

Have you personally experienced God's goodness in your life?
Is this something you would like to share with others?

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Saturdays at 10 am to 12 noon



Invite your friends to attend RCIA, send them the RCIA form available at <https://tinyurl.com/RCIA-form> or scan the QR code.



For enquiries, please contact Agnes Tiong @ 9824 5926 or email agnestiong31@gmail.com

PRAYER HALL FOR WAKES

"ST JOSEPH PARLOUR"

We are constructing a Prayer Hall for wakes at the carpark area behind the canteen.

To facilitate the works, hoardings have been erected. The construction of the Prayer Hall will take 3 months and any inconvenience caused is much regretted.

For those who wish to assist with the building cost, please write cheque payable to "Church of the Holy Cross".



PARLOUR MANAGER NEEDED

Those interested in this position, please contact the Parish Priest, Fr Henry Siew at henry.siew@catholic.org.sg

PRAY & HEAL THE WORLD FROM CORONAVIRUS



Church of the Holy Cross

450 Clementi Ave One Singapore 129955 www.holycross.org.sg

OUR VISION: To be a communion of communities with intentional disciples centred on Jesus Christ, commissioned to evangelize and to serve.

14&15 March 2020

**Third Sunday
Of Lent**

First Reading

Exodus 17:3-7

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel

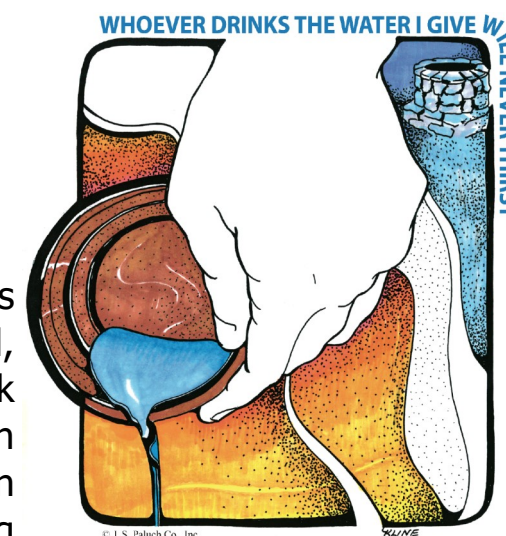
John 4:5-42

REFLECTION

THIRST

Each time today's Gospel story is read, I can't help but think of the many television commercials I've seen depicting perspiring athletes lifting a beverage to their lips while the scorching sun beats down on them. Our culture has definite ideas about how to quench thirst. Today, those ideas are turned upside down. The Samaritan woman operates, initially, on the TV commercial level. She asks Jesus for the flowing water so that she will not have to keep coming to the well. Jesus then talks about what real thirst is, and how he, and he alone, can quench that thirst. Lent calls us to find those places deep within ourselves where we thirst. In our thirst, as did the Israelites, we cry out to God asking for springs of living water. Deep down we know that only the Lord can satisfy these thirsts.

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MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays:

Lauds - 6.15am, Mass - 6.30am
Vespers - 6pm, Mass - 6.15pm
Lunchtime Mass - 12.15pm

Saturday:

Lauds - 6.15am, Mass - 6.30am
Novena - 4pm
Sunset Mass - 4.45pm
Mandarin - 6.30pm

Sunday:

7.30am, 9.30am, 11.30am & 5pm
Tagalog (Every 1st Sun) - 2.30pm

Public Holiday:

Morning Mass @ 8am
No Lauds before Mass

P.A.R.I.S.H Holy Hour:

Every 1st Friday at 8pm

Prayer Room Opening Hours:

Everyday - 7am to 10pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

15 minutes before evening Masses on Saturday and all masses on Sunday.

Infant Baptism:

@12.45pm 1st Sunday of:

Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep & Nov.

Funeral Arrangements:

Please check with the Parish Office for the availability of the Priest and Church before confirming the timing for cremation or burial.

Wedding:

Please contact the Secretariat, at least six months before for availability of dates.

Para Counselling Services:

Call 63820688 from Monday-Friday between 10am - 5pm to make an appointment.

2nd Collection

1st week of the month - for the Apostolate of St Vincent de Paul.

3rd week of the month - for GIFT Program of Catholic Foundation.

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ONGOING SUSPENSION OF MASSES

(Letter from Archbishop, Rev William Goh)

My dear People of God

It was with much sadness that I had to order the suspension of Masses on 14th February, particularly because the celebration of the Eucharist is the Summit of our faith. More than anyone, as the Archbishop, it is my desire to make the Eucharist available to everyone. However, as the head of the Roman Catholic Church in Singapore, I have to act responsibly not just for the sake of our Catholics but the community at large. To this end, we have been working hard to put in place the precautionary measures in our parishes so that we can resume the Masses.

When I made the announcement of lift the suspension last Thursday, it was in the context of a stabilised situation. However, the situation has become so serious that WHO has just declared COVID-19 a pandemic. The worsening regional threat and recent big cluster arising from SAFRA Jurong have caused much anxiety among the community at large. There is a rising number of infections.

Outbreak control measures are in full swing. The authorities are putting up more stringent measures to include social distancing and assembly of crowds. All social activities involving seniors by government agencies have been suspended. We are not helping the situation if we resume Masses at this time, simply because of the sheer numbers of Catholics packing in each service, and their fluidity in moving from one parish to another, and attending different services. Furthermore, a large percentage of our parishioners belong to a vulnerable group-seniors with lower immunity.

As responsible Catholics, we should be mindful that we do not do anything that might further burden the already strained healthcare system. Hence, to protect the large population, I have decided to rescind the order to resume Masses until the situation is much improved and more stabilised.

I know many of you who desire to participate in the Mass and receive the Eucharist will be greatly disappointed. There are as many who are for the ongoing suspension as there are those for its resumption.

After weighing all the views and bringing them to prayer, I have discerned that we should not proceed at this point in time. Our Catholic Medical Guild (CMG), which is helping us monitor the situation on the ground and is constantly in consultation with the government, will do the necessary reviews. The CMG will make its recommendations to me when it is time to resume Masses. I know it is a decision that will not please all, but as the Head of the Catholic Church in Singapore, I have to decide for the common good. Should anything untoward happen, it would be too late to regret. We should not insist on having the Eucharist at the expense of the safety of the larger community.

Your devoted Shepherd,
Most Rev. William Goh
Archbishop of Singapore

eCATECHISM FOR CATECHISM SESSIONS

The Office for Catechesis (OFC) has encouraged that we use eCatechism to resume our catechism sessions. In order to facilitate our planning and logistics for eCatechism, we would like to know your (parents') preferences for your child, and any questions/concerns that you may have regarding the start of the L2 and L3 catechism in church.

You can register your child for eCatechism sessions and participate in a simple survey by clicking on this link <http://bit.ly/2020-eCatRegister> or by scanning the QR Code on the right. Registration will close on 23 Mar 2020.



Alternatively, you can also register at our **Primary Catechism News Channel** on Telegram. This Channel allows you to receive notices and news about our parish activities and Catechism information.

TO JOIN CATECHISM NEWS CHANNEL

Scan the QR code or <http://bit.ly/hc-cat-news> to join our channel. First you must join Telegram, in the same way you have Whatsapp.



HOLY CROSS CHARISMATIC RENEWAL MOVEMENT

**Talks in March will be suspended
till further notice.**

FORMED

An online resource subscribed by the Church to help our members learn and grow in their faith.

Click on the link

<https://holycrosssg.formed.org>

sign-up for *Free access* to FORMED.

Once you have signed up, download the free FORMED iOS App or Formed Android App on your mobile gadgets for your convenient access.

