

## YOUTH OFFICE

**Arise Young Adults Call Group (25 and beyond)** - Cell Groups for young adults will be held at room 6, every Tuesday from 730pm to 930pm. Young adults who are seeking to be a part of a Christian community or to deepen their spiritual lives are invited to be a part of this cell group.

**Arise Cell Group for Youth** - Arise Youth Ministry will be holding weekly cell groups for the youth of the parish. It will take place in the parish building every Saturday from 3.30pm to 5.30pm.

**Arise Youth Mass** - Youth masses are special occasions when the youth of the parish are given the opportunity to be of service to the wider parish community. The next youth mass will be held on 3rd April 2011. Youth mass practice will be held on the 2nd of April 2011(Sat) at 3.30pm in the chapel. See you there :)

**Arise Youth Nights** - Youth nights is when the entire Arise community to gather for formation sessions, programs or just pure

### confirmands' reflections

It was a fun experience because I have seen the other side of people. The side that most people are uncomfortable to open up. The experience I had for the entire camp was extraordinary. It made me think about my family and friends. I have experienced God in such a way that I find church as my second home. You can say that confirmation camp changed me in a way that it made me realize the meaning of life(spiritually). Way before confirmation camp I had no faith in god at all but after what I have been through, I can safely say that god loves me and I love him back and no matter what happens my faith in him will never die.



Samuel

**Kids corner** - Spot the difference. Jesus helped the blind man restored his sight. Find the three differences in this picture. Help the people around you see especially in this period of Lent.



We welcome literary contributions to our weekly newsletter (articles, observations, book reviews, etc). Please email your submissions to [spptheapostles@gmail.com](mailto:spptheapostles@gmail.com). Include a short introduction of yourself to our readers. Thank you.

fun! Our next YOUTH NIGHT OF 2011 will be held on the 9th of July (Sat) 7.30pm, where there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and makan at night!

**Arise Passion Play 2011** - Have a secret passion for acting but too shy to express your talents? Well, now you can! Arise is re-enacting The Passion of Christ once again around the church compound of SPP. If you're too shy to act, there are still various ways that you can contribute to this exciting drama act! Narrating the story of our Lord, make-up crew, costumes for the actors and actresses... Seems exciting? Come on down to our rehearsals at 2pm on Sundays! :)



Sunset Mass  
5.30pm  
Rosary  
4.40pm (Saturday)  
Sunday Masses  
8.30am (Mandarin)  
11.00am (English)  
2.00pm (Cantonese) Chapel, 3rd Floor  
4.20pm (English)  
Weekday Masses  
7.20am  
5.30pm  
Intercessory Prayer  
7.15pm (Eng, Thu, Adoration Chapel)  
Infant Jesus Devotions  
5.30pm (Thu, followed by Mass)  
4.00pm (Sun, followed by Mass)  
Divine Mercy Devotions  
Fri, after 5.30pm Mass  
Sun, 12.30pm (Mandarin)  
Sion Adorers - Holy Hour  
7.45pm - 8.45pm (Sat, Adoration Chapel)  
Hour of Mercy (Adoration Chapel)  
3.00pm (Daily)  
Counselling at SPP  
Family Life Society Counselling every  
Monday 11.00am - 2.00pm and 6.30pm -  
9.00pm. Call 6382 0688 for appointment

Church of Saints Peter & Paul  
225-A Queen Street, Singapore 188551  
Tel: +65 6337 2585 Fax: +65 6334 5414  
email: [sts.petempaul@pacific.net.sg](mailto:sts.petempaul@pacific.net.sg)  
[www.sppchurch.org.sg](http://www.sppchurch.org.sg)

We welcome literary contributions to The Apostles. Please email your submission to [spptheapostles@gmail.com](mailto:spptheapostles@gmail.com). You can also download The Apostles at: <http://sppchurch.org.sg/downloads.html>

Parish Priest:  
Rev Fr ANSELM PHANG OCD  
Asst Parish Priest:  
Rev Fr JOSEPH KOH OCD  
Priest in Residence:  
Rev Fr GREGORY HON OCD  
Provincial-Delegate:  
Rev Fr THOMAS LIM OCD  
Parish Secretary:  
Ms Martha Loh, Ms Jannie Lui  
Music & Liturgy Office:  
Jacob Wee, [sppjacob@gmail.com](mailto:sppjacob@gmail.com)  
Pastoral Office:  
Patrick Chan, [spppatrick@gmail.com](mailto:spppatrick@gmail.com)  
Youth Office:  
Alex Wong, [sppalexwong@gmail.com](mailto:sppalexwong@gmail.com)

Church Donations  
Please make you cheque payable to :  
(i) Church Of Sts Peter & Paul - for contributions /donations for on-going maintenance of our Church or parish projects and Mass offerings;  
(ii) Church Of SPP Building Fund -for contributions /donations to our Church building fund;  
(iii) Carmelite Fathers for contributions/donations to the Carmelite Friars (SPP), OCD Missions, Frairs Formation.

Please note that our cash-card car park barrier system is implemented with effect from Mon 11 Jan 2010. The rate are as follows: Monday to Saturday: 7.00 am to 9.00 pm - \$1.50 per half hour or part thereafter Sunday: Free parking (10 minutes grace period) The Church gates will be closed from 9.00 pm to 6.00 am. Parking rates for vehicles parked in the Church compound after closing hours will be levied \$10/ per hour or part thereafter from Monday to Saturday. Church worshippers attending Masses, a 'Mass-Time' grace period will be granted from 6.00am to 9.00 am and from 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

Information is correct at time of publication.



Fourth Sunday of Lent

3 April 2011 Year A

**READINGS:** Sunday Missal (Year A): Page 63, **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:** Page 282

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want"

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK - Mon 4 Mar - Sat 9 Apr 2011**

**Mon:** Is 65:17-21, Jn 4:43-54 **Tue:** Ez 47:1-9, 12, Jn 5:1-16 **Wed:** Is 49:8-15, Jn 5:17-30 **Thu:** Ex 32:7-14, Jn 5:31-47

**Fri:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22, Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30 **Sat:** Jer 11:18-20, Jn 7:40-53

## TRAVELLING LIGHT

written by Fr Anselm Phang

Antoine de Saint-Exupery (1900 -1944), the author of 'The Little Prince', once noted "He who would travel happily must travel light."

So, just as we passed the midpoint of Lent, we should be happy with the progress we have made on our Lenten journey. That is why we celebrate Laetare Sunday today. Laetare means "Rejoice" in Latin and traditionally, we see rose vestments being worn to encourage each other as we continue on our pilgrims' progress. Our spiritual advance can only be achieved through lots of self-denial: intense prayer; focused fasting; and selfless almsgiving. If we wish to travel happy, then we must travel light. Baggage - they seem to fasten themselves onto us, don't they? Much as we do not wish to carry too much baggage, it has become too much a part of us for us to shake it off. What about my emotional baggage? And is our baggage indispensable? Baggage Number One: our indiscreet judgment.

"Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the LORD looks into the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7) I think while it is difficult to stay objective and produce a prudent perspective to life all the time, our self-denial, especially of fasting, will train us to judge wisely the things that entrap us. Baggage Number Two: our compromising disposition.

"You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness; rather expose them, for it is shameful even to mention the things done by them in secret; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says:

'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.' " (Ephesians 5:8-14)

I have included the entire Second Reading here because this is the frequent story of many a Christian baggage. How can we allow light and darkness to co-exist mutually in us? "The early Christians never exhibited any signs of adoration nor appeasement to inhabiting spirits (in their homes) like having food offerings and the like. They knew very well who these spirits were that were causing trouble. Consequently, they also never reserved any place in their houses where spirits could dwell in." (Exorcism - Fr Jose Syquia,

Director of Archdiocese of Manila Office of Exorcism)

I get so many people asking me to bless their statues, holy pictures and medals. But the best way to witness for God is by keeping their souls open to Jesus.

Jesus declares to us, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12) Jesus desires to shepherd us to be with him forever. For us to follow him in light, we need to leave our lives of darkness and follow him. (cf Psalm 23). The Preface in today's liturgy says it well, "He came among us as a man, to lead mankind from darkness into the light of faith. Through Adam's fall, we were born as slaves of sin, but now through baptism in Christ, we are reborn as your adopted children." (Preface of Fourth Sunday of Lent)

"The LORD preceded them, in the daytime by means of a column of cloud to show them the way, and at night by means of a column of fire to give them light. Thus they could travel both day and night. Neither the column of cloud by day nor the column of fire by night ever left its place in front of the people." (Exodus 13:21-22)

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the travelling light, shine on me, shepherd me.



**Please support and donate generously towards Charities Week 2011**, an Archdiocesan annual fundraising project. Proceeds will enable Caritas Singapore and many Catholic organizations under its umbrella to continue their work in reaching out to those in need. These include the poor, families and children, prisoners, migrant workers, persons with HIV/AIDS, persons with physical challenges, persons with mental health conditions, and overseas humanitarian aid.

Pick up a Charities Week appeal envelope this weekend and contribute generously. You can mail your donation directly to Caritas Singapore (for cheques only) or drop them at your parish.

Your contribution will make a difference in the lives of those in need. Visit [www.caritas-singapore.org](http://www.caritas-singapore.org) or call 6337 3711 for more information.



## REFLECTION

In today's gospel the healing of a man born blind, we are reminded that God can use us for his greater glory. Just as he made use of the man's blindness to bring glory to Jesus. We may not be physically blind but how many of us can be spiritually blind. Our self-centredness and selfishness can cause us to be spiritually blind. When a neighbour needs our help, when a hungry child reaches out to us for food, when we hear the cry of a battered wife or an abused child. How can we like Christ be a light to these people? - *Lectors Ministry*

## Adieu to Fr Claude Barreteau, MEP



We pray for the repose of the soul of our former Parish Priest Fr Claude Barreteau, MEP who was called home to the Lord on 21 March 2011. The funeral was held in France on 24 March 2011. The late Fr Barreteau was born on 7 July 1929 and was ordained on 25 May 1955. Fr Claude Barreteau became Parish Priest of Sts. Peter & Paul in 1993. He was then from the Church of St Michael and later St. Joseph (Bukit Timah). When he came to SPP, due to the rapidly deteriorating condition of the church building, he immediately initiated a major renovation when a new steeple was installed with new roofing, painting and replacement of the public address system.

He also oversees the 125th Anniversary Celebration of our church (1870-1995) culminating with the publication of a Church Souvenir Magazine. As the church has only one priest, he single-handedly and tirelessly administered to the parish community – both the English and Chinese-speaking as he was fluently bilingual. He was a strict disciplinarian and a stickler to decorum and punctuality and it was commonly known that he would start mass exactly on time when servers or ministers were still struggling to put on their robes to join in the entrance procession! Yet, behind his stern front, Father was a gentle and forgiving counselor, ever ready to lend a listening ear and render whatever help and assistance needed. Towards the end of his tenure, he raised and accumulated sufficient funds for the church and laid plans for the construction of the present new parochial building. Fr Barreteau retired in 1998 due to ill health. After a short home leave, he returned to Singapore and was posted to St Theresa's Home as its Administrator. The

management of our church was then passed on to the Carmelite Fathers.

We are truly inspired by Fr Barreteau's exemplary missionary spirit and focus on his vocation. We have learned many valuable life-lessons from him and will miss him greatly. Indeed a great man and a true priest has passed on. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.



**WELCOME ARCHBISHOP LEOPOLDO GIRELLI;** the New Apostolic Nuncio to Singapore - Come and attend the Mass on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, 10 Apr 11 at the 11.00am Mass in SPP, presided by probably one of the most famous Catholics in Singapore – the new apostolic nuncio to Singapore.

Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli has been appointed by Pope Benedict XVI as apostolic nuncio to Singapore, apostolic delegate to Malaysia and Brunei, and non-resident pontifical representative for Vietnam. He will be based in Singapore and has been staying at the Catholic Welfare Services Building, thus making him a true blue parishioner of SPP.

*Benvenuto, Sua Eccellenza Arcivescovo Leopoldo Girelli, Nunzio Apostolico per Singapore*

**THE QINGMING** (Clear Brightness) Festival is a Chinese Festival for mourning the dead and falls on April 4-6 each year. This year Qingming falls on 5 Apr '11. It is a festival of commemoration and sees a combination of sadness and happiness. Let us spend some time to remember our ancestors at Lent. May eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

## Our Limited Brainpower

*written by Rita Amada Y.C. Tan*

I love getting to know new friends at some parties or gatherings. Likewise, I love getting to know new saints at different feasts and memorials. It's really amazing and a mystery on how God nurtures ordinary men and women in extraordinary ways to reveal God's love through them. St John Baptist de la Salle is one of them, who chose to forgo his cushy life and family wealth for the sake of establishing schools to educate the less fortunate ones.

I only know St John Baptist de la Salle for his dedication in supporting the Christian education for the poor. And, he has contributed much to the poor in the form of bread during the great famine between 1683 – 1684. Other than that, really, I don't have much clues on him.

However, his dedication and sacrifice has indeed left a beautiful imprint and reminder of the Christians' work and contribution in education. And, I found a rather meaningful quotation from St. John Baptist de la Salle that I would like to share with all of you:

"Be driven by the love of God because Jesus Christ died for all, that those who live may live not for themselves but for Him, who died and rose for them. Above all, let your charity and zeal show how you love the Church. Your work is for the Church, which is the body of Christ."

Be it we're adults or children, teachers or students; every motive, everything or work we do should be grounded in love – the love of God. With this Christ-like love, then we're able to look upon one another with greater love and respect. And, it's also from this Christ-like love, then all teachings and education will be able to flow and nourish the givers and recipients.

For what can we achieve without the love of God as the fundamental of everything we do and teachings? Probably, we could only just cram bits and pieces of facts here and there into our little brains that we'll try to make sense out of them with our limited brainpower. That's all. ■

## SAVE THE EARTH

Calling all brothers and sisters using the rooms which have been blessed with air-conditioning systems. For your comfort, you may wish to adjust the coolest temperature to 24 degrees Celsius. Then, our children and our children's children may still get to see the sky. Thank you.

## PARISH NEWS

**THANK YOU** - St Joseph Church (Bukit Timah) wish to thank all SPP parishioners for their generosity and support during the sales of St Joseph Feast Day Tickets to raise funds for their renovation and upgrading projects. They collected a total of \$2,715.25 from sales of tickets and donations on the weekend 19 & 20 Mar 11

**CARMEL'S SEIGE OF JERICHO** - 144 hours of Perpetual Prayers - 2 Apr (6:30 am) to 8 Apr (6:30 am) 2011, at the Carmelite Monastery, 98 Bukit Teresa Road. The intentions are for the victims of natural disaster & terrorism, for the healing of the sick, for healing of families, for the healing of the brokenness in our lives, for true vocations to the priesthood & religious communities in Singapore and for the end of wars and violence.

**LEGION OF MARY DEVOTION MEET (ENG)** - Join us in the Walk with Mary leading to Jesus, every Sun, 1.30pm - 3.00pm at the Church Sts Peter & Paul, Rm1, level 2. Call @ 96780397 - Jzen Ana. All are Welcome!

**LENT IS SPRING CLEANING** - In the Season of Lent, let us embark on a period of spring cleaning: mind, body and soul. For all ministries of SPP who have been blessed with the use of a church locker, I hereby call you to spring clean your locker. If there are any perishables, especially food, kindly remove them. Thank you.

**WAY OF THE CROSS** held every Friday during Lent at 5.30 pm commencing 11 Mar '11. Evening Mass will follow after prayers.

**WAY OF THE CROSS (MANDARIN)** - held every Friday during Lent at 7.45 pm in the Chapel (3rd Storey, Parish Building), together with Mandarin RCIA session. All parishioners are welcome.

**HELPERS NEEDED** - Palm Sunday falls on 17 Apr '11. The palms will be delivered to our church on Fri 15 Apr '11. We appeal for volunteers to help to wash the palms on Sat 16 Apr 11 at 10.00 am.

**MONTHLY PRAYER FOR CMs** - For the month of Apr '11, it will be held on Mon 4 Apr '11. 7.30pm to 9.00pm at the Adoration Room. We pray for vocation, for our Holy Father, The Church and world peace. All are welcome

**LAY FORMATION FOR SPP - Cycle (C)** - *Apr 16, May 7 '11.* Venue: Chapel (3rd Storey, Parish Building) Saturday Time: 3.00 pm - 4.30 pm Please register with the Secretariat by Mar 11 '11 for Cycle (C). Parishioners of SPP are encouraged to register as this is the last cycle for this series

**SPP COLUMBARIUM** - We have niches available for bookings. There are 3 types of niches: Standard (1- 2 urns),

Premium (1-4 urns) and Benefactor (1- 4 urns). Donation amount for the use of the niche depends on the location and level. For Benefactor Niche, the donation amount can be given by instalment. For further information, please call Parish Office Tel: 6337 2585.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY MADRID 2011** - Youth Ministry Office invites young Catholics (18 & above) to register for WYD Madrid' 10. It will be from 9-21 Aug '11. Our pre-WYD programme is a pilgrimage to Rome. For further details, please contact us at 6285 2571 or visit our website at [www.cayc.org](http://www.cayc.org). Places are limited. Please register now.

**COUNSELLING SERVICES** - Family Life Society (FLS) is making its counselling services available at our SPP Church every Monday from 11 am to 2 pm and from 6.30 pm to 9 pm. Lay Counsellors trained by FLS will be available to provide a listening ear and help to those in need. Parishioners may call 6382 0688 (weekdays from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm) to make an appointment. Website: <http://www.familylife.sg/>

**DAILY PRAYER** - Our SPP Church prays the Lauds led by the Carmelite Friars every weekday morning after the 7.20 am Mass. All are welcome.

## NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

**ASSISI HOSPICE CHARITY FUN DAY** @ SJI International on 19 Jun '11. The Assisi Hospice is a Catholic charity with a mission of caring for the critically ill, the dying and the poor. They provided subsidized care to more than 1,100 patients last year. With limited external funding, Assisi Hospice needs to raise at least S\$4 million a year to maintain their services. The Charity Fun Day is one of their major fund-raising events and the Assisi team will be here on 9 & 10 April during our Saturday Sunset and Sunday Morning Masses, to sell their Fun Day coupons @ \$10 each. Do give them your support. For any further enquiries please contact Joyce Ong at 97894260 or email: [joyce\\_ong\\_sb@assisihospice.org.sg](mailto:joyce_ong_sb@assisihospice.org.sg).

**AMPLIFY MINISTRY** invites All Youths between the ages of 16 - 25 to come for AWAKEN A Youth Conversion Experience from 9 - 12 June '11. AWAKEN seeks to give youths a deep and personal God experience by awakening youths to the reality and depth of God's love and forgiveness. Come! Taste and see that the Lord is good! For more information, please contact Eunice (9667 2382) or Rachel (9105 5718) or email: [amplifyawaken@gmail.com](mailto:amplifyawaken@gmail.com).

**AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS** - an evening of Lenten prayer, reflection and song at: The Church of the Divine Mercy, 8 Apr '11, Fri, 8:15pm - 9:30pm. Presented to you by CrossCulture and CANA The Catholic Centre. Admission is free but please

register with [cana@catholiccentre.com.sg](mailto:cana@catholiccentre.com.sg) or call 63364815/ 63364467

**PERSONAL COMPASS: NAVIGATING ETHICAL AMBIGUITY** By Fr David Garcia, OP The Ethics of Love & Sexuality: Building the Family 6 Tues evenings, 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm commencing 26 Apr 11, at 5 Waterloo St, #08-00 CWS Bldg. For more information or to register, please login to [www.catholicspi.org](http://www.catholicspi.org) or contact Janice @ 68587012, Email: [janice@catholicspi.org](mailto:janice@catholicspi.org)

**THE CATHOLIC STUDENTS' APOSTOLATE (CSA)** of Nanyang Technological University is preparing for its Freshmen Orientation Camp in '11. FOC 2011 is an important annual event that reaches out to Catholic youths who are about to enter the university. The aim of the Camp is to induct Catholic youths into NTU and provide them a family in the strongly secular environment of NTU, so as to help them grow in their faith with friends throughout their time in University and eventually contribute more to the Church. The committee is now raising funds to conduct the camp and would be delighted if you would allow us to organise a fundraising project in your parish. They will be selling handmade rosaries and/or cookies in our parish after the Weekend Masses on 4 and 5 June '11.

**CALLING ALL CATHOLIC SINGLES** to join us for Mass together on 10 Apr (Sun) at St Joseph Church (Victoria Street). 9:45am @ Church Canteen, Mass at 10am Lunch fellowship @ Millenia Walk after Mass Email your interest to CatholicSingle@gmail.com Join us in Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/CatholicSingle> to get to know more singles in our Catholic Community

**POLY CAMP 2011** invites all Catholics Poly students. Weekend begins on 8 Apr (7.00pm registration) to 10 Apr (10.00pm). Venue is at The Catholic Archdiocesan Youth Centre, 2 Lorong Low Koon, S(536449). Cost is \$30/pax. For more details, please call Ranson 9298 4018 or email [polycamp2011@gmail.com](mailto:polycamp2011@gmail.com) or check our website [www.cayconline.org](http://www.cayconline.org).

## LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES (CITY DISTRICT):

**7 Apr 11 (Thu)** : Church of Our Lady of Lourdes  
**8 Apr 11 (Fri)** : Church of St Michael  
**11 Apr 11 (Mon)** : Church of St Bernadette  
**12 Apr 11 (Tue)** : Novena Church  
**13 Apr 11 (Wed)** : Church of St Teresa  
**14 Apr 11 (Thu)** : Church of Sts Peter & Paul  
All services begin at 8.00 pm  
**16 Apr 11 (Sat)** : Church of Sts Peter & Paul (Chinese, 1.30 pm)

*Note the changed of dates*