

Kids Corner - Peter heard a loud voice telling him something. He did not hear it correctly and the message is lost in the puzzle. Read the Sunday's Gospel and find the 10 words lost in the puzzle.



B	E	L	O	V	E	D
C	Q	I	T	H	E	S
H	M	S	V	H	U	C
O	Y	T	O	I	I	Y
S	N	E	X	M	I	S
E	O	N	E	J	R	Z
N	C	L	D	K	W	A

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

- Sunset Mass**
5.30pm
- Rosary**
4.40pm
- 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.peterpaul@pacific.net.sg
www.sppchurch.org.sg
- We welcome literary contributions to The Apostles. Please email your submission to spptheapostles@gmail.com. You can also download The Apostles at: <http://sppchurch.org.sg/downloads.html>

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.

The Lighter side of The Apostles
the beagle with yellow slippers



Hey Ab... did you count the small one over there... and the brightest star... oh and the huge one at your 9 o'clock!!

OH GOD!!!!...now look what you have done... was it 2344568978799 stars or 234456897800 stars.... I GIVE UP!!!!... i have lost count!!!

Genesis 15:5-11 He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars - if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness. He also said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it." But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?" So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon." Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.

- Parish Priest**
Rev Fr Anselm Phang OCD
- Asst Parish Priest**
Rev Fr Joseph Koh OCD
- Provincial-Delegate**
Rev Fr Thomas Lim OCD
- Parish Secretary**
Ms Martha Loh, Ms Jannie Lui
- 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.

Information is correct at time of publication.

the apostles

Second Sunday of Lent 28 February 2010 Year C

Want a meaningful Lent?



The Passion Play is back again this year on the 2 Apr '10. Spearheaded by the *Arise Youth Ministry* over the last 5 years, the Passion Play has been an integral part of the Good Friday program. We welcome anyone who is interested in joining to come, be it acting, script writing or helping out in props and costumes. **Contact Jaslene @ 9649 8231 or Bernice @ 9710 8511 to sign up for a meaningful journey this lent.**

20 Feb '10 Rite of Election at Church of Divine Mercy



Do continue to pray for our Catechumens as they journey with God



When I was about eight years old, my grandparents decided to take me to Disney World, which is probably the biggest amusement park on earth. At the time, this seemed like the culmination of all my life's dreams! And the trip was no small affair; it would take us a whole day to drive there, and we would have to stay for several nights. I threw myself into planning. I had to figure out how to squeeze every last drop of enjoyment out of my time at Disney World. When the day came to begin the journey, my body was filled with a nervous excitement. "If this is what I feel like now," I thought, "then the experience of actually being there might blow my mind!"



written by Richard C. Davis

Why was I so excited, even though I was not yet there, even though my journey was just beginning? This may sound like a silly question. It was perfectly natural for me to be excited, of course! I was reveling in the anticipation of all the fun I was going to have. In fact, there is a sense in which I was already there, because my heart was full of eagerness for the entire journey, and I had already begun taking steps toward my goal.

The Church tells us that we can feel an even greater anticipation for the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus has invited each of us to an eternal wedding banquet that is far more satisfying than any amusement park. By preparing ourselves for this banquet, we are already able to taste some of its sweetness, even though we have not yet arrived. But if this is true, then why are we always so worried about so many things? And why must we put ourselves through forty days of penance and fasting in preparation for Easter? Isn't real life hard enough already?

This is a question that many of us are afraid to ask. Perhaps we are afraid that the question shows disrespect for the Church, or we feel that we should have more faith. The simple fact is, however, that our path to the Kingdom of Heaven looks a lot scarier than a day-long drive in a car. Inside our hearts, though, we want to ask God, "Will you really be there for me when I need you?"

How would God respond to this question? If today's Old Testament reading is any indication, then it's safe to say that He would respond with tenderness. When God shows Abraham the land he will eventually possess, Abraham says, "How am I to know that I shall possess it?" God does not respond with anger at Abraham's doubt. Rather, he sends a sign that gives Abraham the confidence he needs.

The transfiguration described in today's gospel reading is a similar sort of sign. Peter, James, and John are given a chance to see Jesus in all of His glory alongside Moses and Elijah at the top of a mountain. This must have been a welcome sign. Only four verses earlier (Luke 9:24), Jesus tells them, "whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it." These words contain the hard lesson that we must sometimes let go of things that seem good, because they prevent us from seeing that the Kingdom of Heaven is already ours. This always hurts, but God gives us glimpses of our heavenly reward to help us along the way.

Still, who can blame Peter for wanting to make tents for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah, as if he could extend the glorious moment by making a home for them on the mountain? We can't stay on the mountain, of course, as it is not yet time for Jesus to come in glory. But let us keep this vision and the Lord's promise in our minds and hearts as we build His kingdom, and we will start to feel like we are already there.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
(28 FEBRUARY 2010)**

READINGS:
Sunday Missal (Year C): Page 91

Responsorial Psalm: "The Lord is my light and my help."

Prayers of the Faithful: Page 94

Readings for the Week:

Mon 1 Mar – Sat 6 Mar '10

Mon: Dan 9: 4-10/Lk 6: 36-38

Tue : Is 1: 10,16-20/Mt 23: 1-12

Wed: Jer 18: 18-20/Mt 20: 17-28

Thu : Jer 17: 5-10/Lk 16: 19-31

Fri : Gen 37: 3-4,12-13,17-28/Mt 21: 33-43,45-46

Sat : Mic 7: 14-15, 18-20/Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

For the past few months, I've been meditating and reflecting on my life and my Journey of Faith. I don't have any slightest regret to take my first step to Church. This awakening and decision to seek God has put me out into the deep, illuminating the Gospel on the 5th Sunday Mass in Year C when Jesus asked Simon Peter to put out his nets a little from the shore.

The beginning of the journey as an Inquirer is not a bed of rose as I've to juggle with my work and my commitment to Him. Torn between monetary benefits and God, I decided to choose the latter, stay back and put deeper; but it's not men whom I'll be catching yet at this point but to learn and know our loving God better.

Being marked with the sign of the cross on our ears, eyes, lips, heart, shoulders and hands during the first major Rite of Acceptance, it has put us out even deeper; bearing the symbol of joys and costs of Christian discipleship. During the Catechumenate period, we've to set aside a little time on every Saturday to join the Evening Mass and Breaking of Word to continue to reflect on the Scriptures. The continuous reflection just put all of us into the deeper water.

On the 5th Sunday Mass, the Rite of Sending of the Catechumens for Election put us out into even deeper water again.

We left the shore, climb into the boat and head to the deeper water where the harbor is far from our sight. Is our journey a guaranteed smooth sailing one? The bad news is 'No'. A boat is meant for sailing out in the deep water to battle with the waves, wind and storms and not simply staying at the harbor. We've left the shore and safe harbor to explore the deep water and listen for God's call. Are we alone? The good news is 'No'. Our loving God is always with us no matter how deep the water or stormy the seas.

The sea may be wide and the water may be dark and deep. But do not be afraid because we do not go out there alone. Joining the little boy on the park bench, I would like to praise God louder than before, 'Hallelujah! God is Great!'

Thanksgiving...



**SPP CNY 'Lo Hei'/Lunch
21 Feb '10**



Events in our Parish

WAY OF THE CROSS - is held every Friday during Lent at 5.30 pm. Evening Mass will follow after prayers.

HELPERS NEEDED - Palm Sunday falls on 28 Mar '10. The palms will be delivered to our Church on Thu 25 Mar. **We appeal for volunteers to help to wash the palms on Sat 27 Mar at 10 am.** Please give your names to the Secretariat by 24 Mar. Thank you for your help

SOLEMN PROFESSION - We are very happy to announce our Church of Sts Peter and Paul will be celebrating the Solemn Profession of Friar Paul of Christ Crucified, OCD (Anuphong Srisuk) and the Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession of Friar Joseph Koh of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, OCD at 6.30 pm on Fri 19 Mar '10. The Solemnity of St Joseph Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Principal Protector of the Carmelite Order. *(Please note the daily evening mass at 5.30 pm is advanced to 6.30 pm on that day.)*

DIACONATE ORDINATION - We warmly welcome His Grace, Archbishop Nicholas Chia, DD, Archbishop of Singapore who will be present in our Church of Sts. Peter and Paul on Thu 25 Mar '10, The Solemnity the Annunciation of the Lord, at 6.30 pm to preside in the Diaconate Ordination of Friar Paul Anuphong Srisuk, OCD. *(Please note the Infant Jesus Devotion will be held as usual at 5.30 pm. The evening mass is advanced to 6.30 pm on that day.)*

NEW RCIA - Process Commencement - English - 1 Jun 10 7.30pm
Contact: Joanna Tham (9753 6863)
Mandarin - 4 Jun 10 7.30pm
Contact: Corrina Cheong (9739 7694)
Cantonese - 4 Jun 10 8.00pm
Contact: Bosco Loi (9712 0452)

INFANT JESUS DEVOTION - Please note that there will be NO Infant Jesus devotion on Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Easter Sunday.

MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED for the month of Feb '10 will be held on Fri 26 Feb '10 at 5.30 pm.

CARMELITES CONTEMPLATION HOUR - Join an evening of contemplative prayer on Fri 26 Feb '10 (4 Fri of each mth) from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm at SPP Adoration Room. All interested Catholics who wish to deepen their spiritual lives are cordially invited to attend.

THE GREAT ST JOSEPH FOOD & FUNFAIR - Volunteers from St Joseph's Church (Upper Bukit Timah) will be

visiting our SPP Church at our weekend masses on 27 & 28 Feb '10 to sell tickets for their Food & Fun Fair.

MONTHLY PRAYER FOR CMs for Mar will be held on 1 Mar '10, Mon. Family members and parishioners are also cordially invited to join in the prayer with our Communion Ministers.

PILGRIMAGE TOUR - Join a 5D/13N Italy Pilgrimage Tour from 14 to 28 May '10. The itinerary includes Milan, Turin, Venice, Assisi, Lanciano, San Giovanni Rotondo, Rome, etc. For further information and reservation, please contact Lawrence Seet at 9799 2488.

THANK YOU - We thank you for your response to our appeal for funds for urgent structure repairs to our SPP Church building. Please note that cheques should be made in favour of: **"Church of SPP Building Fund" and not "Church of Sts. Peter & Paul"**. Thank you once again for your kind contributions.

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

COUNSELLING SERVICES - Family Life Society (FLS) is making its counselling services available at our SPP Church every Monday from 11.00 am to 2.00 pm and from 6.30 pm to 9.00 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/>

Events around our Parish

DIGNITY OF THE ELDERLY PROJECT - SPI In conjunction with Caritas Singapore and Family Life Society is launching a series of workshops and seminars to bring about greater awareness of the needs of the elderly and how to help them spiritually and physically. First In the series are talks by Professor Elizabeth MacKinlay from Canberra, Australia:

- **The Spirituality of Ageing**
Sun 28 Feb : 9 am – 4 pm
CWS Auditorium, 55 Waterloo Street

- **Understanding the Ageing Process**
Mon 1 Mar : 10 am – 12.30 pm
Church of Christ the King

- **Meaning of Life in the Fourth Age**
Tue 2 Mar: 9 am – 1 pm
CWS Auditorium, 55 Waterloo Street
To register call Maria @ 6488-0278 or email: maria@familylife.sg

LENTEN JOURNEY RETREAT ACCS (Archdiocesan Commission for Catholic Schools) - is organizing three

Friday afternoon sessions on "Lenten Journey Retreat" for Catholic teachers and educators. This is part of an on-going spiritual formation. Fri, 5, 12, 26 Mar '10, 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm at St. Luke's, 2 Highland Road, CAEC, Singapore 549102. Speakers: Fr Aloysius Ong and Sr Susan Thom as FMM. The registration fee for all three session is \$35/person. For more information or registration please contact Mr Louis Oo at 6858 7085 or email: louis_oo@catholic.org.sg by Mon 1 Mar '10

PAULINES PRAYER CAFÉ - Inviting all young women (single, age below 28) for a monthly prayer session on every first Sat of the month, starting 6 Mar '10 with the Daughters of St. Paul at 47 Jurong West St. 42. An afternoon of prayers, sharing and fellowship, to journeying together towards self-discovery and deepening of one's relationship with the Lord. For more information and registration, please contact sr. Jocelyn at 6560-8003 or email: fspvocation@yahoo.com.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE (MPC) - For couples intending to get married - 2nd Quarter Course will be held from 2 May to 6 Jun '10. Allocation of places is on a first-come-first-served basis. Enquiries: John & Joan @ 9848 2864 or email: marthasohsk@yahoo.com. Application forms obtainable in church office or website: www.catholic.org.sg/mpc.



This season of Lent, let the love of Jesus shine through your actions and be a blessing to others. Our Archdiocesan annual fundraising Charities Week 2010 supports over 50,000 people in need across all races, languages and religions. Funds raised will enable the Catholic charity and community organisations reach out to the poor and marginalised, children and families, migrant workers, prisoners and persons with HIV/AIDS.

Please take a Charities Week appeal envelope this weekend to show your support and contribute generously to help these causes. You may wish to mail your donation using the appeal envelopes directly to Caritas Singapore (for cheques only) or drop them in the offertory collection boxes during the weekends of Lent.

Your contribution will make a difference in the lives of those in need. **Visit www.caritas-singapore.org or call 6337 3711 for more information.**



Written by Y.C. Tan

A little boy was sitting on a park bench with one hand resting on an open Bible, praising God loudly, 'Hallelujah! God is great!'

Then, a young man who had recently graduated from a history graduate school passed by and asked the boy about the source of his joy. 'Don't you have any idea how great our God is? I just read that God opened up the waves of the Red Sea and led the whole nation of Israel right through the middle!' the boy exclaimed. The young man replied mockingly, 'Do you have any idea how deep Red Sea was at that time? Modern scholarship has shown that the Red Sea in that area was only 10-inches deep at that time! Of course the Israelites were able to wade across!'

The boy was stumped and he stared at the Bible on his lap. As the young man was about to walk away from the little boy triumphantly, the boy started to rejoice and praise God louder than before. The young man turned around and asked the little boy for his resumed joyousness. 'Wow! God is greater than I thought! Not only did He lead the whole nation of Israel through the Red Sea, He topped it off by drowning the whole Egyptian army in just 10 inches deep of water!' exclaimed the boy gleefully.