psalm 23:

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. ... you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord, my whole life long.

Reflection by Ros

Readings & responses for the week

25 Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, 21 SEPTEMBER	Am 8:4-7, 1 Tim 2:1-8, Lk 16: 1-13 Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.
Monday, 22 SEPTEMBER	Ezr 1:1-6, Lk 8:16-18 What marvels the Lord worked for us.
Tuesday 23, SEPTEMBER St Pius of Pietrelcina	Ezr 6:7-8, 12:14-20 Lk 8: 19-21 I rejoiced when I heard them say: “Let us go to God’s house”
Wednesday 24, SEPTEMBER	Ezr 9:5-9, Lk 9: 1-6 Blessed be God who lives forever.
Thursday 25, SEPTEMBER	Hag 1:1-8, Lk 9:7-9 The Lord takes delight in his people.
Friday 26, SEPTEMBER SS Cosmas & Damian Martyrs	Hag 1: 15-2:9, Lk 9:18-22 Hope in God I will praise him still, my Saviour and my God.
Saturday 27, SEPTEMBER St Vincent de Paul	Zec 2: 5-9, 14-15, Lk 9: 43-45 The Lord will guard us as a shepherd guards his flock.

NOVENA DEVOTIONS ON SATURDAY

8.00am, 10.00am, 12.00pm, 4.00pm, 5.30pm

2.00pm (Mandarin)

MASS ON WEEKDAYS

12:15pm, 6.30pm

9.00am, 6.30pm Public Holiday

(confession will be 30 minutes before Mass)

MASS ON SATURDAY

7.00am, 6.30pm (Sunset)

MASS ON SUNDAY

8.00am, 10.00am, 12.00pm, 5.30pm
(confession will be 30 minutes before Mass)

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 8.00pm

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

Closed on Public Holiday

GIFTSHOP OPERATING HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
10.30am to 6.30pm

Lunch Hour 12.15pm to 12.45pm

Saturday 8.30am to 6.30pm

Sunday 9.00am to 1.30pm

Closed on Thursday and Public Holiday

NOVENA CHURCH MIGRANT MINISTRY



A FELLOWSHIP ORGANISED BY KATALUMA,
NOVENA CHURCH MIGRANT MINISTRY

**Join us for a
celebration dedicated
to all Migrants,
filled with prayer,
friendship,
and festivities.**

Come dressed in your national outfit or one of
your friends' national dress. Bring a dish from
your country to share during the celebration.
(This is a walk-in event)

DATE: Sunday, 28th September 2025

TIME: 2pm to 4.30pm

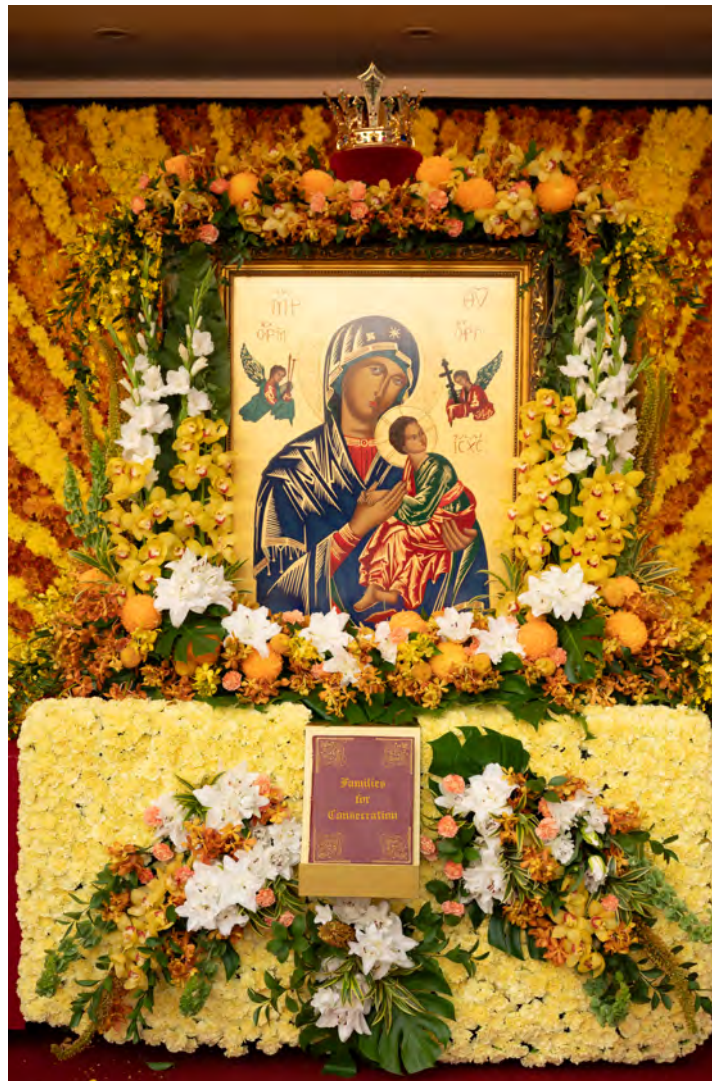
VENUE: Casimir Godebye room (Pastoral block)



HEALING SERVICE

26 September at 8pm, Friday
All are invited especially the youths.

ANNUAL PROCESSION 7TH SEPT



THE CROWN, ICON & DEDICATION BOOK

In 1966 a procession was held in Jalan Besar Stadium to commemorate the 100 anniversary of Pope Pius IX request to the Redemptorists to "Make her known". A crown was made from donations for that procession and used since. There are two icons of this size. The other is at the Church of Risen Christ when the Novena devotion was held there during the building of the new church. This year 106,342 families were dedicated to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

PIETA PRAYER SUPPORT FOR BEREAVED PARENTS



Pieta Prayer Support for Bereaved Parents

**Tuesday 30 September
2025 from 7.30pm to
9.15pm on Zoom**

We invite any parent who has lost
a child (regardless of age and no
matter how recent or long ago) to
meet every fourth Tuesday of the
month to pray and support each
other.

Enquiries:

pieta.singapore@gmail.com

or <https://pieta.familylife.sg/>

Please email us directly for Zoom link.

EVENTS TO COME

**Look out for the Feast of St Gerard celebration in
October and the Timeless Concert in November.
The celebrations continue.**

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

3 October, 7.30pm - 8.30pm, in church.
**Theme: The earth is the Lord Ps 24:1,
on care of the environment and the earth.**