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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Novena Notes

Jesus is King of Mercy.

Exactly a year ago on the Solemnity of Christ the King (Year B), I wrote about *'Christ is our True King for life'* based on the scripture readings of Daniel (7:13-14), Apocalypse (1:5-8) and John (18:33-37).

As we continue to celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King in this Last Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C), the different scripture readings make me think of another aspect of the kingship of Jesus.

While David was king of the earthly kingdoms of Judah and Israel (1st Reading 2 Samuel 5:1-3), Jesus' kingship was always about mercy. He was full of love, compassion, forgiveness and humanity even when He was crucified (Gospel of Luke 23:35-43).

During the crucifixion, rulers, soldiers and a thief mocked Jesus three times to save himself. If we had been at the crucifixion, would we have defended Jesus—that He came to serve the sick and sinners, not to save himself?

The only person who defended Jesus was the repentant thief (known to many as 'The Good Thief' or St Dismas), who said that Jesus did not deserve the *'same sentence'* as He *'has done nothing wrong'*. The sorrowful thief admitted that *'we are paying for what we did'* and asked Jesus to *'remember me when you come into your kingdom'*.

When Jesus was tortured and tormented, He was truly the King of Mercy when He told the repentant thief: "Indeed, I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise".

The 2nd Reading from St Paul to the Colossians (1:12-20) amplifies the salvation message: *"We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light"*. The Reading also stresses that Christ *'made peace by his death on the cross'* and *'we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins'*.

Before His crucifixion, Jesus showed mercy by forgiving sinners, raising the dead, healing the sick, feeding the hungry and interacting with the ostracised.

What deeds of mercy can you show? Feed the hungry? Give drink to the thirsty? Clothe the naked? Visit the sick? Pray for enemies? Comfort the troubled? Love unconditionally like the father in the parable of the Prodigal Son? Forgive 'seventy times seven' (Matthew 18:21-22)?

As the King of Mercy, Jesus also wants us to be merciful. Note some of His words on mercy: *"I demand from you deeds of mercy"* (Diary of St Faustina) *"I desire mercy, and not sacrifice"* (Matthew 9:13) *"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy"* (Matthew 5:7)

Reflection by Peter Ling

Readings & responses for the week

34 Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 23 NOVEMBER Christ the King	2 Sam 5:1-3, Col 1: 12-20, Lk 23:35-43 I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house"
Monday, 24 NOVEMBER Ss. Andrew Dung-Lac & Com, Martyrs	Dan 1: 1-6, 8 -20, Lk 21: 1-4 To you glory and praise forever more.
Tuesday, 25 NOVEMBER St Catherine of Alexandria, Vir & Marryts	Dan 2: 31-45, Lk 21: 5-11 Give glory and eternal praise to him!
Wednesday, 26 NOVEMBER	Dan 5: 1-6.13-14.16-17.23-28. Lk 21:12-19 Give glory and eternal praise to him!
Thursday, 27 NOVEMBER	Dan 6:12-28, Lk 21: 20-28 Give glory and eternal praise to him!
Friday, 28 NOVEMBER	Dan 7:2-14, Lk 21:29-33 Give glory and eternal praise to him!
Saturday, 29 NOVEMBER The Blessed Virgin Mary	Dan 7: 15-27, Lk 21:34-36 Give glory and eternal praise to him!

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

ADVENT COMMUNITY PROJECT



NOVENA CHURCH OF ST ALPHONSUS

NOVENA ADVENT COMMUNITY PROJECT
Come offer the gift of time to your children and families from EduFriends, a programme by the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. Let's spend time together as a big family with many fun activities, games and food.

DATE Sat, 13th Dec 2025
TIME 10am - 4pm
VENUE St. SJI Junior, 3 Essex Road, Singapore 309331.

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER



PIETA PRAYER SUPPORT

Pieta Prayer Support for Bereaved Parents

Tues 25 November 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 to pray and support each other.

Enquiries: pieta.singapore@gmail.com

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

Please email us directly for the Zoom link.

Note: In December, we will be meeting in person at Catholic Family Life at Highland Road on Tuesday **16 December** 2025. Please email us for details.

AN ADVENT OF GRATITUDE AND THANKSGIVING



NOVENA CHURCH

75
1950 - 2025
Gratitude & Hope
Remember - Rejoice - Renew

AN ADVENT CELEBRATION OF GRATITUDE AND THANKSGIVING

Each theme of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love are little nuggets of gratitude and thanksgivings that we can pray and prepare for the coming of the promised Saviour Jesus Christ.



HOLY HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

5th Dec, Fri, 7.30pm, Church
"Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus"

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

15th Dec, Monday
7.45pm, Church

ADVENT NOVENA



NOVENA CHURCH

75
1950 - 2025
Gratitude & Hope
Remember - Rejoice - Renew

**29TH NOVEMBER
Week 1: Hope**

**6TH DECEMBER
Week 2: Peace**

**13TH DECEMBER
Week 3: Joy**

**20TH DECEMBER
Week 4: Love**



MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

12th Dec, Fri, 6.30pm, Church
Prolife Rosary 5.45pm

PRAISE & WORSHIP

12th Dec, Fri, 8 pm
Victor Dorai Room