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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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# Novena Notes



## The Art and Heart of Humility

When people ignore me, my first thought would be: *"Do they know who I am?"* I will then recite in my head my various accomplishments and achievements.

Humility is not my strongest virtue. But it has to be our strongest virtue as Humility is the only attitude and disposition to conquer our greatest sin – Pride (including arrogance, conceit, vanity and ego). Today's Readings are about Humility – the Art and Heart. In the 1st Reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus, the Author gives wise instructions on how to conduct ourselves and our business. In the Gospel, Jesus tells a parable. Rather practical advice – What seat to take at a wedding feast? So what is Humility?

*"Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less"* (C.S. Lewis) So if we are to think less of ourselves, then who do we think of more? Our God – with a heart of gratitude: *"We can never attain true humility until we realise that we owe everything to God."* (St. Augustine) Others – with a life of love and service: *"Love is humble; it doesn't boast, it doesn't demand, it simply gives."* (see 1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

So what is our Reward? In today's Gospel, Jesus says: *"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted".* So who will exalt us? God Himself:

*"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up."* (James 4:10). Jesus was also exalted by God – for His Humility:

*"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:*

*Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.*

*And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!*

*Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* (Philippians 2: 5-11)

Our Father in Heaven is the Wedding Host in Jesus' Parable. When our lives are over and we are now seated at the Wedding Feast in Heaven, God Himself will come and tell us: *"My friend, move up higher"*. God knows.

**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)



## **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](mailto: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.**