

SAINT PIUS X PRIORY  
SINGAPORE

WEEKLY BULLETIN  
& MASS SCHEDULE

19 MARCH 2017  
THIRD SUNDAY  
OF LENT

SUN 19 March	Third Sunday of Lent <i>1st Class, violet</i>	7.30 – Rosary 8.00 – Low Mass 9.30 – Rosary 10:00 – Sung Mass
MON 20 March	SAINT JOSEPH, Spouse of the Bl. Virgin Mary, Confessor <i>1st Class, white</i>	18.30 - Rosary 19:00 – Low Mass
TUE 21 March	Feria <i>3rd Class, violet</i>	7.15 – Low Mass 17.45 – Low Mass 18.30 - “Tuesday with Mary” Devotions
WED 22 March	Feria <i>3rd Class, violet</i>	11.30 – Low Mass
THU 23 March	Feria <i>3rd Class, violet</i>	18.20 – Rosary & Benediction 19.00 – Low Mass
 FRI 24 March	Feria <i>3rd Class, violet</i> <i>Day of Fast and Abstinence for SSPX Members</i> <i>St. Gabriel, Archangel (Comm.)</i>	18.20 – Stations of the Cross 19:00 – Low Mass
SAT 25 March	ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY <i>1st Class, white</i>	11.30 – Sung Mass
SUN 26 March	Fourth Sunday of Lent <i>1st Class, violet or rose</i>	7.30 – Rosary 8.00 – Low Mass 9.30 – Rosary 10:00 – Sung Mass

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**Today.** Food fair after the 10am Mass organised by Mrs. Sumantri. Proceeds go to MI.



**Today.** Enrolment in the Archconfraternity of Saint Stephen at the 10am Mass.

**Saturday 25 March.** NO CATECHISM CLASS.

**Thursday 24 August.** Confirmation ceremony by Bp Fellay at 18.30.

**Rosary Crusade: don't forget to place your tokens in the box.**



**Please, note the change of money box for payment of books and offerings for the SSPX. The money box is next to the statue of Saint Joseph in the vestibule.**

Confessions: 30 min before Sunday Masses; on demand every day.

**Children's Catechism on Saturday:**

Older Group (13-18 years)  
14:45-15:30

First Communion 14:45-15:30

Post First Communion 15:30-16:15

SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X - DISTRICT OF ASIA

286 Upper Thomson Road, Singapore 574402 Telephone: (+65) 6459 0792

Website: [www.fsspx.asia](http://www.fsspx.asia) E-mail: [district@sspasia.com](mailto:district@sspasia.com)

Resident Priests: Rev. Fr. K. Stehlin (District Superior), Rev. Fr. B. Wailliez (District Assistant),

Rev. Fr. F. Laisney (District Bursar), Rev. Fr. F. Loschi (Prior)

Donations to SSPX by cheque: make it payable to "Friends of the International Priestly Society of St. Pius X"



## GLORIOUS SAINT JOSEPH



*The Marriage of the Virgin completed in 1504 by Raphael aged 20, for a Franciscan church in Citta de Castello, Italy*

As we celebrate this week the feast of Saint Joseph, let us turn once again to Raphael for learning more about Catholic traditions and discovering what he has to tell us about the glorious Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary in one of his masterpieces, the famous *Marriage of the Virgin*.

For this painting, Raphael drew his inspiration from the Golden Legend, a book compiled around AD 1260 that had a tremendous success in the Middle Ages. The book includes stories of many saints and some apocryphal accounts of the life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

The Golden Legend says that when Mary was fourteen, she had to leave the Temple (in the background on the picture) where she was reared since an early age in order to get married, as it was expected of every Jewish girl.

Knowing her exceptional qualities, the high priest, inspired by God, set up a contest in order to find the right husband for her. The suitors should be from the house of David and each should bring the branch of a tree to the Temple's altar. The man whose rod would bloom would be the chosen one.

Raphael painted a crowd of suitors with their rod showing how attractive Mary must have been to these men fascinated as they were by her charm and beauty.

Out of all the rods, Joseph's rod alone blossomed. Favoured by Divine election, Saint Joseph is carrying his rod to the wedding. Next to Saint Joseph, a suitor breaks his rod over his knee showing his disappointment. Mary definitely was a very good prospect!

Under the benevolent eyes of the high priest, Saint Joseph places the ring on Mary's finger; the high priest clasps the hands of both Mary and Joseph as a sign of God's blessing.

Have you noticed that Saint Joseph is the only suitor wearing a beard and being barefooted. The beard represents his wisdom and maturity. His bare feet demonstrate his detachment from things of earth, his holiness. His countenance is very noble and at the same time radiates humility. His traits show some weariness as a manifestation of his working condition. Mary's husband was to be a dedicated husband and a zealous foster-father for Jesus.

In the painting, Mary and Joseph's attitude expresses very well the delicate feelings they had for each other: true love wrapped in sublime purity of heart.

The high priest is in the centre of the composition but his head is inclined to the right so as not to obstruct the direct line of perspective from the viewer's eyes to the Temple's door. It is a touching hint of a beautiful reality: the priest is no obstacle to grace (or should not be!). In a slight movement of his head he is inviting the spectator to enter the Temple behind him.

The Temple has two doors; one in front, one at the rear. Both doors are open. The Temple represents the Catholic Church, welcoming anyone who wants to enter. Her back door is open too because those who come into the Church are led to another door opening to a world beyond the world they come from. The purpose of entering the Church is to reach the heavenly Kingdom.

The atmosphere of the painting is one of serenity and intimacy. A great sweetness exudes from the scene because of the perfection of the forms and perspective (Temple, landscape and floor), and the judicious choice of colours.

Saint Joseph is depicted as the wonderful man he was. May the painting inspire us to spend more time in his company so as to be drawn to imitate his goodness and perfection.

*Father Fabrice Loschi*