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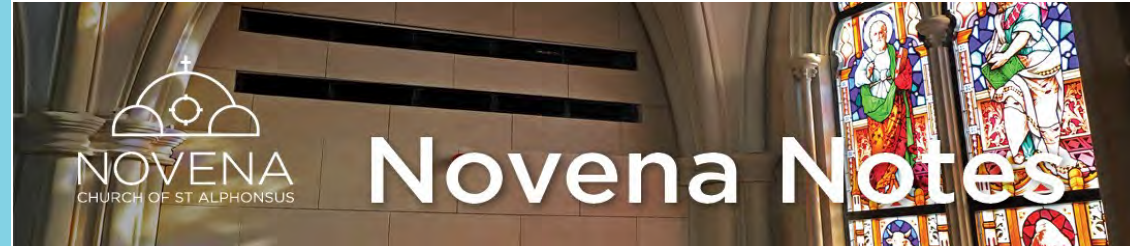
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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Novena Notes

'The other nine, where are they?'

Today's gospel reading from Luke focuses our attention on the parable of the ten lepers. They had called on Jesus to take pity on them and heal them. He then instructed them to show themselves to the priests - to validate that they have been healed from leprosy. As they were making their journey to the priests, all ten of them would have witnessed the physical healing and transformation of their bodies. Only one turned back to praise God and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. It was also indicated that he was a Samaritan. Jesus displayed surprise at this outcome.

All of us come to Jesus with our petitions and requests. When what we desire comes true, how do we react? Do we give praise and thanks to God and share the good news with others? Or do we keep the good news to ourselves and slowly forget what He has done for us? This may be what the other nine did. They might have been grateful but were too eager to show themselves to the priests and went on their way instead of turning back to give thanks.

Some of us might think it is a practical thing to do to let the priests 'certify' them as cured and then they may come back to thank Jesus. We are not certain what happened to the nine.

But we would agree that the one who came back was truly grateful and he felt the spontaneous desire to turn back to praise and thank God for this miracle.

How often do we feel this desire to give thanks? Or are we often lukewarm to the miracles that happen in our lives?

I met Paul at the wake of my deceased friend and I saw this perpetual peace and joy on his face. He had been baptised in recent years and I asked him to share his faith story. He shared how God had saved him from multiple suicide attempts when he lost almost all his wealth and calmed the storms of his life. It is an amazing conversion story of how God battled with the evil one to protect him. He told me that he felt the love of God like how Jesus the good shepherd left the flock of 99 sheep to rescue the single one sheep that was lost. I believe this could be how the Samaritan in the parable of the ten lepers felt. He probably felt the immense love and privilege of being healed.

Gratitude is not just about giving thanks at that point in time, it is also about living up the miracle. In the case of Paul, he is living his life more purposefully and with much joy despite having lost most of his assets. Paul continues to give thanks to the Lord with his daily commitment to receiving the Eucharist and for the conversion of his family members. It is a life of lightness and grace.

If we are grateful to God for the big and small miracles of our lives, we can show this gratitude in the way we live and interact with others. We can share our stories with them to reflect the glory of God.

Reflection by Hope

Readings & Responses for the week

28 Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, 12 OCTOBER	2 Kgs 5:14-17, 2 Tim 2: 8-13, Lk 17:11-19 The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.
Monday, 13 OCTOBER	Rom 1:1-7, Lk 11:29-32 The Lord has made known his salvation.
Tuesday, 14 OCTOBER St Callistus 1, Pope, Martyr	Rom 1:16-25, Lk 11:37-41 The heavens proclaim the glory of God.
Wednesday, 15 OCTOBER St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor	Rm 2: 1-11, Lk 11:42-46 Lord, you repay each man according to his deeds.
Thursday, 16 OCTOBER St Hedwig	Rm 3: 21-30, Lk 11: 47-54 With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.
Friday, 17 OCTOBER St. Ignatius of Antioch	Rm 4: 1-8, Lk 12:1-7 You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.
Saturday, 18 OCTOBER St Luke, Evangelist	2 Tim 4:10-17, Lk 10:1-9 Your friends, O Lord, shall make known the glorious splendour of your reign

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

ST GERARD MAJELLA SPECIAL DEVOTION



Join us as we celebrate the Memorial of St. Gerard Majella

DATE : Thursday, 16th October 2025

TIME : 7.30pm - Special Devotion

VENUE : Novena Church

**A SPECIAL GIFT WILL BE
DISTRIBUTED AT THE
DEVOTION**

ST GERARD MAJELLA



THE HANDKERCHIEF

Gerard Majella (1726-1755) is known popularly today as "The Mothers' Saint." It may seem odd that a male religious should be the saint for mothers, mothers-to-be and those wanting to become mothers. The origin comes from an incident that happened in the last months of his short life. Once, as St. Gerard was leaving the home of his friends, the Pirofalo family, one of the daughters called after him because he had forgotten his handkerchief.

In a moment of prophetic insight Gerard said: "Keep it. It will be useful to you some day." The handkerchief was treasured as a precious souvenir of Gerard. Years later the girl to whom he had given it was in danger of death during childbirth. She remembered the words of Gerard, and called for the handkerchief. Almost immediately the danger passed and she delivered a healthy child

PRO-BONO COUNSELLING



Struggling with life's issues?

Pro-bono counselling service is available to anyone who requires support.

To book a session, please visit

pbc.familylife.sg



For more information

6631 8963 (Monday - Friday)

PRAYER SERVICE

**17 OCTOBER FRIDAY
TAIZE SERVICE, 8 - 9PM
IN CHURCH**

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

**DEEPAVALI 20TH OCT, MONDAY
MASS : 9AM & 6.30PM
GIFTSHOP & RECEPTION CLOSED**