



## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Vicariate website: [rcvbd.com](http://rcvbd.com)

**PARISH PRIEST: REV. FR. PAUL SHIE**

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### FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

Reading I: Isaiah 58: 7-10;

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5;

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-16.

Revised Roman Missal: 498

*For Private Circulation Only*

**Issue 2026/6**

**8<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

### Reflection on the Gospel Reading

Following upon the teaching of the Beatitudes, Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavoring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives.

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn, and so on, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden!

### Discussion

1. What is salty or shines out about your faith? When you have hidden your light of faith?
2. When have you witnessed the good deeds of another and were led to worship God?
3. What does your service tell you about the genuineness of your worship?

## SECOND COLLECTION

A second collection will be taken for the upkeep of the Church and its grounds. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

## FR PAUL'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Everyone is invited to join the birthday celebration for Fr Paul right after this morning Mass. Come and join in the festivities.

## CHANGE IN MASS TIME

The daily Mass on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> February will be celebrated at 12:15p.m. and not at 5:30pm

## WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

### MASS AND HOLY HOUR

In commemoration of the World Day of the Sick on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February, Mass will be at 5.30pm to pray especially for those who are sick – both spiritually, mentally and physically. It will be followed by the Holy Hour for the Sick.

There will be a special blessing with the Blessed Sacrament.

Everyone is encouraged to bring their family and friends to the Mass and Holy Hour.

## RELIGIOUS CLASSES 2026

The opening of Sunday School Classes will be on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> February at 10:30 a.m.

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Meet Parish Priest SIX MONTHS before the intended date of marriage.

### REQUIREMENTS:

- ◆ Baptism and Confirmation Certificate.
- ◆ Marriage Preparation Certificate if you are from another Parish.
- ◆ Civil Marriage Certificate if applicable.
- ◆ IC's copy for both candidates and witnesses.
- ◆ Photo (Passport size).

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE ADMIN AT WHATSAPP 8348855

## REGISTRATION FOR INFANT BAPTISM

Open for children aged 7 years old and below.

**SCHEDULE:** Every THIRD week of the month.

### REQUIREMENTS:

- ◆ Child's Birth Certificate.
- ◆ Parent's Sacrament of Matrimony Certificate.
- ◆ Godparent's Confirmation Certificate

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE ADMIN AT WHATSAPP 8348855

## RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION

It is available 30 minutes before Sunday Mass or you may request for an appointment through the Parish Office Admin at WhatsApp 8348855

## OLD BLESSED PALM LEAVES

Palms from the previous year Passion Sunday can be returned to the Church by Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> February. The palms will be used to make ashes for Ash Wednesday.

## ORDINATION TO THE SACRED ORDER OF DEACONS

We are delighted to announce **our seminarian, KAREL ANAK TINGANG**, will be called to the Order of Deacon (Transitional) on **Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, at 5.00pm** at our Parish.

Let us offer our prayerful support as he continue his sacred journey of service to the Church in the Apostolic Vicariate in Brunei Darussalam.

DATE	TIME	READINGS
<b>9 February—Monday</b> 5th Week, Ordinary Time	5.30pm (Mass)	1 Kgs 8: 1-7, 9-13 Mk 6: 53-56
<b>10 February—Tuesday</b> 5th Week, Ordinary Time	5.30pm (Mass)	1 Kgs 8: 22-23, 27-30 Mk 7: 1-13
<b>11 February—Wednesday</b> 5th Week, Ordinary Time	5.30pm (Mass) <i>Followed by Holy Hour</i>	1 Kgs 10: 1-10 Mk 7: 14-23
<b>12 February—Thursday</b> 5th Week, Ordinary Time	5.30pm (Mass)	1 Kgs 11: 4-13 Mk 7: 24-30
<b>13 February—Friday</b> 5th Week, Ordinary Time	<b>12.15pm (Mass)</b>	1 Kgs 11: 29-32, 12: 19 Mk 7: 31-37
<b>14 February—Saturday</b> 5th Week, Ordinary Time	<i>5.30pm (Novena To Our Mother of Perpetual Help)</i> <i>Followed by the Daily Mass</i>	1 Kgs 12: 26-32, 13: 33-34 Mk 8: 1-10
<b>15 February—Sunday</b>  <b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>9.00am (Mass)</b>  <b>6.00pm (Mass)</b>	Eccl 15: 15-20 1 Cor 2: 6-10 Mt 5: 17-37