

WILL THE REAL DAVID PLEASE STAND UP!

By Audrey Wong

Did you hear about the young shepherd boy who killed a giant, was made king and won countless military victories?

That's the story about King David we always hear about. Sounds like something out of Star Wars? It's surprising how few people talk about the real David, the un-adulterated version (no pun intended). It was only after I discovered the real David that he came down out of the stars and became someone so deeply inspiring to me. Quite apart from his military victories, there is a side of him that reminds me very much of our own human frailty.



The Forgotten Child

Picture this: it is a hot, sunny day and the Prophet Samuel visits the house of Jesse. Now the Prophet is a well-known character, well-feared and revered, and his visit is an event of great excitement among the villagers, even though they are a little afraid. Everyone comes to their windows to see him.

After the pleasantries Samuel asks to meet Jesse's sons. They march out one by one for his inspection: Eliab, Abinadab, Shammah... all mighty and strong in stature, looking like everything a woman could want. But Samuel, cautioned by the Lord, looks past their appearances, and finds them lacking. "Is this all the sons you have?" he asks Jesse.

Only now do the people remember David's existence. David has been out in the fields with the sheep, perhaps wondering what the sounds of excitement coming from the village below are all about. But David's own father has forgotten him, perhaps thinking him too unimportant compared to his other strapping sons and definitely not the MAN the Prophet is looking for. David is young and doesn't have stunning looks. In fact, he's small for his age.

But when they finally remember David and call him from the fields, the great Prophet Samuel says "Alas, this is the man God has chosen!" and anoints David as the next king of Israel, much to the shock of everyone present, including David himself.

The Psalmist proclaims God's love in words like these: even if a mother abandons her child, God will never forsake you! Everyone had forgotten David – except God. And God was the only one that mattered, in the end. If ever you felt unwanted (as I have), remember this!

David's Mercy

David's reign wasn't a smooth, swimming one (as the stories we often hear suggest). In fact, even before the throne was in his grasp, he had to suffer for months the deadly jealousy of his predecessor Saul. Now Saul was angry that God had chosen David over him, and his jealousy burned like a bonfire. He wanted to kill David, and, together with his whole army, chased David into the dry, arid desert and hunted him.

I imagine David must have been afraid and confused at what God's plan was. But the Bible tells us that he trusted in God. One day, David and his men were hiding from Saul in the mountains, and they sought shelter in a cave. Lo and behold, into the cave mouth came Saul, walking in alone to obey nature's call. Such a golden opportunity for David to get rid of Saul once and for all, away from the interference of Saul's men!

Fonz on Lent



Greetings to all Juvenis and those Juvenis at heart! What is "Juvenis"? Juvenis is Latin for Youth. In the season of Lent, the Mother Church gives us these 3 spiritual exercises: *Fasting, Almsgiving & Prayer*, to help us overcome the devil's temptations.

Fasting

Many of us think "fasting" means fasting from food or that we eat our food faster. Actually "fasting" does not mean totally not eating but reducing the amount of time we spend on food, and material or physical pleasures such as LAN gaming, going for parties. It means exercising self-control.

Almsgiving

"The Christian's programme – the programme of the Good Samaritan, the programme of Jesus- is 'a heart which sees'. This heart sees where love is needed and acts according[ly]." - Pope Benedict XVI in his encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*

Prayer

"Action is worth nothing without Prayer: Prayer grows in value with sacrifice." - St Josemaria Escrivá Without prayer, it is difficult to exercise Fasting & Almsgiving.

This year, the Youth Ministries from our parish have planned lots of activities and events for all the youths, and, not to forget, the adults from our parish. So I invite you to come and experience our activities and events with us. What are YOU waiting for? "Come and See" John1:39. (Youth ministry contact details are on the last page.)

Yours in Christ

Fonz-jm

Youth Council President

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Will the Real David Please Stand Up! (Continued from page 1)

But *because he trusted in God*, he did not fall prey to his instinct to reach out and kill Saul who was once God's chosen king. Instead, he crept up to Saul and cut off the edge of his cloak.

When Saul had gone some distance from the cave, David came out and called to Saul. He bowed to Saul in reverence, and in his hand he held the piece of Saul's cloak he had cut off. "The Lord put you in my power, but I didn't kill you!" he said to Saul. As Saul realised David's mercy, he wept in remorse at his persecution of this man who was God's anointed, and who had chosen mercy over vengeance.

David's act of mercy moves me as well: how many of us, faced with our powerless enemies in a dark cave, would do what David did? How many of us would have gone against our human instinct – *boast, humiliate, cast down* – and offered mercy instead? I think it must have taken much faith on David's part to trust God to resolve things instead of taking matters into his own hands.

Dancing for God

Another image of David that stays with me comes from the time when the Ark of the Covenant was brought back to Jerusalem after many years of estrangement. There was great joy in the nation that God was coming back among his people, and there was a mighty procession before the Ark amidst shouts of joy and trumpet calls. David (who was now king) was at the head of the procession, and he was *dancing and whirling with joy* before God's presence.



When the procession ended, David went tired back to his house. There, his wife, Michal, came out to confront him. The Bible tells us that she despised and reproached him for being so undignified in front of the people. But David was undaunted. "I will go on dancing to honor the Lord," he told her, "even if I make a fool of myself in others' eyes!"

David's simple, humble and uninhibited joy in the Lord is just amazing. Many times I find myself thinking "what will people say of me?" and this puts a damper on my expressing praise to God or witnessing to him. Many times peer pressure prevents me from saying what I really think, or makes me just go along with the crowd. When my friends gossip about others I sit unhappily in the background not daring to say anything to stop them. But this is not what David, a man after God's own heart, would do. Perhaps we need to follow his example of courage and trust in doing what is right.

The New Davids

David lived such a long time ago, in such a different age and place. Sometimes it's hard to see him as anything other than a historical artifact. But God in his infinite wisdom has let others rise in his place. I like to call these the "*new Davids*". They are the all-too-uncommon people around us who have heeded God's call.

I've been really blessed to know several new Davids. The first time I became aware of them I thought: oh my gosh, is this real? These people were *insane* – they were passionate about God, they loved to read the Bible, they praised God unabashedly, they gave testimony about how God had touched their lives in tangible ways. "No way," I thought. "Holey moley. Out of my league." But another part of me was longing to be like them; to have the joy they had in their faces.

Then I realised they had not always been this way. A brilliant, inspiring teacher of God's word told me he used to be a true blue "ah beng", stammer badly and have a fear of public speaking. But to look at him now, the change is just unbelievable; he is a leader in youth ministry and has inspired countless youths to turn back to God! He was also the one who told this little story that I'm about to pass to you.

The Puppet and the Water Wheel

Once upon a time there was a man who went to a fair. As he stepped into the fair grounds, he caught sight of a figure of a man in the distance, dressed in ancient Chinese clothes, turning a water wheel. The water wheel was so big and heavy, even as seen from afar, and the visiting man thought to himself: "I've never seen such a strong man before, who can turn such a great big water wheel!"

So he went forward to take a closer look. As he walked closer, he realised that the Chinese man turning the wheel was not real; it was just a puppet attached to the wheel, in such a way that it looked to be turning the wheel. The wheel was in fact being turned by the gushing water that flowed into it from a stream.



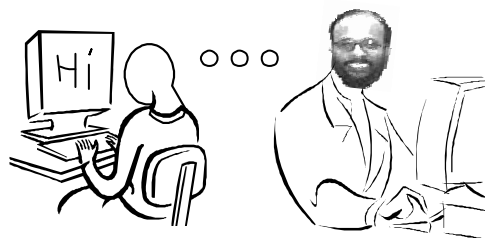
And that's the secret that King David and the new Davids share. From afar we see their joy and their strength in adversity and we think that they are somehow inhumanly special. But the real secret is that it isn't their strength – it's God's strength, and he's promised that strength to each one of us as well, if we only let him take over!

So I say, praise God when he says: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness"! (2 Cor 12:9)

CHAT WITH FR. JOHN BOSCO

By Joseph Ng and Russell Chander

We interview the spiritual director of the Youth Ministry and find out his plans and views for the youth of Holy Trinity, his experiences as a priest, and just how funny a person he can be.



Joseph: *A lot of people feel that you are rather serious in person but very entertaining during mass, so can you tell us what the real you is like?*

Fr. Bosco: Serious, and yet entertaining? I think we need to project, at different places and different times; there is a time to play, and a time for seriousness. Even if you look at the mass we celebrate. When it comes to the Eucharist, there is no playing on my part. We take it very seriously. Preaching I try to find a different approach, maybe with a little bit of humor to get the message across, but I think if one gets to know me, one will find that I'm not that serious all the time. I have a weird sense of humor, like to play pranks, and basically have fun.

Joseph: *Since coming to this parish, have you had any future plans, like anything in store for the youths?*

Fr. Bosco: I first have to meet with the people to know where we are going, rather than project my own plans without consulting the others, because what I may have may not be in tune with the others here, so I need to discuss first to get a feel from the rest before anything can be launched. It is pointless for me to "hey, let's go in this direction, but then nobody wants to or is in tune to go in this direction so I have to meet them first, and then move in that particular direction.

Joseph: *From being in the church with us for the past few months, what do you think of the youths, in our church, judging from the activities going on, such as the carnival?*

Fr. Bosco: I think that the bonding is pretty good, but personally I think that there is a lot of potential that is not tapped on yet, and hopefully in the near future, once I establish or they establish or we establish a relationship we can get going somewhere.

Joseph: *Do you think the faith has dropped in priority for the youth today? If so, what do you think are the main causes?*

Fr. Bosco: When you say faith has dropped what do you mean?

Russell: *That the youth do not hold God as high a priority as we should.*

Fr. Bosco: Maybe to a certain extent. There are many reasons causing this. One is the social education system in Singapore itself. Peer pressure. What we gain in the classrooms and in the catechism syllabus might not be something personal. It may be too much an obligation rather than a love for wanting to know more about God, because at the end of the day, how we live our lives is a reflection of what we learn in catechism and so on. If we can't take it out and just leave it in the church, then we are just what I call "Supermarket Catholics". We pick and choose what we like and "don't talk to me about religion here. Here I listen, here I do this", in that sense. Perhaps we as the leaders of the church have to look at the catechism syllabus itself and see how we can inculcate a different style of faith. I think that (catechism) would be the main source of re-educating and rekindling the faith into the youth.

Chat With Fr. John Bosco (Continued from page 3)

Russell: Outside catechism and outside the classroom, is there anyway a youth can rediscover his or her faith?

Fr. Bosco: In so many ways! You see, living the Christian or Catholic life is not just in the church. Outside the church is where the whole regiment of witnessing comes in. We come to church to get the instructions actually... The guidelines... But the living out is actually in your everyday life. In your homes and in our schools, with friends etc. So it is putting into practice actually what we have learnt. More often than not, because of, as I have said, peer pressure, you don't want to be seen as a holey moley, you don't want to be seen as this or that, you shy away from the true witness. Even saying prayers before meals. How many of us do it?

Russell & Joseph: Well, we do 😊

Fr. Bosco: Ah good good. But you see there are a good number of youths embarrassed about it, because others may take offense. And so they shy away to a certain extent. But if everyone can come follow what they have learnt, people will look. And even then, more so will we be on our guards. To be a light rather than continuing to hide in the dark, because once they know we are Catholics, or Christians, and we start doing bad, people will point and say, "What's this? You call yourself a Catholic? You are a hypocrite." And if we don't want to be characterised in such a way, then we should live in the best ways we can.

Joseph: How can the youth seek solace and reprieve in the midst of their demanding studies and activities these days?

Fr. Bosco: The reality of the situation is: the troubles outside will not change. But our source of hope is Christ himself. Take for example the weekday Gospel reading a while back. Jesus invites Peter to walk on the water. Peter starts. Halfway, a storm comes. The wind blows, the waves get stronger. He panics. He loses his focus on Jesus and starts focusing on things around him, and that's when he starts to sink, and he yells, "Lord, save me! Save me!" And Jesus pulls him up. The message here is: that's what happens to all of us in our lives. We will have all the troubles, trials and burdens, but if we focus on Christ, we will find our rest. We will find our source of life in him. But the main thing is to completely have that focus on him.

Joseph: You once accounted to the parish about your rocky road to choosing priesthood. What can the youth learn from it?

Fr. Bosco: Not to be afraid. I think one of the main things that cause most of us to delay or choose not to respond or answer to a call is fear. We shy away from this. Our responsibilities. Whether is it to our priesthood, or to anything about holding responsibilities. We are always afraid. And I think this is where our prayer life needs to come in also, because in order to embrace something, we need to have strength. Christ himself was afraid to take up the Cross. He went to the Garden of Gethsemane, and prayed, "Father, if it be your will." And God gave him the strength. So I think one of the main things we can learn from it is to deepen our own prayer life, first of all. And then we will be able to embrace whatever is in front of us.

Russell: You were saying that some do not choose to respond to a calling because of fear. What is the fear about?

Fr. Bosco: Fear of responsibility. It can be something overwhelming. Fear that "I'm inadequate", "I don't know my faith," fear of taking that first step. Or the fear of "being a disappointment to my parents." Fear that "I may be laughed at." Fear that, because of "my lifestyle now, I have to transform and change." So there are so many different factors that contribute to this fear.

Russell: Is there anything one can do to better prepare oneself mentally if one feels oneself inadequate to take on priesthood?

Fr. Bosco: Inadequacies will always be there, because no matter what we read or learn, we cannot exhaust everything. I think one of the first things is to recognize our own limitations. And not be afraid. Again it's back to fear. Not to be afraid or embarrassed to admit that, "I'm only human. And these are my limitations that surround me. But what can I do with the gifts that have been given to me? And use it to the best of my ability".

BLESSED TERESA OF CALCUTTA

(1910-1997)

By Victor Bruno Ooi

In memory of the great Mother Teresa of Calcutta who gave herself in service to the poor.

Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu was born on the 26th of August 1910, in Skopje, Macedonia. She was the daughter of a well-respected businessman of Albanian descent. Her father was kind, helpful and trusting in God. He died when Agnes was 8, leaving her mother to care for the family. Even as a young girl, Agnes was captivated by the love of Jesus and of neighbour. At 12, she felt a strong calling from God and she knew she had to be a missionary to spread the love of Christ

Agnes left home at 18 and joined the Loreto convent in Rathfarnham, Ireland. It was here that she received the name Teresa, after her patroness St. Teresa of Lisieux. Agnes was sent to India and arrived in Calcutta in 1929. Upon arriving, she joined the novitiate in Darjeeling, and made her final profession as a Loreto nun in 1937. Thereafter, she was called Mother Teresa. She chose to stay in Calcutta and became an Indian citizen.



The suffering and poverty she experienced outside the convent walls made a deep impression on her. At the age of 32, she vowed to give herself utterly and unreservedly to Christ: to give anything that God asked of her. 1946 was the year mother Teresa received her “calling in a calling”. As she was travelling by train from Calcutta to Darjeeling, she realized that Jesus was calling her to serve him by helping the poorest of the poor. Jesus spoke to her through visions asking for her help in doing his work among the poor, sick, dying and the little ones.

In 1948, she received permission to work among the poorest of the poor in the slums and streets of Calcutta. Mother Teresa left her happy life as a Loreto nun, exchanging her habit for a plain cotton sari with blue stripes, and took up the uncertain life Jesus was asking of her. It was during this time that she founded the Missionaries of Charity, which is still growing today.

Mother Teresa said that she “want[ed] Indian nuns, Missionaries of Charity, who would be [her] fire of love amongst the poor, sick, dying and the little ones. [Their] task would not be to do social work but to adore Christ in the littlest and weakest of his children and to bring Christ the souls for which he thirsts”. The Missionaries of Charity took four vows: that of poverty, chastity, obedience and pledging of service to the poor. Mother Teresa saw the poor as the embodiment of Christ – “It is the broken bodies that I nurse; I feel as though I am doing it to my Lord, and it is his body that I am touching.”

Mother Teresa worked with her small group of nuns, doing their very best to see to the needs of whoever needed help regardless of religion. They had no funds and lived on a day-to-day basis. “Today we have food to eat; tomorrow God will provide” was Mother Teresa’s motto. The Missionaries of Charity were funded by donations and alms. In 1952, Mother Teresa opened the Nirmal Hriday (pure heart) home for the dying and destitute so that in their last hours of their lives, these people could die clothed in love and dignity.

Mother Teresa had her dark hours too. When she left the Convent to work with the destitute and dying on the streets, the visions and locutions that she had from 1946 to 1947 ceased, causing her a spiritual darkness that remained with her till her death. She sometimes had feelings of doubt and loneliness and felt abandoned by God. She wanted to know if God felt she was doing the right thing or a good job, but no reply ever came. In all these times of need Mother Teresa turned to what she did best - helping others - and it was through helping that she felt God’s presence in the bodies of the dying and lonely.

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Blessed Teresa of Calcutta (Continued from page 5)

Throughout her extraordinary life Mother Teresa poured never-ending love into her work. She strongly objected to abortion, and fought abortion with adoption. "Don't destroy the child," she pleaded, "If you don't want him... we will take him". Mother Teresa's work has been reorganised and complimented on. She has received countless awards and distinctions such as the Pope John XXIII Peace prize and the Nobel Peace Prize. The monetary prizes that she received always went to helping the poor and the homeless.

From 1990 till 1997, Mother Teresa's health started to decline and her weak heart gave out one evening. She died in her sleep. On the 5th of September 1997, the Nun of the slums, and the most-loved woman of the century passed away. Her funeral service was held exactly 51 years after she received her divine mission from God. She had given all of her 87 years in service to our Lord and Saviour.

Following Teresa's death, the Holy See began the process of beatification, the second step towards possible canonisation, or sainthood. This process requires the documentation of a miracle performed from the intercession of Mother Teresa. In 2002, the Vatican recognised as a miracle the healing of a tumour in the abdomen of an Indian woman, Monica Besra, following the application of a locket containing Mother Teresa's picture. Monica Besra said that a beam of light emanated from the picture, curing the cancerous tumour. Mother Teresa was formally beatified by Pope John Paul II on 19 October 2003 with the title *Blessed Teresa of Calcutta*. A second miracle is required for her to proceed to canonisation.

Mother Teresa's Favourite Prayer

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord make me an instrument of thy peace

Where there is hatred, let me sow love

Where there is injury, let me bring pardon

Where there is doubt, let me bring faith

Where there is despair, let me bring hope

Where there is darkness, let me bring light

Where there is sadness, let me bring joy

O divine master, grant that I may not so much

Seek to be consoled as to console

To be understood, as to understand

To be loved, as to love

For it is in giving that we receive

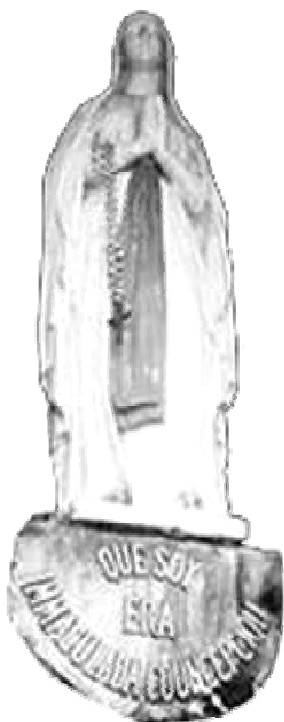
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned

And it is in dying that we are brought to eternal life

AMEN

A P I L G R I M A G E T O L O U R D E S

By Joan Wong



Thousands of pilgrims have flocked like geese to Lourdes each year, ever since the clergy declared in 1862 that apparitions reported at the shrine were genuine. The shrine is said to have therapeutic powers, and more than 200 million pilgrims have visited it thus far. Many of the pilgrims who seek healing at Lourdes bathe in cold water piped from Bernadette's spring, and countless miracles have been reported. Lourdes is indeed one of the wondrous blessings our God has bestowed on us.

Lourdes' fame sprang from the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin to a 14-year-old girl named Bernadette Soubiroux. There were a total of 18 apparitions to Bernadette, the first occurring on 11 February 1858 and the last on 16 July of that year. Bernadette saw a mysterious vision of a beautiful young lady, garbed in a white dress and a blue girdle, in a small grotto called Massabielle. In one of the apparitions, the lady instructed Bernadette to drink from an unknown spring in Gave. At first glance, the site that the apparition indicated was nothing like a spring, with only drippings of water surrounded by mud. After Bernadette dug up the ground, the amount of water emerging was sufficient for any number of drinks. Today, the healing spring still runs with water and countless people collect the water for healing purposes.

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Prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes

Mary, you showed yourself to
Bernadette
in the crevice of the rock.
In the cold and grey of winter,
you brought the warmth, light and
beauty
of your presence.

In the often obscure depths of our
lives,
in the depth of the world where evil
is so powerful,
bring hope,
return our confidence!

You are the Immaculate
Conception,
come to our aid, sinners that we
are.
Give us the humility to have a
change of heart,
the courage to do penance.
Teach us to pray for all people.

Guide us to the source of true life.
Make us pilgrims going forward with
your Church,
whet our appetite for the Eucharist,
the bread for the journey, the bread
of life.

The Spirit brought about wonders in
you, O Mary :
by his power, he has placed you
near the Father,
in the glory of your eternal Son.
Look with kindness
on our miserable bodies and hearts.
Shine forth for us, like a gentle light,
at the hour of our death.

Together with Bernadette, we pray
to you, O Mary,
as your poor children.
May we enter, like her, into the spirit
of the Beatitudes.
Then, we will be able, here below,
begin to know the joy of the
Kingdom of Heaven
and sing together with you :
Magnificent !

Glory to you, Virgin Mary,
blessed servant of the Lord,
Mother of God,
dwelling place of the Holy Spirit!

AMEN

A Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Continued from page 7)

After the incident with the spring, Bernadette prayed. Another apparition occurred, instructing her to ask the priests to build a chapel on a chosen spot and for processions to be made to the grotto. A basilica was eventually built upon the rock of Massabielle in later years after the apparition. In later apparitions, the young lady revealed her identity as the Immaculate Conception, which was later confirmed to refer to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Since the advent of the apparitions, many pilgrims followed Bernadette to Massabielle, hoping to witness the apparitions themselves. In one apparition, the Blessed Virgin urged penance and prayer for the conversion of sinners. After that, many prayed at Massabielle and it became the Blessed Grotto, a place destined to make Lourdes the capital of prayer in which the "Message of Prayer" would take root and flourish.

In 1863, the Lyons sisters commissioned a statue to be erected at the shrine, and this statue was to be made as precisely as possible in the likeness of the lady in the apparition. Lyons sculptor Joseph Fabisch interviewed Bernadette to enquire about the pose of the apparition. After improving on the sculpture, Fabisch brought the finished work to Lourdes several days before its scheduled dedication. Bernadette, first gazing at it with admiration, finally concluded that the statue was far different from the apparition, citing the fact that it did not portray the pure kindness and simplicity of the little Lady. She said that it was impossible to replicate the Lady as she really was.

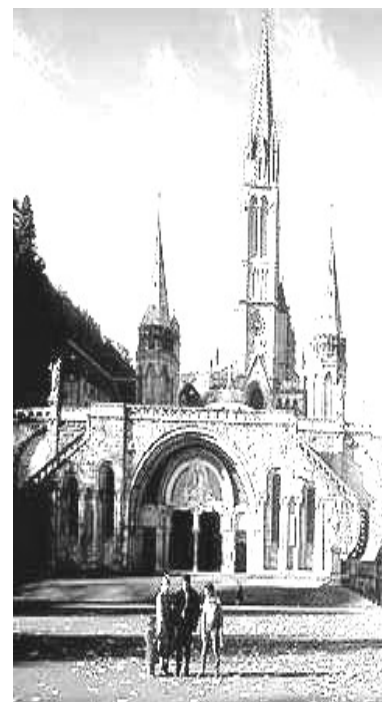
In those days, the statue was lit from below in the evening, changing its appearance from that intended by Fabisch. Its eyes are looking up toward heaven, although this is typically not apparent from the angle of those passing below. The statue still remains at the shrine where millions of pilgrims have prayed before it.



Grotto of Massabielle where the first apparition occurred, as it appeared in 1858



Healing Spring indicated by the apparition



Basilica that was built at the grotto

So I heard the new church in Pasir Ris is going to be called the "Divine Mercy Church". "DMC" – sounds cool right? Like the UDMC chalet. But wait, that can't be the real reason why they named it "Divine Mercy"?

Presenting the:

DUMMIES' GUIDE TO THE DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

By Joy See

In a world ravaged by war, sin and disasters, the call for mercy remains even more urgent today and the message of the Divine Mercy devotion has given comfort and hope to many. The origin of this devotion started in Poland, where the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to St Faustina Kowalska saying, "Do whatever is within your power to spread the devotion to My Mercy... Tell aching mankind to snuggle close to My Merciful Heart, and I will fill it with peace. Souls that make an appeal to my Mercy delight Me... (1146) When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls." (Diary, 1047). Our Lord then taught her how to recite the chaplet on rosary beads in the following manner.

First of all, start with the one **OUR FATHER**, one **HAIL MARY**, and the **I BELIEVE IN GOD**.

On the large Bead before each decade, say

Eternal Father,
I offer You
The Body and Blood,
Soul and Divinity of
Your dearly beloved Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ,
in atonement for our sins
and those of the whole world.



On the 10 small beads of each decade:

For the sake of His sorrowful passion,
have mercy on us and on the whole world. *Jesus I trust in You*

Concluding Doxology (after 5 decades):

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (3 times)

Youth Ministry



By Melissa Chin

The newly-reorganized Youth Ministry held its first annual get-together last fortnight, chaired by Rev. Fr. John Bosco. The session was a great success, with members from the four different youth groups in church (Agape Youth Theatre, The Saints, Teens-Connect and the Youth Choir) getting to know and interact with one another. Most exciting was the election of our church's first Youth Council, dedicated to creating a more vibrant youth scene in Holy Trinity. Some eagerly-awaited upcoming activities are our very own **Car Wash** on the **10 & 11 March '07** to raise funds for our activities, **Youth Mass**, as well as a **Passion Play** which we will be writing and directing for Good Friday. So, if you are seeking a more enriching and rewarding experience in our church, the Youth Ministry welcomes you! Come down to our next **Praise and Worship session on 17 March '07, 7pm** at the **AV Room** and join us in growing together in God's name!

To join the Youth Ministry or give your feedback on this newsletter, please drop us an email at: htyouthministry@gmail.com or juvenis@teens-connect.tk

St. Faustina also received a revelation from the Lord, asking for special prayers and meditations on His Passion each afternoon at the three o'clock hour, the hour that recalls His death on the cross.

"As often as you hear the clock strike the third hour immerse yourself completely in My mercy, adoring and glorifying it; invoke its omnipotence for the whole world, and particularly for poor sinners; for at that moment My Mercy was opened wide for every soul. In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others; it was the hour of grace for the whole world—mercy triumphed over justice..."

However it is not enough to simply pray for mercy, Our Lord also demands that deeds of mercy abound in us for we will be judged according to the our merciful actions. In our daily lives, we can choose how to respond to the people or events around us.

Instead of despairing over the conditions of the world or criticising others, we can immerse them in the ocean of God's mercy and completely trust God to provide the graces they need. The more we trust in Him, the more we will receive based on His promise: *"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."* (Mt 25:35-46)

Source: *The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion (Revised Edition 2005)* by Fr. Seraphim Michalenko and Vinny Flynn.

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The Editorial Committee would like to thank all those who have contributed in one way or another to the success of this issue.

