


THE M A N N A	NOVENA Saturday : 4.45 pm MASSES Sat. Sunset : 5.30 pm Sunday : 7.00 am, 9.00 am, 11.00 am & 5.30 pm Weekdays : 6.30 am & 6.30 pm	
	Website : www.sfxchurch.sg	
	Rev Fr John Bosco Pereira 62808398 Rev Fr Brian D'Souza 62823151	SFX Kindergarten 62808929 Office/Reception 62806076 Fax 62870027

Sir. 3:19-21, 30-31
Hebr. 12:18-19, 22-24a
Lk. 14:1, 7-14

22nd Sunday of the Year
29 August 2010

BE HUMBLE

In today's celebration of the word, we are challenged to consider what it is to live according to the wisdom and vision of Jesus. The Gospel bluntly sets this challenge within the context of controversy and dispute created by the Jewish leaders. Then we are told that the life of the true disciple of Christ, centred on Christ, offers a stark contrast to, and offers an alternative to the prevailing social morals and values based on class, status, wealth, individualism self-glorification and dominance. The man who is truly a Christian, and in genuine relationship with Christ, lives according to the values and vision of Christ.

The First Reading presents a clear image of what is involved. If we are truly rooted in Christ and faithful in following Jesus, then virtues like gentleness, compassion, humility, concern and acceptance of others, must be the guiding core values of our way of life. In a world based on the hard sell, ambition, aggressiveness, competition and selfishness regardless of the consequences - being meek and humble may seem like an invitation to being taken advantage of or exploited.



However, this is the whole point. If we do not consider the courage needed for meekness and humility to become our personal traits, then the whole exercise is irrelevant. What the Christian vision presents is an image of the direction we must take if we are to develop a just and equal society with space and opportunity for all. Aggressiveness and violence in any form will always end in disaster for all humanity.

Yes, this is a lesson we are afraid to learn. We are proud and afraid to lose face and status. We are afraid of our own personal truth. We keep secrets and dare not face up to ourselves, play a game of pretence at being Christian but are always caught out.




It is only when we find the courage to be humble and face up to ourselves, our dark side, then we have begun to find the way out of the fear-driven, anger-complicated traps we dig for ourselves and others as we react resentfully to personal crises and problems. Jesus wants to heal us of these spiritually debilitating shortcomings and wants us to experience life to the full and celebrate freedom that comes from acknowledging the truth about ourselves.

As we begin to encounter ourselves, we give ourselves the precious opportunity to change and discover and enjoy the new life Grace gives to us. Humility is not weakness. Meekness and gentleness have nothing to do with cowardice. Humility is the fruit of self-awareness while meekness and gentleness are the best expression of compassion for ourselves and others. We need these qualities if we are to respect others and help them.



Amidst the jostle for attention, domination and power in our world, humility, meekness and compassion become noticeable and the Christian's effective way of helping to change the world.



Announcement



Just a friendly reminder! Motorists be considerate to others. Park your cars in an orderly manner so as not to inconvenience motorists or the neighbours within the church's vicinity. Thank you.

1 **Life in the Spirit Seminar** session Eight in the Parish Hall on Monday, 30 August at 7.45 pm. Mr. Alfred Pang will talk on "You will receive the Holy Spirit". All are welcome.

Intercessory prayer and recitation of the rosary at the Grotto on Wednesday, 1 September at 7.10 pm. Come and join us in prayer.

2 No catechism classes on Sunday 5 September. Classes will resume on Sunday, 12 September.

3 St. Vincent De Paul Society second collection for the Poor in August was \$12,614.95. Thank you for your generosity

4 Canteen is organized by Mustard Seed Community

Infant Baptism

Spiritual Preparation - 4.30 pm. on Sunday, 5 September
Baptism - 4.30 pm. on Sunday, 12 September

Daily Intercessory Prayers for SFX Parish Mission 2010

With Jesus Christ as our Chief Intercessor, come and join us for a time of guided intercessory prayers for the fruitfulness of the SFX Parish Mission 2010. All are welcome.

Daily Intercessions

Date - 01 September to 20 November 2010
Time - 8.00 pm. – 9.00 pm.
Venue - SFX Adoration Room

Parish Census

As part of our Parish Mission initiative, a parish census was conducted. Parishioners who were unable to fill the census form, please take a form from the back of the church. The completed form should be dropped into the pigeon hole at the door of the parish office. Alternatively, parishioners can also access the sfx website at www.sfxchurch.sg and fill the form online.

Day of Prayer for Vocation

All are invited to pray for more vocations for the universal Church:

Date - Saturday, 11 September 2010
Time - 4.00 pm. to 6.30 pm.
Venue - St. Francis Xavier's Church, Chartwell Drive
Program - 4.00 pm – 5.00 pm. - Holy Hour
5.30 pm. Sunset Mass celebrated by Archbishop Nicholas Chia.

Note: There will be no Novena devotion on that day.

Praise@work Community

ABLAZE - Praise@Work Life in The Spirit Seminar 2010 is a 6-week session for working adults held every Saturday at **St. Bernadette's Church (Opposite Great World City)** from **25 September to 6 November**, 2.30 pm. – 5.30 pm. Fees \$25 (esclude stay in retr4eat on Friday, 22 October (7.30 pm.) – Sunday, 24 October (1.30 pm.))

For enquiries and registration, please email liss2010_stbernadette@yahoo.com or contact Rowena @ 9715-3402 or Siska @ 9329-9252. Closing date: 19 September (Sunday)

Marriage Encounter Weekend

Many happily married couples attend the Marriage Encounter Weekend because they know a good marriage requires work and constant renewal of their commitment. When was the last time you devoted time for just you and your spouse? Enrol Now. Coming weekends – 1-3 Oct, 5-7 Nov and 3-5 Dec. To register call 9670-5390 or click marriage-encounter-sg.org.

Seminar and Training Workshop by Brian Butler

Brian Butler co-editor of "Theology of the Body for Teens (TOB)", one of the first published curricular that reflect the Catholic Church's teaching on the subject of God, sexuality and teenagers will be in Singapore to conduct a seminar and also a training workshop on the 10 and 11 September. Parents (along with your teens), youth leaders, educators and facilitators are encourage to sign up for the either seminar or workshop. Register now at www.familylife.sg or call FLS at 6488-0278 for more information.