

## *From our Car Park Marshalls*

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As services draw to a close at St Hilda's Primary School, the Marshalls would like to thank you for your patience, understanding and co-operation.

The bigger space at the school has made parking easier, but your thoughtful attitude has made marshalling a breeze.

Two Sundays from today, on 30 August, we will happily be back at our Ceylon Road premises - with its more limited parking lots.

To help your Marshalls serve you better, please remember the following:

1. The Blue Labels will cease to be valid in Ceylon Road.
2. Marshalls will direct Red Label vehicles to their designated lots in the Open Field.
3. E1 drivers planning to breakfast after E1 service should also park their vehicles in the Open Field.
4. All other E1 drivers should park in the Courtyard, and promptly drive off after service.
5. E2, E3 and Mandarin drivers who come early should park in the Open Field first, while E1 drivers are clearing out promptly from the Courtyard after E1 service.
6. E2, E3 and Mandarin drivers may wait inside their vehicles in four parking lots situated parallel to Manna House while E1 drivers clear the Courtyard. They can only park in these waiting lots after 1015 hrs.
7. All vehicles should be parked reverse in to facilitate easy exit. Reversing in is even more critical for vehicles that are being double-parked.
8. All drivers who double park must display their Pink Labels.
9. All drivers who double park are urged to remove their cars promptly after service. Please do not linger after service as you may keep other drivers waiting for you.

Thank you. May the Lord bless you and keep you safe.

## *A Pastoral Letter by Ps Dave*

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My Dear Brothers and Sisters-in-Christ

Time flies and our sojourn in St Hilda's Primary School is almost over! As the contractors finish their final touches to the renovation and repair, we are preparing ourselves to return to Ceylon Road on 30 August. Gratitude, joy and anticipation overtake me as I reflect on God's faithfulness and His favor on the St Hilda's Family. The renewed and refreshed facilities point to a new season the Lord is leading us into. God is going to do great and mighty things in our midst!

Since our 80th Anniversary Celebration last year, we have witnessed a new sense of togetherness in St Hilda's Church. Joy and laughter have returned, evident in *Malam Katawa* and *The 80th Anniversary Lunch*; young and old joined hands to serve the community through the *Neighbourhood Blessings* and *The JoyFair*. And our Church Family Camps of the past two years have only served to bring the parish closer together spiritually and closer to our Lord. Indeed, the renovation and repair of our premises signify the renovation and renewal of our hearts. God is preparing St Hilda's for what He has in store ahead.

When we return to the renewed facilities in Ceylon Road, we will launch out into the core business of the Church, getting down to the heart of God - saving souls and reaching out to God's lost children. Using The Alpha Course as our major evangelism-vehicle, we want to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with those God has put within our social spheres. In the meantime, we are strengthening our pastoral structures and paving our discipleship process so that together as a church we can grow deeper spiritual roots and produce greater spiritual fruits.

As we prepare to embark on this new chapter of the St Hilda's Story, I believe the Lord has provided 1 Peter 5: 6-11 as an anchor for us. I would like to encourage us to pray these words and lay hold of them in our personal prayers and when we gather in our small groups. Three words, each starting with "A" will guide us forward:

### **Assurance**

*v.6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your cares upon him because he cares for you.*

This is the assurance we have - we are under God's mighty hand! Just as God had led us the past 81 years, He will continue to lead and guide us into the future. We may not be able to see what's ahead clearly but we are assured of God's hand upon us. Let us adopt a posture of humility and remember it is not men's achievement but God's grace and faithfulness that will establish us. Let us cast all our cares upon Him because He cares for us.

**Alertness:**

*v.8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary prowls around like a roaring lion.*

*v.9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.*

Peter reminds us that we have an enemy who is prowling around like a roaring lion. As we know, recently, several of our members or their loved ones have either fallen sick or are undergoing medical treatment. I thank God that many of you have shown much concern and provided practical care to these brothers and sisters.

The opposition may also come in other forms - temptation to go back to our former ways of life, grappling with our sinfulness and weaknesses. But let us not be overtaken by such opposition. Instead, let us be sober-minded and watchful as a community, standing firm in our faith through prayer and supplication.

**Anticipation:**

*v. 10 After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.*

Assured under God's mighty hand and alert of our enemy's wiles, we can look forward with much anticipation in this new season. Any suffering is but for a little while. What awaits us is the revelation of God's glory. God himself will restore, confirm, strengthen and establish us!

So my brothers and sisters, let us join hands as we unite our hearts to follow our Chief Shepherd. Let us march forward and witness the mighty things God is going to do in and through us. To God be the dominion forever and ever! Amen.

## ***Renovation & Repair Update***

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Renovation of the main parts of the church, for this phase, is almost complete. When we return to St Hilda's Church on Sunday, August 30, to resume services there, we will find a completely refreshed Bethel Hall and Joshua Hall. At the same time, there will be more breathing space for our nursery and kindergarten.

Work on rectifying defects and touching up have commenced. Testing of newly installed equipment has also begun. Additionally, the church is being concurrently cleaned. Thank you for your patience and understanding and for continuing to be a part of the church family.

We praise and thank the Lord for watching over us and over the safe renovation of our Ceylon Road premises. All glory to Him alone.

This phase of renovation has focused on refreshing Bethel Hall, Joshua Room and the kindergarten and nursery. The next phase, on a much smaller scale, is planned for November and December. It will refresh the area where our administrative offices are presently.