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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Novena Notes

Ordinary Time, Extraordinary Time

The Season of Christmas is over, and the New Year Celebrations have ended. My family and I have taken down the Nativity crib, as well as the Christmas tree and decorations. We have packed everything away and moved some of the furniture back to their usual spots. We have also returned to the routine of our work and the chores at home. But this Sunday, after last Sunday's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, marks the commencement of the Church's Liturgical period of "Ordinary Time" for 2026 - with the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

So, I started to read up about "*Ordinary Time*". When we think of the word ordinary, we naturally associate it with words such as *typical, routine, or even mundane*. "Ordinary Time" is called "ordinary" not because it is not special or less significant but simply because the weeks of Ordinary Time are numbered. The Latin word *ordinalis*, which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word *ordo*, from which we get the English word *order*. Thus, the numbered weeks of Ordinary Time, in fact, represent the ordered life of the Church—the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in more severe penance (as in Advent and Lent).

The goal of Ordinary Time is to order our life to Christ's. In Ordinary Time, we learn the teachings of Christ and work to build up the Kingdom of God! The richness of Ordinary Time is found in the opportunity to know Christ more intimately in the everyday realities of life.

So Ordinary Time, is anything but monotonous. It is a time of conversion where we grow into who we are called to be by imitating the lived reality of Jesus. For a disciple, *ordinary time* is in fact *extraordinary time*.

Then, what better way is there than to be like St John the Baptist in today's Gospel. He recognised Jesus as Jesus "came towards him" and he bore witness: "*And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God*". Let us never be so busy or distracted in our everyday ordinary life and its realities that we do not see or recognise Jesus coming towards each of us. Let us bear witness in our everyday ordinary life and its realities that Jesus, the Son of God, is with us and in us: "*Behold, the Lamb of God.*"

"The shape of your day is reflected by the love of your life." (Jeff Cavins)

Reflection by Ros

Readings & responses for the week

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 18 January	Is 49:3,5-6, 1 Cor 1:1-3, Jn 1: 29-34 Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.
Monday, 19 January	1 Sam 15:16-23, Mk 2: 18-22. I will show God's salvation to the upright.
Tuesday, 20 January St. Fabian Pope, St. Sebastian Marytrs	1 Sam 16:1-13, Mk 2: 23-28. I have found David, my servant.
Wednesday, 21 January St. Agnes, Virgin, Martyr	1 Sam 17:32-33,37,40-51, Mk 3:1-6. Blessed be the Lord, my rock.
Thursday, 22 January St Vincent, Deacon, Martyr	1 Sam 18:6-9;19: 1-7, Mk 3:7-12 In God I trust; I shall not fear.
Friday, 23 January	1 Sam 24: 3-21, Mk 3:13-19. Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.
Saturday, 24 January St. Francis De Sales, Bishop & Doctor	2 Sam 1:14, 11-12,19,23-27, Mk 3:20-21. Let your face shine on us, O Lord, and we shall be saved.

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

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM



www.novenachurch.com

CERT Recruitment

*Join the Novena Church
Emergency Response Team!*

We need volunteers for:

Saturday Mass 7.00am

**Saturday Novena Devotion
4.00pm**

Help keep our Church
safe through Fire Safety
and First Aid.

All worshippers and
ministry members are
welcome - Training will
be provided!

Those who are already
certified and can
contribute as First
Aiders are welcome too!



scan here to register

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD 2nd FEB

Day of Consecrated Life 12.15pm Mass
Blessing of Candles at 12.15pm and
6.30pm masses
Bring Your Candles

PIETA PRAYER SUPPORT

Pieta Prayer Support for Bereaved Parents

Tues 27 January 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/>

ASH WED & 2ND DAY OF CNY 18 FEB

A dispensation from fast & abstinence has
been granted on this day.

The faithful are encouraged to observe their
fast & abstinence on another day during Lent,
except on Good Friday, which is already a
day of fast and abstinence.

MEMORIAL OF ST BLAISE 3rd FEB

Blessing of Throats 12.15pm & 6.30pm masses

ST GERARD DEVOTION



ST. GERARD DEVOTION

*The Life & Spirit of
St. Gerard Majella*



16th January, 13th March, 15th May,
17th July, 18th September,
16th October and 20th November 2026
7.30pm in Novena church