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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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# Novena Notes

## 'Give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty . . .'

On the third Sunday of Lent, the readings are centered on water and thirst. In the first reading from the Book of Exodus, God commanded Moses to strike his staff against the rock at Horeb and water would flow out for the grumbling Jews to quench their thirst.

This theme continues with the gospel reading from John where Jesus encounters a Samaritan woman who comes to draw water from the well. He asks her for a drink instead. The woman is shocked that a Jew would speak to her, a Samaritan. What follows is an interesting discourse where Jesus discloses that He would give her eternal water where she would not thirst again.

Jesus is thirsting to reach out to us to save us while the Samaritan woman, having heard what Jesus has shared with her, is curious and thirsting to understand what salvation means.

I ask myself, am I like the woman, thirsting to know and understand Christ better first hand? The other Samaritans who have heard the woman's testimony were curious and went to hear from Jesus directly. Jesus administered to them for two days. They said to the woman 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

During this season of Lent, how can we, like the Samaritans sit with Jesus more intimately, to listen to His voice so that our faith can be further strengthened and transformed?

Jesus is the same - yesterday, today and tomorrow but we are capricious human beings, just like the grumbling Jews. When we feel that we find ourselves lacking, we complain and demand.

Can we see Jesus differently, coming from a place of "I don't know, I am curious to know you Lord" instead of being complacent with our faith and practices? Can we adopt the disposition of the Samaritan woman, to find Him in the unknown and unfamiliar? During this season of Lent, can we see God in a differently light, in people we are not usually comfortable with, help out in areas we are not naturally good at?

Let God show us how He gives us new water, a new spirit to refresh and strengthen us and remind us that He has given us the eternal spring of life. All we need is to call on Him. Jesus loves us just as He loved the Samaritan woman. He is always thirsting to have the conversation with us at the well of life, for us to ask Him and He to give us the drink from the eternal spring that never runs dry.

### Reflection by Hope

## Readings & responses for the week

### 3rd Sunday in Lent

Sunday, 8 March	Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2,5-8; Jn 4:5-42 O that today you would listen to his voice: "Harden not your hearts"
Monday, 9 March	2 Kgs 5:1-15; Lk 4:24-30 My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life, when can I enter and see the face of God.
Tuesday, 10 March	Dan 3:25,34-43; Mt 18:21-35 Remember your mercy, Lord.
Wednesday, 11 March	Deut 4: 1,5-9; Mt 5:17-19 O praise the Lord, Jerusalem.
Thursday, 12 March	Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23 O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'
Friday, 13 March	Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34 I am the Lord, your God; listen to my warning.
Saturday, 14 March	Hos 5:15-6:6; Lk 18:9-14 What I want is love, not sacrifice.

### 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



# 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.



## ST GERARD DEVOTION



### ST. GERARD DEVOTION

#### THE LIFE & SPIRIT OF ST. GERARD MAJELLA

# The Spirituality of St. Gerard



**DATE:** Friday, 13th March 2026  
**TIME:** 7.30pm  
**VENUE:** Novena church

**DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION**  
THURS; 10.30AM -12PM  
PASTORAL BLOCK  
BERNARD HEANEY ROOM

## PRAYING WITH CANCER



<https://novenachurch.com>

# Praying WITH CANCER

## A 4-WEEK JOURNEY OF PRAYER & REFLECTION

Are you living with cancer? Do you have a loved one who is struggling with cancer?

Come journey with us as we discern and learn how to bring our experiences into prayer and rest in God's presence.

**Date:** 19 & 26 March (Thursday)  
16 & 23 April (Thursday)

**Time:** 7.00pm

**Venue:** Auditorium, level 2  
pastoral block, back of the Church



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email for further enquiries



**PENITENTIAL SERVICE**  
16TH MARCH, MON  
8 PM, CHURCH

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

### Archdiocesan Commission for Apostolate of Mandarin-Speaking (ACAMS)

**ACAMS LENTEN RALLY**  
7:45 PM Stations of the Cross  
Followed By Mass

**ON WEDNESDAYS**  
4 March - Fr Anslem Phang  
11 March - Fr Jeffery Tan  
18 March - Fr Joseph Zhang  
25 March - Fr Terence Wee