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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Novena Notes



Preaching the Gospel - Through Word and In Deed

In the Gospel today, Jesus says, *'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.'* Many think that the essential mission of the Church is to share this message, to bring people to accept Jesus as the way to eternal life. The Acts of the Apostles tells us how the apostles shared this message and won many disciples for Christ. However, the passage we read in today's First Reading also tells us about another, corresponding and equally important mission of the Church.

Acts also tells us about the life of the church community - learning from the apostles, being of one mind and heart, sharing all their possessions, breaking bread and praying together. Apart from *kerygma* - the proclamation of the Gospel, the church also had a lively *diakonia* - service to the poor and abandoned, those at the peripheries.

Last year, in his first encyclical *Dilexi Te*, Pope Leo wrote how evangelization and service of the poor are two indispensable parts of the Church's mission. In fact, we cannot say that we are living the faith if we do not serve the poor. It is in serving the poor that we become like Christ and it is in the poor that we see the face of God. To love the poor is to love the Lord. The Acts of the Apostles tells us that this was how the early church lived. Every day, those in need were given food and other necessities.

However, the community and the needs of the poor have grown and the apostles are no longer able to manage everything. Others will have to step up to serve. After prayer and discernment, they appoint seven *diakonoí*, deacons or servants, to take charge of the ministry of charity, while the apostles dedicated themselves to the ministry of evangelization. As a result, *'the word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased.'*

The First Letter of Peter describes the Church as a spiritual house made up of living stones, a chosen race, a royal priesthood and consecrated nation, living in God's light. But there continue to be many who have never encountered God, and because of that, their hearts are troubled. Jesus gave the Church the mission to share this Good News - that Jesus is the Way to the Father and that God has prepared a place for each of us in God's own house. It is the poor who have always been the privileged recipients of this Good News. We share that message not only by our words, but by our works of charity.

Reflection by Fr. Gerard Louis, CSSR

Readings & responses for the week

5th Sunday of Easter

Sunday, 3 May	Acts 6:1-7, 1 Pt 2: 4-9, Jn 14:1-12. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.
Monday, 4 May	Acts 14: 5-18; Jn 14:21-26 Not to us, Lord, but to your name give the glory.
Tuesday, 5 May	Acts 14: 19-28; Jn 14:27-31 Your friends, O Lord, shall make known the glorious splendour of your reign.
Wednesday, 6 May	Acts 15: 1-6; Jn 15:1-8 I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house"
Thursday, 7 May	Acts 15: 7-21; Jn 15:9-11 Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.
Friday, 8 May	Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17 I will thank you, Lord, among the peoples.
Saturday, 9 May	Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15: 18-21 Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

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

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)



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

SCALA NEWS MAKE HER KNOWN



**“160 years of making the Icon of
Perpetual Help known throughout the
world”**

On December 11, 1865, Blessed Pope Pius IX accepted the request of Father Nicholas Mauron, C.Ss.R., Superior General, and entrusted the Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help to his care, with the instruction to “make it known to the whole world.” In January, the Redemptorists received the Icon from the Augustinians, and on April 26, 1866, Our Lady of Perpetual Help was restored to public veneration in the Church of St. Alphonsus, Rome. Since that date, the veneration of the Icon has travelled to all continents and there is no Redemptorist presence without the presence of the Icon.

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

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.