

SECOND COLLECTION

The Second Collection today will be for the Liturgy Formation Fund.

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (2nd February)

One of the customs of the Church on the Feast of the Presentation is to bless candles. All the candles to be used throughout the church year in the liturgy and sacrament are brought forward for blessing. The people are encouraged to BRING any candles they would like blessed on this day. The blessing of the candle will be done in the parish hall at 5:30 pm and thereafter procession to the church for the Mass.

BLESSING OF THROAT (3rd February)

The 3rd February is the feast day of St. Blaise. From the 8th century he had been invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with illness of the throat. The Mass will end with the blessing of the throat.

What's the Difference? Catholics, Orthodox, Protestants

The 8-sessions course will be conducted in two parishes: COOL (3-5th Feb.) and St. John's Church (6-7th Feb.) The first session will begin in this parish at 7:30 pm on Friday, 3rd February. This course aims to help its participants better understand the beliefs of people coming from various Christian traditions. This is so that we can avoid making premature conclusions about other Christians before seeking first to understand what they truly believe. For more details, please refer to the poster at the entrance of the church.

Holy Hour

Please take note that the Holy Hour on Friday, 3rd February is cancelled due to the Vicariate Faith Formation course "What's the Difference?"

SUNDAY SCHOOL and COM classes

Sunday School and COM classes will begin with a community prayer service today 29th January at 10:30 am until 12:00 noon. All Sunday School & Com Classes children and parents are encourage to attend this prayer service and orientation. All catechists are also required to attend.

Adult Faith Formation

We have started the CATHOLICISM Adult Faith Formation program. It is never too late to join as the topics are different each week. The next session will on Thursday, 2nd February at 7:30 PM in Fr. McClorey's room.

Fund Raising ideas

All Filipino are invited to come up with ways to raise funds for the victim of Typhoon Washi (Sendong). Write a brief description of your fundraiser idea in English or Filipino and send it to btaid@bt.com.bn. Deadline for submission is 31st January, 2012. For more details, please refer to the notice board at the entrance of the church.

MEETING SCHEDULES

Date	Time	Meeting	Location
1-Feb	7:30 am	Parish Pastoral Council	Fr. McClorey's

12 Days 10 Nights Pilgrimage to Italy and Lourdes

Fr. Robert is organizing a 12-days pilgrimage together with Five Stars Tours of Singapore to Italy and Lourdes departing from Singapore on 27th August 2012. Details of the pilgrimage is posted in the Notice Board at the entrance of the church. To help us to know the number of people who are interested to go on this pilgrimage, please give your details to Fr. Robert or sign up at the Parish office. The cost of the trip is not available yet.

We will notify all registered pilgrims of the cost as soon as we have it.



But the demon-possessed man in the Gospel could truthfully refer to himself as 'I', instead of 'us', only after Jesus had healed him.

And so here is one lesson we can learn from the story of the demon-possessed man. In another Gospel text (John 8:32), Jesus tells his disciples that they will know the truth, and the truth will make them free. For those who will come to Jesus to be freed from their demons, he himself is that healing Truth that will make them free. †

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE (MPC) for 2012

12th & 19th February ♦ 13th & 20th May
5th & 12th August ♦ 18th & 25th November

Couples wishing to get married are kindly reminded to prepare themselves at least six months prior to their wedding and to follow the Marriage Preparation Course schedule. Last minute weddings are very much discouraged as this would make it difficult for the coordinators of the MPC to conduct the course. This is a 2 full day course. Please take note that another requirement for a Catholic marriage is that the Catholic party must already received his/her Confirmation.



Our Lady of Immaculate Conception
Newsletter

Website: www.clicseria.com

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DAY	FEAST	READINGS	TIME
Mon 30	4TH WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK IV)	2 Sam 15, 13-14. 30; 16, 5-13a; Mk 5, 1-20.	6:15 AM
Tue 31	4TH WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK IV) ST JOHN BOSCO	2 Sam 18, 9-10. 14. 24-25. 30-19. 3. Mk 5, 21-43.	5:30 PM
Wed 1	4TH WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK IV)	2 Sam 24, 2. 9-17; Mk 6, 1-6.	6:15 AM
Thu 2	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	Mal 3, 1-4. Ps 23, 7. 8. 9. 10 Hebr 2, 14-18. Lk 2, 22-40 (or 22-23)	5:30 PM
Fri 3	4TH WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK IV) ST BLAISE, ST ANSGAR.	Sir 47, 2-132; Mk 6, 13-29.	5:30 PM
Sat 4	4TH WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK IV)	1 Kgs 3, 4-13; Mk 6, 30-34	6:15 AM
Sun 5	FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK I)	Job 7, 1-4. 6-7; Ps 146, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 1 Cor 9. 16-19. 22-23. Mk 1, 29-39.	8:00 AM 5:30 PM

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 29

Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

A prophet is called to be God's mouthpiece, but the prophet cannot guide people without first listening himself (or herself). The people had an obligation to hear and obey the vision God had for them. They must not harden their hearts again, as they had done in the desert. To harden one's heart is to make it heavy. God wants a lighthearted people who will promote the common good of all.

Jesus came to speak God's words of healing, justice, love, and peace. He spoke words of deliverance to those constrained by evil. All who witnessed the liberation of those in torment were amazed. "What does this mean?" they asked, enthralled by the power of Jesus's words. He taught with the authority of the prophets. He was the promised one announced by Moses. God raised up a prophet from among their own kinsmen, and to him they must listen.

For Reflection: Do I hear Jesus speak when his words are proclaimed in the liturgy? Do they prompt me to speak out against evil as he did?

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

Reading I: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Responsorial Psalm: 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

Missal: 591 (New); 929 (Bahasa)

The one and the many

In the Gospel reading, Jesus casts out demons from a man who was possessed by them.

Notice that when the demon-possessed man talks to Jesus, he does not refer to himself with the word 'I'. He says 'us' instead. Although there is only one human body giving voice to these words, there is more than one mind behind the words. That is why that one man's voice says 'us' to refer to himself. Jesus heals the man by ridding him of all minds but one, by making him single-minded.

All double-mindedness is an affliction, as anyone who has struggled with his own brokenness knows. Even just dealing with the double-mindedness of long bad habit can be devilishly difficult. "Do you want another helping of pasta?" Well, do you? You do, don't you? And yet somehow you don't either. Being double-minded is a kind of slavery to your worst self.

That's because freedom is a matter of being able to do what you want to do. But if you have two minds about something, which mind is the real you? How can there be one real you when you are in two minds about something?

The problem for you is that, when you are double-minded, you won't be doing what you want to do, no matter what you do, because you do and don't want the same thing. And so you can't be free while you are double-minded, while there is more than one mind in you. Like the demon-possessed man in the Gospel reading, you will be free only when you are single-minded.

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