

Y^TU Newsletter

FIRST SEMESTER 2022

4 April 2022

GREETINGS

Welcome to week seven! This is the week before we pause our classes for the Holy Week and the Easter Week. I hope that everyone is going well with their assignments. Some of us may be assigned to places of pastoral ministry for the Triduum while others may remain with their families or communities. Wherever we are, I hope and pray that we have a meaningful Holy Week and an Easter Celebration.

I would like to request your continued prayers for people in New South Wales and Queensland who are still affected by floods.

The date for the Brotherhood Cup is finalised for **14 May**. Please keep the day free if you are interested in coming over and supporting our team.

Finally, my gratitude to Anacleto, O.Carm for his beautiful reflection on prayer.

A WALK FOR REFUGEES

On Palm Sunday, people from cities and towns around Australia will be holding rallies and vigils to call for justice for refugees, seeking the release of all refugees, an end to mandatory detention, the provision of permanent protection, family reunions, a safety net support in the community (i.e. access to Jobseeker), the acceptance of 20,000 Afghan refugees, the end of offshore detention and bringing refugees to Australia or the New Zealand offer for resettlement.

On **Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 2:00pm – 4:00 pm**, starting at the State Library of Victoria on Swanston Street, the walk will proceed to the Park Hotel in Carlton to hear from a refugee speaker detained inside the hotel, and Arnold Zable, writer and long-time refugee supporter, followed by music. Organised by the Refugee Advocacy Network and supported by the Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum (CAPSA), the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project and others.

Scan here for more details



REFLECTION



PRAYER IS OUR STRENGTH

Prayer is an important part of our Christian life. Jesus in his life in human history has shown us the necessity to pray. Jesus himself is a prayerful person and Jesus trained his disciples to have time for prayer. We can see this in Mark's Gospel when Jesus "... got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed" (Mark 1:35). Moreover, Jesus says to the apostles, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while" (Mark 6:31). The deserted place or desert wilderness (er \acute{e} mos) is the place to which Jesus retreats to pray. Jesus prays in Gethsemane (Mark 14:36) showing the power of prayer to overcome difficulties. As Jesus says, "...whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours" (Mark 11:24). In prayer, Jesus and the disciples found their

strength, comfort and wisdom in doing their ministry.

From the prayer experience of Jesus and his disciples we learn that prayer plays an important role in our everyday life. We really need to have a time to pray to our God to refresh our spiritual life and this will sustain and flourish in our daily activities. We pray because we know that sometimes we cannot do anything about some difficulties in our life and in our world. We pray for peace in our hearts. We pray for peace and reconciliation in our world, particularly in Ukraine and Russia and other countries that are still in time of war, full of violence and conflict, and we continually pray for the healing of our world from COVID-19. As Christians, we are

encouraged to take some moments in our life to pray. For in prayer we make time and space with God and God is present to listen to our prayer. As St. Teresa of Avila says, "However softly we speak, God is near enough to hear us."

We believe that God will never abandon our world. We hope and believe that our prayer life will strengthen us to face and overcome every difficulty and crisis in our life and our world. We believe that our prayer life will provoke some real action from all people to bring change and make our world a better home: a home of love, justice and peace for all human beings.

Anacleto, O.Carm

Have a great week ahead!

Thank you,

Quoc Truen Nguyen, MSC

Secretary