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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Not alone, Never alone

The 7th Sunday of Easter is the Sunday after Ascension but before Pentecost. There is sadness mixed with anticipation; anxiety mixed with excitement.

On Ascension Day, Jesus was taken up into heaven. The disciples would never see Jesus ever again. Without Jesus being with them and living among their midst, they were not sure what to do. The safe reality in the person of Jesus was gone. They only had his promise: *“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of age.”* (Matthew 28:20)

But Jesus had also promised the coming of “another” Helper, the Advocate, the Paraclete: *“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever. ... You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you”.* John 14: 14-21.

In fact, when he was speaking of the coming of the “Spirit of truth”, Jesus said: *“I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.”* (John 14: 14-21) They did not know when and in how he will come. So they waited in the Upper Room, praying with Mother Mary.

But they were never alone. Jesus was with them: *“you in me, and I in you”.* When the Holy Spirit came on Pentecost: *“he dwells with you and will be in you.”* The disciples therefore always had both Jesus and “another Helper”, the Holy Spirit in them.

No difference for us about 2000 years later. Neither are we alone. When we keep Jesus’ commandments, Jesus lives in each one of us: *“you in me, and I in you”.* When we pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit, he will come: *“he dwells with you and will be in you.”*

But many times, we do not recognise Jesus in our lives. Many times, we do not recognise the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. We may be waiting for a great sign or miracle. But Jesus in the Sacraments of the Eucharist, Reconciliation and in the Anointing of the Sick. Jesus is present when we pray, in the Holy Scriptures, as well in our faith-community. Jesus continues to minister to us but we do not see nor experience.

We may also be waiting for the Holy Spirit to inspire us to do some grand act. But we forget that the Holy Spirit is already working within us. Each time we love, care, forgive and serve with humility, the Holy Spirit is dwelling in us. The Holy Spirit is teaching us and reminding us of all that Jesus has taught – Love! We are not alone. We are never alone. For our God is in us and with us.

*Let me see you, Jesus!
Come Holy Spirit!*

Reflection by Ros

Readings & responses for the week

7th Sunday of Easter

Sunday 17 May	Acts 1:12-14, 1 Pt 4:13-16, Jn 17: 1-11 I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.
Monday 18 May St John 1, Pope & Martyr	Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33 Kingdoms of the earth, sing to God.
Tuesday 19 May	Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17: 1-11 Kingdoms of the earth, sing to God.
Wednesday 20 May St Bernardine of Siena, Priest	Acts 20: 28-38; Jn 17: 11-19 Kingdoms of the earth, sing to God.
Thursday, 21 May St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, Martyr	Acts 22:30.23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26 Preserve me, Lord, I take refuge in you.
Friday, 22 May St. Rita of Cascia	Acts 25: 13-21; Jn 21:15-19 The Lord has set his sway in heaven.
Saturday, 23 May	Acts 28: 16-20; 30-31; Jn 21: 20-25 The upright shall see your face, 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

YOUTH CAMP

COME STOP SEEK RECEIVE

YOUTH CAMP

10-12 JUNE 2026

AGES 13-18!

(NON STAY-IN)

COME AND ENCOUNTER ME IN A NEW WAY!

NOVENA CHURCH OF ST. ALPHONSUS

Rmt REDEMPTORIST MISSION TEAM

SCAN ME YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!

LAUDATO SI MASS

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Singapore

Laudato Si' Mass 2026

Friday, 22 May 2026 | 12.15 pm
The Church of Saint Alphonsus (Novena Church)

FROM HOPE TO ACTION

"Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems."
Laudato Si', 61

Let us come together in thanksgiving and prayer as we celebrate the gift of creation, and renew our call to care for our common home, followed by plant-based and zero waste lunch.

12.15 pm Mass celebrated by Rev Fr Colin Tan, SJ
12.50 pm Lunch at Canteen

Scan now to Save your spot

Organised by Caritas SINGAPORE God's Love in Action

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.

LAUDATO SI MASS

For those attending mass and lunch, please register by scanning the QR code.

For lunch NO cutlery will be provided.

In line with the teachings of Laudato Si by Pope Francis, bring your own cutlery that can be recycled