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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Novena Notes

'I shall ask the Father to give you another advocate'

In this Sunday's gospel reading from John: 14, Jesus assures his disciples that He would not leave them but He would ask the Father to give them another advocate - the Holy Spirit who will be with them forever. This is the promise of Christ to them and to us. All of us who are baptised have received the Holy Spirit who is with us all the time, whether we are sensitive to its movement within us or not.

The world cannot see it but it is with us and in us. The question is how to cultivate a greater awareness of this gift and to ask it to guide us more closely in our daily lives. Jesus also shares that we are to keep his commandments. When we keep his commandments, we will show that we love Him and in turn the Father loves all who love Jesus. It is a virtuous cycle of love between the Father, the Son and us, with the Holy Spirit guiding and supporting us.

For us to be more aware of the Holy Spirit, we would have to quieten ourselves and be more aware of its presence within us. I am not a mother but I would imagine it would be like an expectant mother hearing the heartbeat of her baby inside her womb. The Holy Spirit would desire to have spiritual intimacy with us. In prayer, sometimes we may talk a lot and not give the Holy Spirit the space to respond. Then, we complain that God is silent and we cannot hear His voice.

Recently, I felt physically and mentally tired and was meditating on the verse from Matthew 11:28 "Come to me all of you who labour and are heavy-laden and I will give you rest." I sat down quietly for an hour, and the Holy Spirit invited me to cast away all thoughts and just rest in the Lord. When the hour was up, the stiffness in my body went away. I felt relaxed and refreshed. I have never felt like this before. It was as if God was embracing me and giving me a place of safety.

This experience taught me that God desires to communicate with us through our senses. Many a time, we limit ourselves to the cognitive and intellectual dimensions. But God exists beyond and He wants to touch us in different ways to show us that He is very much alive and working inside us.

What I learnt is to be still and just let God be God. In doing so, we can enjoy the intimacy that Jesus desires that we may have.

Reflection by Hope

Readings & responses for the week

6th Sunday of Easter

Sunday, 10 May	Acts 8:5-8,14-17, 1 Pt 3: 15-18; Jn 14:15-21. Cry out with joy to God all the earth.
Monday, 11 May	Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26-16:4 The Lord takes delight in his people.
Tuesday, 12 May SS. Nereus & Achilleus, Martyrs	Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11 You stretch out your hand and save me, O Lord.
Wednesday, 13 May Our Lady of Fatima	Is 61:9-11; Lk 11:27-28 Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words.
Thursday, 14 May The Ascension of the Lord	Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1: 17-23; Mt 28:16-20. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Friday, 15 May	Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23 God is king of all the earth.
Saturday, 16 May	Acts 18: 23-28; Jn 16:23-28. God is king of 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

YOUTH CAMP



NOVENA
CHURCH OF ST ALPHONSUS

Rmt
REDEMPTORIST
MISSION TEAM

**COME
STOP
SEEK
RECEIVE**

COME AND
ENCOUNTER ME
IN A NEW WAY!

YOUTH CAMP

10-12
JUNE
2026

AGES
13-18!

(NON STAY-IN)

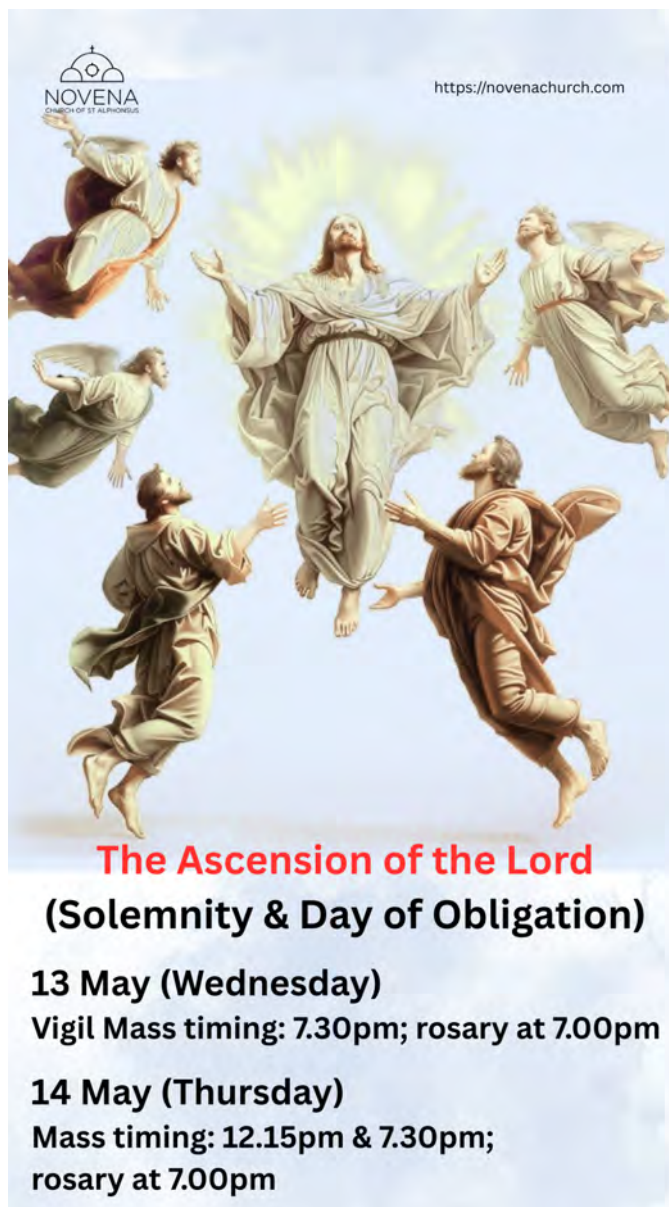
SCAN ME
YOU ARE INVITED
TO JOIN US!

<https://novenachurch.com>

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.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



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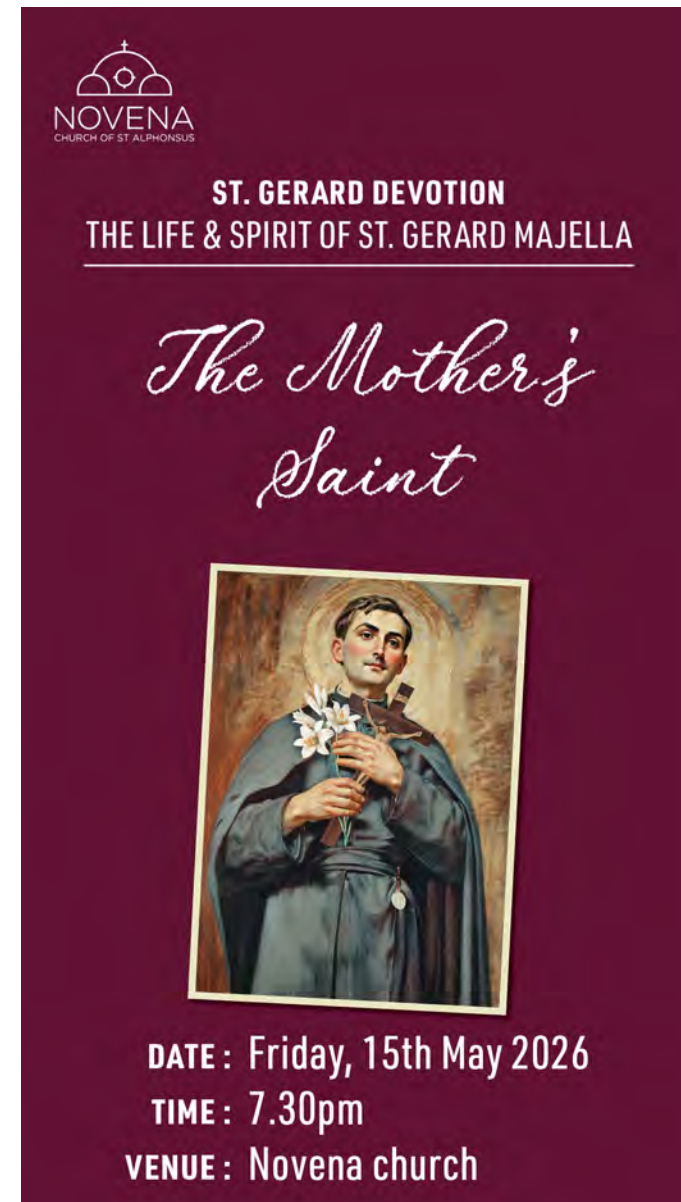
The Ascension of the Lord
(Solemnity & Day of Obligation)

13 May (Wednesday)
Vigil Mass timing: 7.30pm; rosary at 7.00pm

14 May (Thursday)
Mass timing: 12.15pm & 7.30pm;
rosary at 7.00pm

The Solemnity of the Ascension marks the exaltation of Christ and the completion of his earthly ministry. Jesus ascends not to abandon us, but to intercede for us at the right hand of God, and to make way for the promised Holy Spirit the advocate or "Counselor" (John 14:16, 26; 15:26) on Pentecost.


ST GERARD DEVOTION



NOVENA
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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