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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Listen to Him

At times, we have had to make changes in our lives. We've signed up for courses, changed jobs, gone on a diet, got married, moved house, or even, migrated to another country. We might have been happier with the status quo. Change is difficult, inconvenient and unpleasant. But when situations become impossible or when we are motivated enough to achieve something, we will move.

God says to Abram in the First Reading today from the Book of Genesis: *'Leave your country, your family and your father's house!'* God will show him where he should go and settle, and there, God will bless him and make him the father of a great nation.

I wonder how Abram felt about this. Life in Ur in the land of the Chaldeans would have been more familiar and a shift would have been difficult for him. Anybody would consider carefully the prudence of such a move, whether things were likely to work out. Abram didn't know the answers to these questions. Yet, God was simply asking him to have faith, and to go. At the end of the reading, we are just told, *'Abram went as the Lord told him.'*

In the Gospel, the disciples - Peter, James and John - also find themselves in a comfortable place. Jesus has brought them up a mountain and there Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Moses and Elijah. Peter says: *'Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here.'* He suggests that they build tents and remain there on the mountain. It's far away from the noisy crowds, the sick who need healing, the poor crying for help, the religious authorities who are harassing them. Why go back to that, when they can stay up the mountain in relative peace?

But Jesus says to the disciples: *'Stand Up!'* They have to go down the mountain and return to everyday life - to the chaos, confusion and anxiety. To be a disciple of Jesus is not to run away from the difficulties of life but to be engaged in them.

The season of Lent is a time to grow in our relationship with God, to be more committed to living our faith and serving our brothers and sisters. Pope Leo describes this journey in his message for Lent: *Every path towards conversion begins by allowing the word of God to touch our hearts.* God invited Abram to venture into the unknown, to listen and to trust in God's word and promise. Jesus called his disciples to return to the chaos of life and to serve those in need there. We pray for the grace to listen and to trust.

Reflection by Fr. Gerard Louis CsSR

Readings & Responses for the week

2nd Sunday in Lent

Sunday, 1 March	Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9 May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you
Monday, 2 March	Dan 9:4-10; Lk 6:36-38 Do not treat us according to our sins, O Lord.
Tuesday, 3 March	Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12 I will show God's salvation to the upright.
Wednesday, 4 March	Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20: 17-28 Save me in your love O Lord.
Thursday, 5 March	Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31 Happy the man who has place his trust in the Lord.
Friday, 6 March	Gen 37:3-4,12-13,17-28; Mt 21: 33-43, 45-46 Remember the wonders the Lord has done.
Saturday, 7 March	Mic 7: 14-15,18-20, Lk 15: 1-3,11-32 The Lord is compassion and love.

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

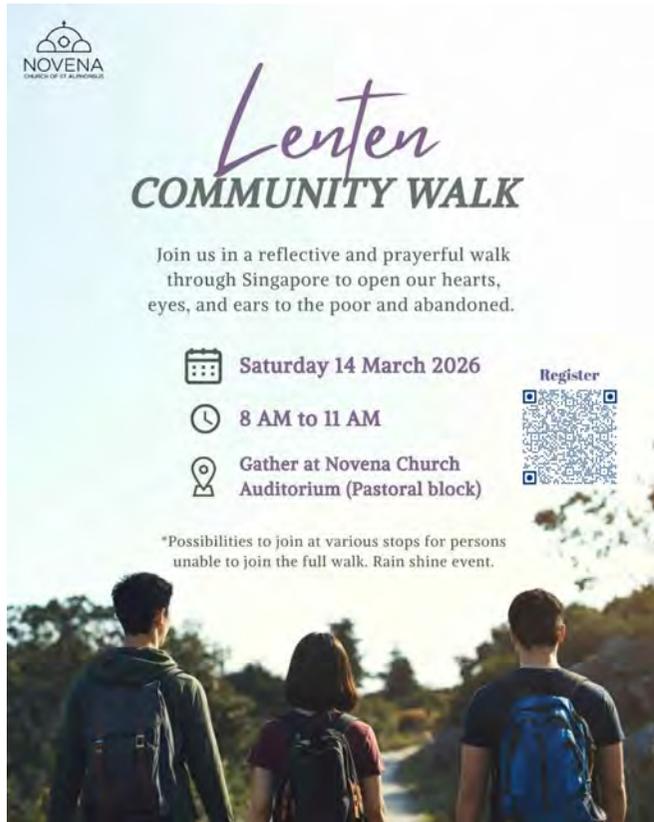
Lunch Hour 12.15pm to 12.45pm

Saturday 8.30am to 6.30pm

Sunday 9.00am to 1.30pm

Closed on Thursday and Public Holiday

LENTEN WALK



NOVENA
CHURCH OF ST ALPHONSUS

Lenten COMMUNITY WALK

Join us in a reflective and prayerful walk through Singapore to open our hearts, eyes, and ears to the poor and abandoned.

 **Saturday 14 March 2026**

 **8 AM to 11 AM**

 **Gather at Novena Church Auditorium (Pastoral block)**

 Register

*Possibilities to join at various stops for persons unable to join the full walk. Rain shine event.



Archdiocesan Commission for Apostolate of Mandarin-Speaking (ACAMS)

AT NOVENA CHURCH - IN MANDARIN
7:45 PM - 8.15PM : Stations of the Cross
8:20PM - 9:30 PM : Mass

DATES ON WEDNESDAYS
25 February - Fr Gabriel Wong
4 March - Fr Anslem Phang
11 March - Fr Jeffery Tan
18 March - Fr Joseph Zhang
25 March - Fr Terence Wee

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



NOVENA
CHURCH OF ST ALPHONSUS

Eucharistic Adoration

“Lonely & Rejected by Society”

Could you not spend with me an hour
Matthew 26:40

6th March 2026 (Friday) 7.30pm @ Main Church

Join us in adoration as we pray for those who are lonely and rejected by society during this Lent season.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Stations of the Cross, every Friday
in the season of Lent at 6.00pm

ANTI SCAM TALK



NOVENA
CHURCH OF ST ALPHONSUS

<https://novenachurch.com>

ANTI-SCAM AWARENESS TALK INTERACTIVE TRAINING SESSION

**STAY ALERT
STAY SECURE**



7 March 2026 (Saturday)
9.30am to 12pm
Auditorium (level 2, behind the Church)
Speaker: Mr. Melvin Foo

- Simple easy-to-follow strategies to spot and avoid scams
- Fun interactive & role-playing activities
- Real Case Studies from Singapore Police Force

REGISTER NOW!



RCIA JOURNEY FOR ADULTS
For those who are interested to know the Catholic faith, we are starting English RCIA class on 6th and 7th July and Chinese RCIA class on 4th July. Please kindly get the application form from the brochure stands or the reception lobby.
The closing date is 31st May 2026.