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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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## When Hope is walking away

Our hearts are crushed with disappointment. The job we were hoping for did not materialise. We were not successful in the ballot for a HDB flat. We did not get the promised promotion at work. We did not do well in our exams.

Our hearts may also be crushed with sorrow. A loved one may have passed away. The treatment is not working. Someone we love just broke their promise and betrayed us. We just received some bad news.

Our hopes fade and we are walking away.

In today's Gospel, two disciples were leaving Jerusalem and walking back to their hometown of Emmaus. They were crushed - with disappointment and sorrow. Their hope had faded and they were walking away from their belief and their faith. All is lost. All is gone. They had given up.

It was then that Jesus joined them and entered into a conversation with them. They did not recognise the Risen Lord. When he asked why they were so sad and downcast, they told him of the recent events in Jerusalem. They told him about the Crucifixion and Death of Jesus and the most recent news about his Resurrection. Their shared with Jesus their disappointment and sorrow. They also shared with Jesus their confusion and doubts.

Jesus understood that their hope ... and faith ... were almost gone. It was then he ministered to them. He explained the Scriptures to them. He sat down for a meal with them and broke the bread. In the breaking of the Word of God, their hearts burned with revelation, wisdom, inspiration and renewed belief. In the breaking of the bread, their eyes were opened and they recognised Jesus. They recognised their Saviour and remembered his gift and sacrifice. They remember his message and his promise.

In that one encounter with the Risen Lord on their way to Emmaus, their hope returned and their faith was restored. They immediately hurried back to Jerusalem - where it all started - with renewed energy, purpose and mission. They had seen the Lord!

May we too recognise Jesus in our lives and in our faith journey. May we recognise Jesus who is journeying with each one of us every day. May we recognise Jesus in our daily prayer, in the Scriptures, in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, in the wonder of creation and in this community of faith.

When our hearts are crushed with disappointment and sorrow, may we especially encounter Jesus. May our hearts burn. May our eyes be opened.

Jesus our Saviour is risen.... just as he said he will. When our hope is walking away, may we encounter the Risen Lord! Alleluia!

*Reflection by Ros*

## Readings & responses for the week

### 3rd Sunday of Easter

Sunday, 19 April	Acts 2:14,22-33; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35 Show us, Lord, the path of life.
Monday 20 April	Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29 They are happy whose life is blameless.
Tuesday 21 April St Anslem, Bishop & Doctor	Acts 7:51-8:1; Jn 6:30-35 Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Wednesday 22 April	Acts 8:1-8; Jn 6:35-40 Cry out with joy to God all the earth.
Thursday, 23 April St George, Martyr	Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51 Cry out with joy to God all the earth.
Friday, 24 April St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr	Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59 Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.
Saturday, 25 April St Mark, Evangelist	1 Pet 5:5-14, Mk 16:15-20. I will sing for ever of your love, 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

## 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: 23 April (Thursday)

Time: 7.00pm

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

[cancersupport@novenachurch.com](mailto:cancersupport@novenachurch.com)  
email for further enquiries



REGISTER NOW

## ST GERARD DEVOTION



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

*The Mother's  
Saint*



DATE: Friday, 15th May 2026

TIME: 7.30pm

VENUE: Novena church

## PRAYER FOR CHURCH IN CHINA

Join us as we pray in various languages

# World Day of Prayer for Church in China



English Mandarin 中文 Tagalog

Tamil தமிழ், Bahasa Indonesia

French Français Vietnamese Tiếng Việt

普世为中国教会祈祷日

让我们以不同的语言同声祈祷

DATE/日期 May 22, 2026

TIME/时间 7.45pm-9.30pm

VENUE/地点 St. Alphonsus Church(Novena Church)



## 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.