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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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## 'The harvest is rich but the labourers few ...'

In this Sunday's gospel reading from Matthew 9 & 10, Jesus said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

Jesus is not referring to his priests or the religious but to all of us. We, the baptised are called to be labourers to partake in the harvest. If we do not heed the call to harvest the 'crops' at the row where we stand, the 'crops' will be spoilt.

All of us stand in a different space and have different roles. I am a child of God, daughter, wife, sister, employer and coach/trainer. The space and people I interact with differs from you. But whoever we are, and whatever circumstances we are in, we have the opportunity to harvest, to touch the lives of the people we meet.

In my own space, understanding and regulating my emotions helps me in witnessing to the people I interact with, especially with my mother, the elderly I meet in my volunteer work, my helper, my spouse and the people I coach/train. Each opportunity in interaction is a harvest.

Being patient and present to others who are different from you, gives you the opportunity to harvest the 'diverse' crops in your own space. In this gospel reading, Jesus asked the disciples to go to 'the lost sheep of the House of Israel' instead of going to pagan territory.

Today, He is asking us to reach out to our own community. Within our own community, we can give more support to the groups we have already set up - the migrant community, cancer support group etc.

Reflect on our own experiences. Whatever we have gone through becomes a source of strength for us and in turn we can share our experiences to strengthen and inspire others. Do not just say 'thank you' and keep to yourself but be open to God's call to join in the harvest.

Share your stories as a sponsor for the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) programmes to bring in the harvest. When you share, share generously as God uses us as instruments to heal and comfort others.

In the words of Mother Teresa, 'not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love'. That is God's call for us to join in the harvest. That is good enough.

A Reflection by Hope

## Readings & responses for the week

### 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday, 14 June	Ex 19:2-6; Rom 5: 6-11; Mt 9:36-10:8 We are his people: the sheep of his flock.
Monday 15 June	1 Kgs 21:1-16; Mt 5:38-42 Give heed to my groaning, O Lord.
Tuesday 16 June	1 Kgs 21:17-29; Mt 5: 43-48 Have mercy on us, Lord, for we have sinned.
Wednesday 17 June	2 Kgs 2: 1,6-14; Mt 6:1-6,16-18. Let your heart take courage, all who hope in the Lord.
Thursday, 18 June	Ecclus 48:1-14; Mt 6:7-15 Rejoice, you just, in the Lord.
Friday, 19 June SS Philip Minh, Priest, Comp. Martyrs	2 Kgs 11:1-4.9-18,20; Mt 6:19-23 The Lord has chosen Zion; he has desired if for his dwelling.
Saturday, 20 June Blessed Virgin Mary	2 Chr 24:17-25; Mt 6: 24-34. I will keep my love for him always.

### 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

## TAIZE



NOVENA  
CHURCH OF ST ALPHONSUS

Prayer with the songs of  
**Taizé**

Songs . Silence .  
Reflection . Prayer .

Join us for an evening of  
meditative prayer

**3<sup>RD</sup> FRIDAYS - June 19**  
August 21 | October 23

**8:00PM TO 9:00PM**  
**MAIN CHURCH**

QR code  
Youtube playlist

## ST PHILIP MINH, PRIEST & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS



Saint Philip Minh was born in 1815 in Caimong, Vietnam, to a devout Christian family. He followed Bishop Taberd to Thailand and later to Calcutta, where he contributed to the editing of an Annamite-Latin-Annamite dictionary. In 1840, he entered College General in Penang and completed his theological studies, being ordained in 1846 by Bishop Lefebvre. Known for his piety and distinction, he became a respected priest in his mission. In 1852, amid growing persecution, Fr. Minh was captured, chained, and interrogated for seven days but refused to disclose the whereabouts of other priests or deny his faith. When pressured to trample on a cross, he steadfastly refused. Before his execution, he encouraged his fellow prisoners, saying, "I entreat you from the depth of my soul, whatever sufferings may be awaiting you, remain firm in your faith; put all your confidence in the heavenly hope; it will not fail you." On July 3, 1853, Fr. Minh was beheaded and buried in Cai-mong. Beatified in 1900 and canonized in 1988, St. Philip Minh is honored as a model of unwavering faith and courage.

## FEAST OF OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP



NOVENA  
CHURCH OF ST ALPHONSUS

<https://novenachurch.com>

Feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help

27 June 2026 (Saturday)  
Mass: 7.00am & 6.30pm