# Seeking and Trusting God

he first three-four chapters of Genesis merit far more attention than we usually give them, as they are theologically very profound. The whole question of God giving us the power to name the animals, for example, has nothing to do with choosing the sounds we will use to designate a particular beast, but focuses rather on God sharing His creative power with us and on our consequent responsibility for being stewards of His creation: we control how we use creation, what role we assign to its totality and its particular parts in our lives.

Here, though, I would like to look at the word "naked". Adam and Eve do not suddenly become aware that they are wearing no clothes; God did not create them witless. What does come home to them is that they are completely dependent on God and that they have wrongly sought to act and be independent of Him.

God ratifies their choice to be

independent and stand on their own, just as He does for us. God does not sentence these two to live in exile and to have to work to have any sort of life; He allows them (and us) to experience that life in what we undergo on earth and to discover our dependence on Him in every aspect of our being, to discover and to understand His love for us in that life.

Do we wish to remain independent of God, proud of ourselves like little children in their costumes believing that they are princesses and heroes just because they think so? Or do we seek to return to true innocence, to the best sort of childhood, in seeking and trusting God?

Paul, in our second reading, addresses this question. As adults, and especially in all of the experience and hopefully wisdom that being older adults brings, we discover our frailty and our need to depend on others for everything – and that need is only a pale shadow of how profoundly and in what immense variety of ways we depend

Gather as a parish family.

Sunday 29 July, 8am to

3pm. Celebrate this joyous
feast day with great food,
arts and crafts, entertainment
and games including

"dunking our parish priests".

Organized by the Parish
Fiesta Committee and Jesuit
Refugee Service Singapore. In
collaboration with CHARIS. All
proceeds goes to support the
projects by Caritas Bangladesh
for the Rohingya Refugees
in Cox's Bazar. More info at
http://www.jrssg.org and
follow us on Facebook.

Parishioners and ministries interested to operate a stall, contact Raymond Thng at raymond.thng37@gmail.com



on our Father, our older Brother, and our Spirit. This is not a God who exiles us, but one who, we discover, has been reaching out to us from the first moment of creation and inviting us, forgiving us, lifting us up, patiently teaching us as individuals and as His people, and in all things leading us home, back to Him and the Garden.

**CHAS KESTERMEIER, SJ** 

Jesuit Community, Creighton University

As adults, and especially in all of the experience and hopefully wisdom that being older adults brings, we discover our frailty and our need to depend on others for everything – and that need is only a pale shadow of how profoundly and in what immense variety of ways we depend on our Father, our older Brother, and our Spirit.

Fr Colin Tan, SJ Parish Priest \* Fr Matthew Tan, SJ Assistant Parish Priest \* Fr Jerome Leon, SJ Assistant Parish Priest

Angela Kurnadi Parish Administrator \* Joyce Setiawan Parish Accountant \* Jeremy Aloysius Catechetical Director \* Gerard Robert Youth Coordinator \* Cheryl Lek Youth Coordinator Robert Ong Sacristan \* David Saw Operations Manager \* Steven Leong Facilities Manager \* Therese Gian Communications Manager

#### PARISH NEWS

#### **OFFICE CLOSURE**

The parish office will be closed on Hari Raya Puasa public holiday, Friday 15 June.

Next weekend's **SECOND COLLECTION** is for the GIFT campaign by the Catholic Foundation.

#### JUNE - MONTH OF THE EUCHARIST

As special devotion to the Holy Eucharist during the month of June, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before Saturday and Sunday evening Masses, 5.20pm – 5.50pm.

#### **JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS**

Saturday 23 June, 9.30am to 3.00pm, and Sunday 24 June, 9.30am to 1.00pm, at St Ignatius Hall. Shop for small gifts and support a good cause – the Parish Social Mission Fund.

**INFANT BAPTISMS** on Sunday, 8 July at 3.00 pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing on Sunday 1 July, 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Lisa Ling (9818 5281) & Brian (9760 0978) or Michelle (9765 5065) & Matthew Khoo.

#### **CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY**

All are welcome to the table of the Lord at Mass celebrated by Fr Francis Leong. This Wednesday 13 June, at St Ignatius Hall. Start with Praise & Worship at 7.30pm, and Eucharistic celebration at 7.45pm, followed by dinner and fellowship.

#### RCIA - Come and experience the fullness of life!

A special invitation for inquirers of the Catholic faith and sponsors to join the next RCIA journey, beginning: Tuesday 3 July, for Sponsors and Facilitators, Tuesday 7 August, for Inquirers. Thereafter every Tuesday, 8-10pm, at St Ignatius Hall. For information, contact: Parish office: Angela (6466 0625) | RCIA: Sandra (9628 6472). Register Now at https://tinyurl.com/stignatius-rcia



Invite non-Catholic friends and family, aged 17-24, to RCIY and share the joy of the faith today.

Saturday 14 July, Welcome Tea and Info session, 4-6pm Saturday 21 and 28 July, First two sessions, 4-6pm Subsequent sessions every Tuesday from 7 August, 8-10pm Website: https://tinyurl.com/stiggysrciy or contact Eliza (9724 7613) or Aaron (8228 3419) or Email us: rciy.ignatius@gmail.com

#### PMC (PERSON WITH MOBILITY CHALLENGE)

At all masses, look out for reserved seats for parishioners with limited mobility, PMC, the elderly and wheelchair bound, who require communion to be brought to them. All seats are first come first served. Please inform the greeter if you wish to receive Holy Communion. Only one caregiver may be seated next to their PMC.

#### MIND YOUR STUFF

Parishioners are advised to keep watch on their personal belongings, especially handbags and valuables, while

#### **Prayer for US-North Korea Summit on** 12th June 2018

Heavenly Father, we ask for the outpouring of Your grace on the momentous US-North Korea Summit here in Singapore on 12th June. We all desire to live in a world where there is peace, fraternal love, concern and charity for each other. Without peace, there can be no security, no progress and future for humanity.

Lord, we pray You will enlighten the political leaders to work for peace, justice and social order in the world. May this be the start of a continuous effort to building strong relationships, freed from the burden of fear and the weight of suspicion. May nations learn to trust each other and work towards world peace for all human kind.

Blessed Mother, we ask for your intercession at this meeting. Holy Spirit, inspire and guide the leaders and officials to build trust and confidence.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

**AMEN** 

receiving communion, and in and outside the Church. Check if you left anything behind when leaving.

#### **FUND RAISING BY CENACLE SISTERS**

The Cenacle Sisters are happy to share that they have found a home! They still need about \$1.5 million to complete the purchase and do renovations. They are here this weekend to sell tickets to their gala dinner, and books and homemade goodies.

#### **RIP NEWS-RISEN IN THE LORD**

Shirley Fan - 81 years old Date of death: 5 June 2018

#### NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

#### **ZONE A DISTRICT 1**

Wednesday 13 June, SH-02-E Programme: "Who Am I to Judge? - Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love" by Edward Sri Session 8: What is Truth? – Common Questions about Moral Relativism

#### **NCC ZONE B DISTRICT 3**

Thursday 21 June 2018, #01-04

Programme: 1) Gospel Sharing - Daily Word of God

2) History of Christianity

#### A sharing of the First Friday Eucharistic Adoration at Church of St Ignatius, held on 1 June

## Generation CHRIST!

t the Eucharistic Adoration, parishioners were invited to reflect on the scriptural verse that tells of Jesus healing the woman who suffered a prolonged illness.

"When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind Him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, "If I just touched his clothes, I will be healed." Immediately, her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. At once, Jesus realized that power has gone out from Him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched My clothes?" (Mark 5:24-34)

Mark tells us that a large crowd was following Jesus and pressing in on Him, as he was on his way with Jarius, the synagogue leader, to heal his daughter who was dying. As it happens in any big crowd, people were bumping into Jesus left and right. Yet, in the midst of all that commotion, Jesus is touched in a different way, by this anonymous woman – and immediately, Jesus knew He was touched in a different way, for He stopped and asked, "Who touched Me"? This woman believed that if she could just touch Jesus's clothes, she would be healed.

Mark's Gospel tells us, this woman's struggle went beyond her physical suffering. Twelve years is a long time to be sick, and frustrations build when you go from one physician to another with no cure. Her emotional condition, must have been desperate as well. She was considered "unclean" and isolated from her family and community. And she had spent all her money, so not only was she sick, she was poor.

Yet, this woman decided it was worth a try, to sneak into the crowd and get at least near enough to Jesus, to touch the edge of His clothes. This scripture teaches us to think as the Lord does. While the disciples were rushing Jesus to meet the urgent needs of an important synagogue official, Jesus stopped because He knew somebody needed Him. He felt

power go out of Him, and knew that this appeal for help was more important than anything else at that moment. Also, the man of high-status was not preferred over the marginalized woman. Every honest cry for help, receives God's full attention. In God's eyes, no one is ever lost in a crowd.

Secondly, although the woman thinks it would be a quick unnoticed meeting, she soon learns that Jesus engages those who encounter Him, especially one who draws power from Him. Jesus publicly calls for the woman to identify herself. He gave her the chance to know Him face-to-face as the Messiah who reached out to her. Finally, she needed more than physical healing. She had a broken heart, bitterness, frustrations, confusion and dark memories that has lasted for 12 years. The Lord needed to heal those as well.

So courageously, the woman came forward. The **great act of faith** in this story, was not only the touching of Jesus' clothes, but the **falling at His feet**, and telling her whole story in front of Jesus and the crowd. That was a very difficult thing to do that required a great act of faith. To trust that the Lord will love and not rebuke her for what she had done. And Jesus said, "Daughter, you faith has healed you. Go in peace".

Jesus asked "Who touched Me?" He still asks us this today. Some in the crowd today have reached out a hand to Him for help, but remained afraid to say the whole truth. One can touch Jesus clothes, and then run away. But that is not a complete healing. True healing is a personal encounter with JESUS. The person who is healed must meet Jesus, even if the meeting takes place after the healing. The woman told Jesus the whole truth about what she had done. If you are in a face-to-face

relationship with Jesus, the Lord will call for honesty.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, the question for us, is whether in our lives, we humbly reach out to

Jesus with the faith of this woman or do we "bump" into Him like all those following Him in the crowd. This scripture has great Eucharistic significance for all of us - where we have the privilege not only to touch Jesus's clothes, but to receive His whole Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity at Holy Communion. How often have we approached Holy Communion, distracted with other thoughts and just touched Jesus like so many in the crowd who "bumped" into Him? For example, thinking of what is the next "To-do-List" after mass? Instead, we can learn to approach Holy Communion, with the faith, trust and reverence that we see in this woman, "If I just touch His clothes, I will be healed". For we receive the very same Jesus, who healed this woman!

The Church teaches us that the most effective form of prayer is prayer in the **Real Presence** of JESUS in the **Blessed Sacrament**. Prayer in the divine presence of JESUS releases the power, the blessings and the graces of God. Each time you go to JESUS in the Blessed Sacrament, you touch **His Sacred Heart** with your **faith**.

As we enter into holy silence with Jesus, we invite you to bring your wounds, be they physical, emotional, psychological or spiritual, to the Eucharistic Christ with the firm

confidence and faith of this woman who said, "If I just touched His clothes, I will be healed".

ommunities «St Ignatius

**GRACE LOW** 

#### JESUIT NEWS

#### OF CRACKS & CAVES: A SPACE FOR MERCY

In looking at the images of 'cracks' and 'caves', understand and appreciate the grace of Jesus' death and resurrection. Examine the cracks and caves in your life too.

Facilitator: Fr Pham Hung Trung, SJ

Date/Time: Monday, 25 June 2018, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Contribution: \$50 for 1 talk, \$80 for 2 talks Register: http://tinyurl.com/Pham18

**Jesuit Regional Curia, Telephone: 6469 7356**Fr Christopher Soh, SJ, Fr James Tan, SJ

Fi Christopher 30h, 3J, Fr James Iah, 3J

Kingsmead Hall, Jesuit Community, Tel: 6466 3225

Fr Gerard Keane, SJ, Fr Gerald Tseng, SJ, Fr Charles Sim, SJ, Fr Leslie Raj, SJ, Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ, Fr Gregory Tan, SJ, Msgr Philip Heng, SJ, Fr Adrian Danker, SJ,

Kingsmead Centre, Tel: 6467 6072 Jesuit Mission Office Tel: 6463 6022

### • ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

#### CLARITY'S INTRODUCTORY GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY WORKSHOP

23 June, 10.30am – 12.30pm at Agape Village. Fees \$15.

Do you consistently worry about the same thing? Have persistent fear or feel like you are losing control? Explore the reasons behind our anxieties, debunk myths and misconceptions and learn different ways to manage anxieties. Register: https://tinyurl.com/TC23Jun or Tel: 6757 7990.

#### **SALVATION HISTORY**

by Fr Ferdinand Purnomo, OCD 16 sessions: 10 July – 13 November (break on 28 August, 4 September and 6 November)

Tuesday, 9.30am – 11.30am at 2 Highland Road, CAEC Building, S(549102)

Fees: \$120 (\$100 if paid by 6 July) Information and registration: https://goo.gl/forms/gjDhir2bocPlrlL53 Email: aba\_secretariat@catholic.org.sg Tel: 62800354 Office: 9am-1pm

#### METROPOLITAN YMCA (MYMCA) CHARITY MOVIE PREMIERE 2018

Metropolitan YMCA is organising their inaugural charity movie premiere to help raise \$80,000 for families in need. Sunday 1 July, 1.00pm and Monday, 2 July, 7.10pm

Information and ticket bookings: MYMCA Charity Movie Premiere 2018

#### **LANDINGS SINGAPORE RETURNED!**

Returned! - a testimony event by LANDINGS on 6 July 2018, Friday, 7.30pm at CANA The Catholic Centre on Waterloo Street. For every account of someone who has left the Catholic Church, there is an inspiring personal tale of another's return. Come check out these testimonies of faith. Or better yet, bring a friend or loved one who might benefit from these homecoming stories. We invite anyone interested either as a returning Catholic or as a welcoming participant. Please register for this event at returning@landings.org.sg or Facebook: Landings – Singapore.

#### Church Office

120, King's Road, Singapore 268172 or 8, Victoria Park Road, Singapore 266492

#### **Entrance via 8 Victoria Park Road**

Kingsmead Hall (Priests' Residence), St Ignatius Hall, Sacred Heart Hall, Kingsmead Centre (for Ignatian Spirituality & Counselling)

#### **Sunday Masses**

Saturday: 6.00pm Sunday: 6.45am, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

#### **Weekday Masses**

Monday - Friday: 7.00am & 6.00pm Saturday: 7.00am

#### **Confessions**

Every Friday & Saturday: 5.40pm Every Sunday Mass: 20mins before Mass begins

#### Infant Baptism (each month)

Briefing for parents & godparents (compulsory): 1st Sunday, 3.00pm Baptism: 2nd Sunday, 3.00pm sharp Registration forms are available at front of Church office

#### Weddinas

Couples must make themselves known to the priest at least 6 months before the wedding. Contact: Sacristan, Robert Ong (8511 4614)

#### **Visiting Hours (Columbarium)**

Open daily from 6.30 am to 8.00 pm (including weekends & Public Holidays)
Memorial Mass at the Main Church every
4th Friday, 6.00 pm for all deceased parishioners and families, followed by prayers in Columbarium.

#### Inigo Bookstore

Wednesday to Saturday: 4.30pm to 7.00pm and during Sunday Masses. Closed on Monday and Tuesday

#### Sick elderly and homebound

Please contact the parish office if help is needed for parishioners hospitalised (regardless of hospital). In emergencies, you may also contact priests' residence at 6466 3225

#### Bereavement

Please contact the parish Sacristan, Robert Ong (8511 4614) for help and advice before contacting the funeral director.

Church of St Ignatius has no official social media accounts.

#### WEEKLY

#### Rosary in Church

Monday to Saturday, after 7am Mass and Monday to Friday 5.15pm to 5.45pm, except first Friday of the month

#### **Intercessory Prayers**

Tuesday, 2.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall Adoration Room, Level 2

Catholic content online, login:

www.FORMED.org; parish code: 4904ed

#### **Gentle Light**

Tuesday, 10am – 12noon in St Francis Xavier Chapel (Kingsmead) Thursday, 10am – 12noon in Sacred Heart Canteen (Room SH-A)

#### **Divine Mercy Devotion**

Every Wednesday after 6.00pm Mass in the Main Church.

#### **Christian Meditation**

Friday, 2.30pm in St Francis Xavier Prayer Room (Kingsmead)

#### MONTHLY - in Main Church

#### Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass

Every 1st Friday, 8.00pm (No 6.00pm Mass) Followed by

Eucharistic Adoration by Generation CHRIST!

**Children Eucharistic Adoration** Every 3rd Friday, 7.45pm

#### Memorial Mass

Every 4th Friday, 6.00pm, followed by prayers in Columbarium