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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Novena Notes

The humble way to God's heart.

How do you win the heart of another person? One view believes that *'the way to a person's heart is through their stomach'*. Another perspective is winning through one's character values, such as respect, sincerity, compassion, integrity and humility.

What about the way to winning God's heart? Scripture readings for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time highlight that we can win God's love through humility.

The Gospel from Luke contrasts the self-important Pharisee and the contrite tax collector while praying. The Pharisee proudly boasted: *"I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get."* On the other hand, the tax collector humbly lowered his head, beat his breast and said: *"God, be merciful to me, a sinner."*

Jesus praised the tax collector for being *'at rights with God'* while the Pharisee *'did not'*. Jesus also said: *"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted."*

In the 1st Reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus, God listens quickly to a humble person's prayer and responds with love and mercy. In the Second Letter of St Paul to Timothy, the Apostle to the Gentiles humbly wrote that God's *'crown of righteousness'* will be given *'not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing'*.

The Bible has many examples of humility. Jesus became man to save us. The Virgin Mary said 'Yes' to God's plan for salvation. St Joseph listened to God to protect his Holy Family. Moses relied on God to help him lead His people out of Egypt. Elijah prayed for obedience to God's commands. Isaiah willingly served God despite feeling unworthy.

There is also the humility of Saints. St Francis of Assisi embraced poverty to serve the poor and sick. St Therese of Lisieux offered small acts of service to God. St Mother Teresa lived a life of selfless service to the marginalised. St Albert the Great saw knowledge as God's gift.

I am also most inspired by Helen Keller (1880-1968), the blind-deaf American who became a prolific author and global disability rights advocate. She once humbly said: *"I thank God for my handicaps, for through them, I have found myself, my work and my God"*.

Humility is a true character trait in God's eyes. When we humbly acknowledge that everything is from God, we become grateful, people-oriented and pro-active in serving God and others. Lord, let me humbly be in your heart always!

Reflection by Peter Ling

Readings & responses for the week

30 Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, 26 OCTOBER	Ecclus 35:15-17, 20-22, 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18, Lk 18:9-14 This poor man called, the Lord heard him.
Monday, 27 OCTOBER	Rom 8:12-17, Lk 13:10-17 This God is ours is a God who saves.
Tuesday, 28 OCTOBER Ss. Simon & Jude, Apostles	Eph 2:19-22, Lk 6:12-19 What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Wednesday, 29 OCTOBER	Rom 8:26-30, Lk 13:22-30 Lord, I trust in your mercy.
Thursday, 30 OCTOBER	Rom 8:31-39, Lk 13: 31-35 Save me, O Lord, because of your love.
Friday, 31 OCTOBER	Rom 9: 1-5, Lk 14:1-6 O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Saturday, 1 NOVEMBER All Saints	Rev 7: 2-4, 9-14, 1 Jn 3:1-3, Mt 5: 1-12 Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.

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

PIETA MEMORIAL MASS

PIETA PRAYER SUPPORT

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

PIETA MEMORIAL MASS 2025

for children who have died

*We gather as families united in faith after the loss of our children
and we turn our gaze to Christ for His comfort, hope and peace.*



*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*
Roman 15:13

FRIDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER 2025, 8.00pm

Cathedral of the Good Shepherd (Queen Street)

Celebrant: Fr Gerard Louis, CSSR



Organised by Pieta Singapore,
an affiliate of
Catholic Family Life
pietamass@gmail.com
<https://pieta.familylife.sg>



Parents who wish to include their Child's
Name for mass, please **REGISTER**
before **24th Oct 2025** using this form -
<https://tinyurl.com/MM2025Pieta>



Pieta Prayer Support for Bereaved Parents

**Tue 28 October from 7.30pm
to 9.15pm** at Catholic
Archdiocesan Education Centre,
2 Highland Road, unit LG-01,
S. 549102 (next to the Church of
Immaculate Heart of Mary).

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/>

Note: We will be on Zoom for
November. Please email us for
Zoom details.

Eucharistic Adoration



*Come
Follow Me*

(Matthew 4:18-22)

Join us in a quiet evening of prayer
and reflection for vocations, as we
lift up our priests and religious in
prayer before the Lord.

**7th November (Friday)
@ Main Church**

All are welcome — come and spend time
with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

NOVENA CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Novena Children's Ministry



Monthly Children's Formation and Mass

Building the future generation of Marian Devotees

DATE : Sunday, 2nd November 2025

TIME : 2pm

VENUE : Novena Church

*** (Subsequently every month First Sunday @ 2PM)*



Blessed Chiara Badano, Saint Bernadette Soubirous, Sister Lucia dos Santos, Saint Francisco Marto, Saint Jacinta Marto, Saint Dominic Savio, Saint Carlos Acutis

ALL SOULS DAY

**2nd November (Sunday)
8am, 10am, 12pm & 5.30pm**

ALL SAINTS, DAY OF OBLIGATION

**31st October (Friday) 7.30pm
1st November (Saturday) 7am &
6.30pm (DOES NOT fulfill 2nd
November Sunday Mass Obligation)**