Close Encounters

ur parish Fiesta held on Sunday 29 July, was indeed a resounding success! Last time I heard, parishioners, benefactors and friends have contributed nearly \$600,000 for the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. This far exceeded what the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and Charis had hoped to raise for this worthy cause. We certainly deserve a pat on the back for a job well done!

As we congratulate ourselves, we should also recognize that the Fiesta was successful in an entirely different way - the presence of a strong sense of community. Members of the organizing committee have shared with me that despite the hiccups and missteps, the event proceeded with everyone in good spirits. People were generally in a good space, exuding great joy and camaraderie, encouraging and helping one another. Many elected to stay until the very end, enjoying the company of friends old and new. Through the eyes of faith, such outward sign of unity is an indication of God's presence, and also a reflection of our parishioners' commitment to our community.

The many ministries that offered their money, time and effort in running the food and game stalls reflected another essential aspect of parish life – the greater parish community that is made up of smaller communities. Just as they have helped make the Fiesta a success, the ministries and groups, gathered by the Spirit, cooperate with one another to make St Ignatius a vibrant community. Likewise, Sunday

liturgy requires the collaboration of lectors, altar servers, hospitality ministers, volunteer sacristans, "flower ladies", and traffic assistants to ensure its proper and smooth implementation. These smaller groups and ministries serve as "building blocks", contributing to the social and spiritual life of the parish.

Small communities also serve the needs of individual parishioners in other ways. While we thank the Lord for blessing us with so many members, the sheer number of parishioners also presents us with challenges. Given the size of St Ignatius Church, some members may feel "anonymous",

lost in the crowd, or even unwelcomed, and others may find it difficult to foster friendship with others to feel that they belong to the parish community. Participation in small communities will certainly help people form authentic relationships and help them feel rooted in the community. And it is precisely in developing friendships that they are also able to grow more intimate in their relationship with Christ. Genuine encounters with one another offer us the opportunities to truly encounter the Lord. After all, Jesus promised his disciples that "when two or three meet in his name, he shall be there with them." (Mt. 18:20) In his apostolic exhortation Church in America, St John Paul II asserted that small communities "allows for true human relationship", and offer greater opportunities for



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people to "live communion more intensely". Through various communal activities, members not only grow in their care and love for one another, but also grow in faith together.

Over the next two weekends, we will be recognizing NCCs and Small Christian Communities (SCCs) and their contributions to parish life in our Neighbourhood Christian Communities (NCCs) Awareness Day. Moreover, we are inviting parishioners to join these groups, or even start new NCCs and SCCs. If you are a new parishioner wishing to become more involved or being part of a small community or ministry, please approach me or members of the various NCCs and SCCs. We will be delighted to help you in whatever way possible.

FR JEROME LEON, SJ

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

Angela Kurnadi Parish Administrator * Suzie Wee 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

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

OFFICE CLOSURE

The parish office will be closed on Hari Raya Haji public holiday, Wednesdayday 22 August. Masses at 7.00am and 6.00pm as usual.

RESPONDING TO CONFLICT

PARISH-WIDE FORMATION SESSIONS St Ignatius Hall, 7.45pm-10.00pm

Session 1: Part 2 – Responding to Hurts and Conflicts

between Couples (Thursday 23 August)

Session 2: Responding to Conflicts in the Workplace (25 October)

Session 3: Responding to Conflicts in

School (8 November) For details and registration, go to www.stignatius.org.sg or get forms at the Place of Gathering.

FARMERS MARKET

TALK ON FRUIT ENZYMES AND FARMERS MARKET Come find out about Fruit Enzymes: Its Uses and Benefits at our first Farmers Market. Visit our Edible Garden and green marketplace. Be a part of Pope Francis' call for action, in caring for creation and the environment and support our Gardening Group. There will be seeds, saplings and plants to share and purchase. Saturday 1 September: Talk on Fruit Enzymes. 9am, Annexe Classroom #01-04/05.

Farmers Market, 10am to 12pm at Annexe Porch. Organized by St Ignatius Green Movement group.

To register for the talk, and get details on the Farmers Market, contact Patricia Cheah at 96200085, or email cheah.patricia@gmail.com before 30 August.

TUESDAY LADIES STUDY GROUP

Every Tuesday 10am to 12 pm at the Annexe Hall Upcoming bible study programmes:

18 September to 6 November Wisdom: God's Vision For Life by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith

13 November to 26 February 2019 7 Deadly Sins and 7 Lively Virtues by Bishop Robert Barron

5 March to 14 May 2019 First Corinthians: The Church and the Christian Community by Tim Gray

21 May 2019 Day of recollection

Contact Marjorie Teo at marjteo@singnet.com.sg or or 9733 8730 for more information

CER FELLOWSHIP

All are welcome including non-CER retreatants to learn more about this fellowship. Thursday 6 September, 7.30pm-9.45pm at St.Ignatius Hall with Fr Colin. Register at cerfellowship.stig@gmail.com

INFANT BAPTISMS on Sunday 9 September at 3.00pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing next Sunday 2 September, 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms at church office or website. Please

choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Valerie (9026 6170) or BC Chong & Anthony (9815 9889) or Mariana Heng (9270 8213).

PLAY THE PIANO FOR GOD!

If you're looking for Joy from making music, Grace from making His music, Love from helping others, join the 10.15am choir as a relief pianist. Very little commitment required. Very much appreciation received. For details, contact Agnes 9663 6819 or Adrian 9796 8136. 9733 8730 for more information.

CCD 2018 - 2019 REGISTRATION

CATECHISM CLASSES FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS Online registration for year 2018-2019 is now open until 31 August. All students (new and returning) have to register online at www.stignatius.org.sg or google "St Ignatius Singapore CCD" for more information.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY GISS: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

But the Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, generosity and selfcontrol (Galatians 5:22-23). Spiritual growth is not automatic, it is intentional and it comes from God, but facilitated by our cooperation with the Holy Spirit. How do we want to reap the Fruit of the Spirit and grow in the likeness of Christ. All are welcome this Wednesday 22 August at St Ignatius Hall. Fellowship dinner starts at 7.30pm and talk ends at 9.30pm.

RIP NEWS-RISEN IN THE LORD

Bernice Lan Mow Ying – 81 years old Date of death: 14 August 2018

O DVC NEWS

DE VITA CHRISTI YOUTH COMMUNITY

The DVC Youth Community invites all youth and young adults who are currently or soon to be studying overseas to join us for an afternoon

of prayer and fellowship next Sunday, 26 August, 2.45pm - 5.30pm at the Annex Hall. Light refreshments to follow. Register at devitachristi.wordpress.com/events or contact Cheryl for more information: cheryl.stigs@gmail.com

NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

ZONE B DISTRICT 3

Thursday 30 August, room 01-04

Programme: 1) Gospel Sharing – Daily Word of God

2) History of Christianity

ZONE C DISTRICT 3 - ST THERESA OF CALCUTTA

Monday, 20 August, Loyola room, 7.30pm

Program: The Wild Goose: God's Love Poured Out

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grow to love and care for one another, living out Christ's call to be "good neighbours", becoming a "people of God", and offering their collective gifts and talents in service of the parish and the Church.

Here are short reflections by NCC members who are on a shared journey to find God in our neighbours.



We learn, share, car relationship with each presence and love due

We wanted to grow spiritually with the support of our parish community.

James and Jane

NCC has made me more aware of the constant Presence of God in our daily lives. We pray for each other and those in need of prayers. Together we experience the Power of Prayer at work. **Leonie**

NCC is my place to build my faith and my fellowship with the help of my fellow Christian sisters and brothers. **Brian**

My journey in my NCC was a journey from solitude to community to ministry. A space for God to act in my life was created. In community, my faith was put to work. Rachael

Our SCC has helped our RCIA group continue our faith formation journey based on a bedrock of shared experiences, friendship, and fellowship! **Reuben**

Our video watching of biblical events, talks and programmes, plus sharing during potluck supper at NCC meetings helped deepen our faith and reinforced our beliefs on church and community. Alice

My NCC constantly reinforces in me the smaller church steeped in faith, action and Christ's loving care. **Andeana**

We joined the NCC for community and fellowship with God's people beyond the Sunday commitment. Also, since young children learn through imitation, we want to provide [our children] with an environment and community for

them to be surrounded by more of God's people so that it they can "see" that being a Catholic is not just limited to their parents and people they meet on Sunday at church. Jasmin

Neighbourly care and concern. Margaret

NCC gives parishioners an opportunity to get together and share views of our faith and gospel, and also to get to know each other better. It's meaningful fellowship. **Helen**

It's a joyful time together in fellowship, one in the body of Christ. **Gladys Seng**

We have non-Catholic spouses of members, who are taking RCIA, and becoming Catholics ... This is one way life has changed and our numbers have grown. **Ken Goh**

NCC has married spirituality to religion for me. **Benny**

When I needed contributions for the Feast Day's wine shop, a great number of contributions came in. During our Christmas parties for the elderly, we always have an abundance of food and presents from our NCC. Janice Lim

I always appreciate the warm fellowship and sense of God's peace and joy at our NCC meetings. **Clara Lee**

When members share their stories and testimonies I see God's presence and love in these sharings. **Dayan Tan**

Sharing God's fount of love, joy, peace and hope with our brothers and sisters in Christ through NCC fellowship and beyond. Helena Choo

We learn, share, care and build our relationship with each other. I feel God's presence and love during our meetings, and always look forward to great fellowship. **Stella Lim**

The NCC meetings and materials used at the meetings have helped me to grow and reaffirm my beliefs and knowledge of the Catholic faith. Video clips on the lives of saints reveal how God touched the lives of ordinary people to become Christ-like in their behaviour. We have also watched clips on the Gospels in the Bible. Again a clip on a Christian Pastor who converted to Catholicism detailed his observations and realisation that the Eucharistic celebration encapsulates the principal aspects of the Bible and Christ's teachings.

NCC has also given me the opportunity to get to know some of the parishioners in St Ignatius in what would otherwise just be confined to casual greetings at mass. I would urge parishioners to benefit from this great faith and community building opportunity. Gerard Emmanuel

I have watched Zone C NCC grow over the past few years, led by Julia Quek who persuaded Janice Lim, Dayan Tan, Stella Lim, Clara Lee to join as leaders. Today the bonding among members is strong, built through a combination of monthly fellowship and faith formation meetings, and outreach activities such as visiting the house-bound, culminating with the Christmas lunch for them at Janice's home. **Michael Ng**

If you wish to join any of our NCCs or SCCs or need more information. You can also contact Bernard Goh at 9450 7077 or go to NCCSt.Iggys@gmail.com

JESUIT NEWS

MAGIS IMMERSION RETREAT

Discover God and self through the lens of Ignatian spirituality. Explore what it means to find God in all things and live as a contemplative in action.

Dates & Times: Friday 24 August (7.30pm) to Sunday 26 August (4pm)

Contribution: \$270 (non-AC), \$310 (AC)

Facilitators: Keith Neubronner and Margaret Tang

Register: http://tinyurl.com/magis18

Jesuit Regional Curia, Telephone: 6469 7356

Fr Christopher Soh, SJ, Fr James Tan, SJ

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

CATHEDRAL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Singapore Night Festival – Peace and Harmony for Singapore and the World

Be enthralled by lighted angels and thousands of candles and glow sticks

- ◆ Light a candle in new Peace & Harmony cups
- ◆ Collect specially designed EZ-link card stickers and show your support for Peace & Harmony
- ◆ Watch heart warming videos on Peace
- ◆Attend heritage tours
- ◆ Pipe organ demonstration
 Date/Time: 24-25, 7pm till midnight
 The Cathedral Choir of the Risen
 Christ will present a free concert on
 Peace & Harmony on Sunday 26
 August, at 7.30pm. All are welcome!

UNDERSTANDING SAME SEX ATTRACTION

Providing Friendship, Parental or

Pastoral Guidance

Date: Saturday 1 September

Time: 9am – 3pm

Venue: St Clare Hall, Church of St

Mary of the Angels

{Priority given to parishioners of the

West District)

Register early at http://catholicfamily. org.sg/ssas. Seats are limited, first come, first served. For enquiries, email admin@acf.org.sg

YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT OF DISCUSSION

CREED ON THE STREET (COTS 10) Creed On The Street (COTS) invites young adults to join in a conversation with each other, to lend perspective of their faith on social issues. Wednesday 5 September. 7.30pm to 9.30pm, Level 3 Agape Village, 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh, Singapore 319264.

Topic: "Education — How level is the playing field?"

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

Weddings

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