Liturgy Of The Word

First Reading : Zephaniah 3:14-18
Responsorial Psalm : Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
Second Reading : Philippians 4:4-7

Next Week’s Reading
4th Sunday of Advent
Psalter Week IV - Year C
1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4
Respons. Psalm79:2-3,15-16,18-19
2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gearing up to Year of Mercy (YOM)

“DOORS OF MERCY”
Our Christian experience

During the Holy Year of Mercy doors are to be opened, doors of mercy.
First of all, the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica, then the Holy Doors of the other three major papal basilicas in Rome. Then follows the holy door of every diocesan cathedral, and the doors of our local churches.

But what does it mean to walk through a Door of Mercy? What is it like? Is it like an airport security door scanning all my sins and sending out alarm sounds? Is it a magical door that somehow has the power to cleanse me as I walk through? Are they religious revolving doors that spin me around, so that in the end I find myself back where I started only more oriented? Or, perhaps, can something new happen to me during this Holy Year of Mercy?

The Threshold of Faith

The door of Mercy are ‘holy’, said Pope Francis, because they open to us a way forward, a “path of conversion”. The opening of the Door of Mercy is nothing else but a ‘new exodus’, the opening of the Red Sea (cf Ex 14), a new path that God himself opens for us, to ‘pass-over’ from old ways to a new life, to be set free from slavery to sin and enter into a Promised Land, to taste new fruits and experience God’s unconditional love for us sinners.

The Discovery of God

In fact, crossing the Door of Mercy makes present two movements. First, a ‘going out’ – a movement outside of myself; then a ‘going forward’ – a movement towards others, especially those most in need. This Passover, this ‘exodus’ is the faith journey of each Christian and of the entire Church. What is ‘extraordinary’ during this Holy Year of Mercy is the grace of this time when we can truly move forward, genuinely convert and experience a real change in our life. - Extracted from THE DOOR OF MERCY in the words & life of Pope Francis by Fr. Ivano Millico, Catholic Truth Society.

Thoughts for Prayer SHALOM

In the preaching of John the Baptist, we hear the call to create the new society; a call towards a social revolution that Christianity should be bringing about. If we really hear this Gospel, we will recognize it as the Gospel of a shared life. If the kind of practical acts of caring that John is mentioning aren’t happening among us, then we are not listening to the Lord. We have probably spiritualized the Gospel demands. John the Baptist does not allow “spiritualizing” to happen.

He is practical in what he asks of the people...to share what they have; of the soldiers; don’t intimidate people; don’t manipulate them; no bribing, blackmailing or extortion; be content with your money; don’t avoid marriage. St. John’s ministry called for a great deal of courage, as can be seen from the fact that he regularly confronts religious leaders, soldiers, wealthy tax collectors and so on. Where did John get this courage? In the first place, he was convinced of his own mission to prepare the way of the Lord. His conviction gave birth to his own courage. Secondly, he did not have any attachments to worldly things. Since he led an ascetic life, he had nothing to lose by preaching. But the third and most important reason is that John was filled with the Holy Spirit. He allowed God to use him as a mouthpiece to reveal his will to the people of God. That is the essence of prophethood.

St. John the Baptist is known for his straightforward presentation of the truth. He did not mince his words, even though it meant that he had to lay down his life when he upbraided Herod on the delicate issue of his second marriage. St. John’s ministry called for a great deal of courage, as can be seen from the fact that he regularly confronts religious leaders, soldiers, wealthy tax collectors and so on. Where did John get this courage? In the first place, he was convinced of his own mission to prepare the way of the Lord. His conviction gave birth to his courage. Secondly, he did not have any attachments to worldly things. Since he led an ascetic life, he had nothing to lose by preaching. But the third and most important reason is that John was filled with the Holy Spirit. He allowed God to use him as a mouthpiece to reveal his will to the people of God. That is the essence of prophethood.

Lord make us open to change and transformation, in the way we relate to one another.

Parish Priest: Archbishop John Wong
Assistant Parish Priests: Fr. Jeffi Gumu
Fr. Rhobby Aaron Mogolu
Fr. Abel Madisang
Deacon: Joshua Liew
C&Co: Fr. Wilfred Atin
IY & Carmelite Chaplain: Fr. Rayner Bisus
Notices and Events Announcement

Sacerdotal Ordination Anniversary
Rev. Felix Chung will celebrate his 46th Sacerdotal Ordination Anniversary this Monday, December 14th, 2015. Let us pray for God’s choicest blessings on him in his priestly ministry.

Advent Penitential Service 2015 (Year C)
with Sacrament of Confession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14th Dec (Mon)</td>
<td>Holy Nativity, Terawi</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th Dec (Tue)</td>
<td>Stella Maris, Tanjung Aru</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Dec (Wed)</td>
<td>St. Catherine, Inanam</td>
<td>7.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th Dec (Thu)</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Cathedral</td>
<td>6.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th Dec (Fri)</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Cathedral</td>
<td>6.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st Dec (Mon)</td>
<td>Divine Mercy Church, KKIP</td>
<td>7.30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Individual Confession
(Time: 8.30am – 10.00am)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Church</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14th Dec (Mon)</td>
<td>St. Paul, Dontozidon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th Dec (Tue)</td>
<td>Our Lady Queen of Peace, Kobusak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Dec (Wed)</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Cathedral (Senior Citizens &amp; parents with infants only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th Dec (Thu)</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Cathedral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th Dec (Fri)</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Cathedral</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SHC / Sub-Parish CMI Offices and St. Joseph Benevolent Fund Office Closed
The SHC Parish Office will be closed from 12 noon onwards on Wednesday, December 23rd, 2015 for Annual Parish Clergies & Staff Christmas Fellowship.

2016 Advent-Christmas Carolling Groups
Caroling started on December 7th and ends on December 16th, 2015. Please welcome these carollers into your homes. For information, please contact the SHC Parish 223618, 224741, 262068.

SHC Christmas Carols by Candlelight
The Parish Christmas Carols will be held on Sunday, December 20th, 2015 at 7.00pm at the Sacred Heart Parish Centre. All parishioners are urged to join in the carolling.

Christmas Open House 2015
Our Archbishop will be having an open house at the Sacred Heart Parish Centre on Christmas Day, December 25th, 2015 (Fri) from 3.00pm to 5.00pm. Let us celebrate Christmas with our Archbishop and other well-wishers and visitors.

MASSES ON CHRISTMAS
December 24th, 2015 (Thu)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacred Heart Cathedral</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of Mary Immaculate</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of St. Paul, Dontozidon</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Lady Queen of Peace, Kobusak</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carmel</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John, Kopungit</td>
<td>9.00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

December 25th, 2015 (Fri)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacred Heart Cathedral</td>
<td>7.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of Mary Immaculate</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of St. Paul, Dontozidon</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Lady Queen of Peace, Kobusak</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carmel</td>
<td>7.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John, Kopungit</td>
<td>10.45am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2015 CMI Children Christmas Party
Church of Mary Immaculate Children’s Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 20th, 2015 at CMI canteen at 11.00am. Parents can register their children at a counter at the Church’s foyer before and after mass, or call the Church’s office 244345 during office hours for information before December 15th, 2015.

2015 Children Christmas Party
Theme: “Celebrating the Gift of Mercy”
Scheduled on December 27th, 2015 (Sunday), 2.00pm - 4.00pm at the SHPC Hall for children aged 4-12 years old. Registration time: 1.30pm - 2.00pm. Registration fees: RM2.00 per person (Children are required to bring their own plates, cups, forks & spoons). Registration forms are available at the Church entrance and SHC Parish Office during office hours. For information, please call the SHC Parish Office 223618, 224741, 262068.

Young Adults Prayer Gathering
Inviting college / University students, young working adults & married couples with younger children to join their weekly gathering for a time of worship, hearing of God’s Word, sharing, prayer and fellowship.
Day/Time: Every Sunday, 8.00pm
Venue: Room F7, SHPC

Contact persons: Ian 013-8604022, hvy 016-7740878

Divine Mercy Devotion
Divine Mercy Devotion (English & BM) took a break on December 19th, 2015, will resume on January 16th, 2016 (English) and January 17th, 2016 (BM). There will be a Mass for thanksgiving and blessing for the New Year at SHC on Sunday, January 10th, 2016 at 3.00pm, followed by fellowship at the canteen. All devotees are invited to join-in.

Infant Baptism
Parents, please register your child at the SHC Parish Office during office hours. Bring along original and copies of your Church marriage certificate, child’s birth certificate and confirmation certificate of godparent. For information, please call 223618, 224741, 262068.

Vocation Seminar 2016
If you want to discover more about the Diocesan Priesthood or feel you are called by God to be a Diocesan Priest come to this Seminar to be held from January 15th to 17th, 2016 (Fri - Sun) at the Bundu Tuhan Retreat Centre. Working young men, 18 years old and above, with SPM/ STPM and single are cordially invited. Pick up a registration form during office hours from your respective Parish Office and return the completed form to Fr. Wilfred Atin at Tel: 088-712297/ 715017 or Fr. Rayner Binus 088-236102 or your Parish Priests together with copies of your birth certificate, identity card, baptism and confirmation certificates and academic certificate(s) on or before January 3rd, 2016.

Presentation of Gifts
Families are encouraged to take part in the Presentation of Gifts during weekend masses. Those interested can contact Jenny Tsen 0168336264 or SHC Parish Office 223618, 224741, 262068.

Blood Donation Campaign
SHC Charity Ministry will be co-organizing a blood donation drive on Sunday, December 20th, 2015 from 8.00am to 1.00pm in Room G1, SHPC. Staff from QEH Blood Bank will be on hand to assist in the donation effort.

SHC Parish Bookshop
New Arrivals! Books from Our Sunday Visitors, USA and Catholic Truth Society, UK.

Sunday Donations (December 5th & 6th, 2015) (in RM)
SHC Black Bag (18,073.15), Red Bag (12,428.95); CMI Black Bag (6,704.10), Red Bag (5,360.90).