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PETITIONS & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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Novena Notes



The Treasure of Heaven.

Many of us treasure different things in life: loving families, filial friends, fond memories, purposeful living, inner peace, peaceful country, just leaders, good health and material wealth. What about a rich spiritual life with God and the hope of eternal joy in Heaven?

The treasure theme fills Scripture readings for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The longer version of the Gospel of Matthew has four parables symbolising the Kingdom of Heaven as *'treasure hidden in a field which someone has found'*, *'a merchant looking for fine pearls'*, *'a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds'* and *'a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old'*.

In each parable, a clear decision is needed: the finder of the hidden treasure needs to sell all his assets to buy the field; the merchant has to sell his possessions to buy a highly-valued pearl; the fishermen have to select the good haul and discard the useless catch; and the householder must value teachings from the Old Testament and the New Testament.

These decisions suggest that in seeking the Kingdom of Heaven, we must sacrifice earthly possessions, discard worthless physical habits, keep our good spiritual practices and live by God's Word that we learn from Sacred Scripture plus various commentaries.

The Responsorial Psalm highlights also the value of living wisely by God's law and commands: *"The law of the Lord is more precious than silver and gold"*.

When we make valuable spiritual decisions, such as conforming to the image of Christ, we can be called to share in God's divine glory (2nd Reading from Paul to the Romans).

In the 1st Reading from the first book of Kings, the young and unskilled Solomon made a humble decision when God appeared to him in a dream and asked him what he would like to have. Solomon treasured wisdom to govern his vast kingdom, rather than long life, destruction of his enemies or earthly riches. He sought *'a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil'*.

Several Saints made spiritually-rich decisions: St Francis of Assisi gave up wealth and trusted God's plans; St Clare of Assisi left her noble wealthy lifestyle to establish the Order of Poor Ladies; St Anthony the Abbot swapped his family fortune for spiritual growth in the desert; St Aloysius Gonzaga rejected his noble status to serve God; and St Katherine Drexel used her large inheritance to found the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in America.

Seek the true treasure of Heaven and ask God for a rich spiritual life to do His will.

Reflection by Peter Ling

Readings & responses for the week

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday, 26 July	1 Kgs 3: 5,7-12; Rom 8: 28-30; Mt 13:44-52. Lord how I love your law!
Monday, 27 July	Jer 13: 1-11; Mt 13:31-35. You forget the God who fathered you.
Tuesday, 28 July	Jer 14:17-22; Mt 13:36-43. Rescue us O Lord, for the glory of you name.
Wednesday 29 July SS. Martha, Mary & Lazarus	1 Jn 4:7-16; Jn 11:19-27. I will bless the Lord at all times.
Thursday, 30 July St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doc	Jer 18: 1-6; Mt 13: 47-53. He is happy who is helped by Jacob's God.
Friday, 31 July St Ignatius of Loyola	Jer 26:1-9; Mt 13: 54-58 In your great love, answer me, O God.
Saturday, 1 August St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doc	Is 61: 1-3; 2 Tim 2:1-7; Mt 9: 25 -10:1 Forever I will sing of the goodness of the 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

Standing in Solidarity with Affected Migrant Workers

Prayer for Migrant Workers Experiencing Difficult Times

Heavenly Father,

You are our refuge and our strength, our constant companion in every season of life. Today, we lift up those who are feeling uncertain and insecure about their future here in Singapore, especially our migrant brothers and sisters. Some have gone without wages they have rightfully earned. There is worry about their families back home, anxiety over how they will provide for their needs, and a deep hurt that trust has been broken.

Lord Jesus, You were a migrant yourself too.

As we strive to live out our faith and discipleship, teach us to walk beside every migrant brother and sister just as you would have done.

Holy Spirit, be with their families waiting at home; give them Your peace, consolation, and the hope that you are a God who provides.

We place our trust in You.

Amen.



More than 400 migrant workers are currently facing financial hardship after reportedly going unpaid for months.

ACMI (Archdiocesan Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants & Itinerant People) is working closely with the relevant agencies to provide emergency financial assistance, meals, transport, counselling, and pastoral care to the affected workers.

We invite you to stand in solidarity with our migrant brothers through prayer and, if you are able, by supporting ACMI's emergency response campaign:

<https://www.giving.sg/donate/campaign/standing-in-solidarity-emergency-response-for-migrant-workers>

A prayer for the affected workers is also available for your personal or community prayer. Thank you for your generosity and for keeping our migrant brothers in your prayers.

**NATIONAL DAY PH IN LIEU OF
10TH AUGUST, MONDAY
Masses : 9am & 6.30pm**

ST ALPHONSUS DE LIGUORI CSSR



Founder of the Redemptorists

Priest, doctor of the Church, moral theologian

St. Alphonsus was a brilliant, articulate, pragmatic preacher. He knew how to reach ordinary people who had limited education and very real needs. They followed this gifted preacher from church to church and town to town to hear him preach the message of hope in Christ for all people.

Three great images, basic to the Christian faith, formed the heart of Alphonsus' preaching and teaching — Jesus an infant in the crib, Jesus crucified on the Cross, and Jesus vibrantly alive and filled with love for all in the Eucharist. To this he added the image of Mary, the Mother of the Redeemer. When other theologians were opposed to devotion to Mary, Alphonsus invoked her: "Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope." He wrote his most influential work, Moral Theology, to correct what he saw as errors that could hurt people struggling to live good and moral lives, not to be judged by God but loving God in the Christian way of life.

TRIDUUM OF ST ALPHONSUS



TRIDUUM IN PREPARATION FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF ST. ALPHONSUS LIGOURI

**PARADISE FOR GOD IS
THE HUMAN HEART**



**TRIDUUM DAY 1
HEART OF
THE REDEEMER
29th July, Mass at 7.30pm**



**TRIDUUM DAY 2
THE MOTHER'S
HEART
30th July, Mass at 7.30pm**



**TRIDUUM DAY 3
CHASTE HEART
OF JOSEPH
31st July, Mass at 7.30pm**

CHILDREN MASS

**2 August 2026, Sunday
2 pm, Formation followed by Mass**

HERITAGE CENTRE

**Exhibition on Life of St Alphonsus
29th July - 8th August**