



CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

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Sunday
16 September
2018

Spiritual High Fidelity!

One of the great joys of working in the parish is participating in the many joyful sacramental and liturgical celebrations, like weddings and baptisms. For me, it is certainly not about being in the limelight, acting as the main celebrant or minister, but the honour of sharing in these memorable moments in people's lives. In these blessed instances, people not only express their happiness, but also their faith in the eternal and all-loving God.

Pope Francis has intimated that "God is 'mirrored' in a marriage, because the reality of God's faithful love for humanity is reflected in the bond of matrimony." In a baptism, one publicly affirms his or her love for God, and sacramentally and formally enters into a covenantal relationship with the Lord. There is, perhaps, nothing more exhilarating than feelings of being loved by someone and returning that love. Celebrating these rites bring those feelings into greater focus. Thus, these moments are also important milestones in our faith journey.

Last week I was involved in something that was certainly more subdued than a typical wedding or baptism. It was a celebration of a couple's eighteenth wedding anniversary, but it

was done with very little fanfare. There was no pretty bouquet of flowers, there was no choir serenading the couple. And the event was attended by less than ten people, not wearing their "Sunday best". Despite eighteen years of marriage, husband and wife seemed almost embarrassed when they held hands awkwardly and haltingly pledged their love and fidelity to each other. There wasn't any indication of "emotional high" at the simple celebration, but yet there was a great sense of joy.

The almost mundane affair reflects the husband and wife's familiarity with each other, but their bashfulness and awkwardness also betray a certain "newness" in their relationship. Perhaps they were two young people caught up with the excitement of the moment when they first exchanged their marriage vows eighteen years ago, but since then they have grown and become a "new creation", living out faithfully the matrimonial promises in their regular existence. In "renewing" their marital vows on their eighteenth anniversary, they were not trying to recapture the euphoria of being newlyweds, but celebrating and reaffirming their commitment to love each other, in sickness and in health, in good times and bad, in happiness and in grief, and in their mundane everyday life. They are

Christian disciples do not live only for spiritual consolations or "highs", but are committed to the person of Jesus and living out his or her calling, in times of joy, trials and the grind of ordinary life.

Catechist Recruitment

Following last week's Catechetical Awareness Weekend, we are still looking for new volunteers to join our various catechetical ministries.

Please email us at: catechesis@stignatius.org.sg if you wish to share your faith to bring our young persons closer to God.

committed not to a particular moment or an experience, but to each other.

In our spiritual lives, sometimes, by the grace of God, we experience moments of great consolation manifested by feelings of spiritual and emotional "high". These feelings of elation, of uncontainable joy, may come after a fruitful retreat or some other profound spiritual experience. It is, therefore, entirely understandable to have the desire to relive these moments of great consolation. However, our faith cannot be exclusively focused on searching and reliving only the blissful moments.

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus reminds us that Christian discipleship is not escapism, but entails "taking up of the cross". Like the couple who celebrated their eighteenth wedding anniversary, Christian disciples do not live only for spiritual consolations, but are committed to the person of Jesus and living out his or her calling, in times of joy, trials and the grind of ordinary life. We do not seek the Lord only in uplifting experiences, but find God in all things.

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

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time ★ 1st Reading Isaiah 50:5-9 ★ 2nd Reading James 2:14-18 ★ Gospel Mark 8:27-35

PARISH NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR CHILDREN

Sing hymns, pray the rosary, offer intercessory prayers and spend an intimate hour with our Lord in the Holy Eucharist. Special invite to children taking exams and PSLE to come and rest in Jesus. A special exam blessing will be given. Friday 21 September, 7.45pm-9.00pm at main Church.

PARISH ASSEMBLY 2018

All parishioners, ministries, and NCC and SCC groups are encouraged to attend our Parish Assembly on Saturday 20 October. Our Parish Priest Fr Colin Tan, SJ, will provide an update on the activities and priorities of our Church of St Ignatius. There will be a reflection by Fr Ricky Manalo. We are privileged to have him share with us his experiences and an opportunity for you to provide feedback on the future priorities of the parish. An election of the Parish Pastoral Council Executive Committee members will also take place. Saturday 20 October at St Ignatius Hall. Breakfast and fellowship at 9am, Assembly will start at 9.30am to noon. Parishioners who wish to serve on the PPC Exco or to nominate persons to serve on the PPC Exco, please contact the parish office for nomination forms.



EXAM PRAYERS FOR OUR CHILDREN

Every Friday until 30 November, 7.45pm to 9.00pm Room SH-F. Families and children need our prayers always, and especially as the exam season draws near. The Magis Family Ministry and the Charismatic Renewal Community will be including special intentions for children in our prayers during September, October and November. Parents, grandparents, godparents, aunties, uncles and all concerned are welcome. If you would like us to pray for your child, please send details to <https://tinyurl.com/StIgsPrayforourchildren>



INFANT BAPTISMS Sunday 14 October at 3.00pm Parents and godparents are required to attend a briefing on Sunday 7 October, 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms are available at the church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Michelle (9765 5065) & Matthew Khoo or Lea (9173 8717) & Wahjudi Gunawan.

SAT ROCKERS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Ever wondered why we pray what we pray and do what we do during Mass? Then take A Biblical Walk Through the Mass. Explore the Scriptural roots of the Mass and discover the beauty of the words and gestures, leading you to a richer, more fruitful worship experience. Join us for 5 Saturdays in Rm 02-02, starting from 29 September 2018 at 1.30pm. To register, contact Magdalene at 9152 8227 or svdp88@gmail.com

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

The Catholic Welfare Services (CWS) ministers to the homeless in Singapore through initiatives such as the Night Mission, Night Shelter and Lunchtime Ladle. Join us to learn more about the church's Catholic Social Mission in

Singapore this Wednesday, 19 September at St Ignatius Hall. Starts 7.30pm with a light dinner and fellowship and ends at 9.30pm. ALL ARE WELCOME!

AN EVENING OF HYMNS AND SACRED MUSIC ON THE GUITAR AND VOICE

A concert featuring Maestro Jose Valdez from the Philippines, on 10-string guitar, and Rodrigo Rodriguez from US. Jose Valdez has arranged and published books on inspirational hymns and Christmas music for classical guitar. Rodrigo Rodriguez has recorded 8 albums on Christian worship and Christmas songs on classical guitar. All are welcome, Wednesday 19 September, 8.00pm, St Ignatius Church.

JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS

Saturday and Sunday, 24 and 25 November, 9.30am to 1.00pm at St Ignatius Hall. In support of the Parish Social Mission Fund. **Ensure all donations are in good and saleable condition.** NO bulky furniture, fax machines, TV and printers; video and cassette tapes and text books. Place your donations by 5 November at the drop-off point outside the Sacred Heart Hall canteen.

PLEASE RETURN OUR CHURCH'S UMBRELLAS

If you have borrowed our church's umbrellas, please return them so that they can be made available for future use.

RIP NEWS- RISEN IN THE LORD

Ruth Goh Choo Chin – 85 years old
Date of death: 4 September 2018

YOUTH NEWS

DE VITA CHRISTI YOUTH COMMUNITY

DVC welcomes all youths and young adults to join us in our various ministries and communities. Follow us on Instagram: @120kingsrd or go to devitachristi.wordpress.com for more information.



NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

ZONE B DISTRICT 3

Thursday 20 September, #01-04

Programme: 1) Gospel Sharing – Daily Word of God
2) History of Christianity

ZONE B DISTRICT 2 GROUP 1

Thursday 20 September. Contact: lennard.thean@gmail.com
Programme: Gospel of Matthew by Jeff Cavins

ZONE C – ST THERESA OF CALCUTTA

17 September, 7.00pm, 64 Duchess Ave, #04-01 lobby 18
Programme: Dinner & Fr Jerome's Talk

ZONE D DISTRICT 1

Friday September 21, SH-E

Programme: The life and gospel of St. Matthew – Video and discussion



Rite of Acceptance

This weekend our parish welcomes Inquirers of the RCIA and RCIY who are celebrating their Rite of Acceptance in their journey towards becoming Catholics

Responding to God's Call

God works in different ways, most of the time, through ordinary people and events – a parent, a friend, a beautiful sunset, a song, an inspiring story. Other times, we hear God's call during crises or life changes – birth, engagement, sickness, death. Sometimes, we just have a feeling that something is missing.

The Catholic Church's mission is to help people respond to God; initiation and ongoing participation in the life of the Church are the primary responses to God's call. We try to help people learn how to respond to that call not just for baptism, but for every day of their lives. The way we learn how to become Catholic is by actually doing what Catholics do. So the process of being initiated into the Church is not so much about learning things as in a classroom, but learning a way of life as an apprentice learns from a master and that master's community.

Being Accepted

Becoming Catholic is a process, the first part of which is called **Evangelization and Precatechumenate**. In this initial phase, an unbaptized adult or child over seven is moved to inquire about the Catholic Church. Through informal contact with a member of the Church, he or she begins to explore issues of faith, questions they've always had about the Church, or anything that has moved them to seek some kind of relationship with the Church. This part of the process can happen anytime for as long as needed.

When the inquiring person and the Church community believe that he or she is starting to show signs of a Christian faith and is ready to commit to becoming Catholic, the person is invited to celebrate

a ritual called a "Rite of Acceptance into the Order of the Catechumenate", officially and publicly declaring his or her intention to enter into a formal relationship with the Church, learning its ways and participating in its lifestyle. The Church, in turn, accepts their commitment and pledges its support throughout the person's journey of faith.

This rite makes the person an official member of the Church as one who is preparing to be baptized, becoming a "catechumen" which means "one in whom the Word of God echoes". In preparation for this rite, the Church gives the inquirer a gift — one of its own baptized members to be a sponsor and companion through the next part of the process called the Period of the Catechumenate.

The Word and the Assembly

In order to learn how to take up the cross of Christ each day of their lives, these catechumens will need to be nourished by the Word of God, for "one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). In the Scriptures that they will hear at Sunday Mass, God speaks, and in the Gospels, Christ proclaims to all that God's promises last forever. No matter what the catechumens will encounter — suffering, pain, obstacles, doubt, fear, sin, death — God will never leave them. God's love through Christ never fails.

Where we encounter Christ and His love most clearly is in the assembly. When God's people gather on Sunday to proclaim the Scriptures, offer prayers for the world, and remember Christ in the sharing of a meal — the Eucharist — Christ is truly present. The catechumens learn how to live as Christ through the assembly, which models for them how to die to selfishness,

how to forgive others, how to preach the Good News, and how to live in hope through the Holy Spirit.

The catechumens will depend on the Spirit of God found in the assembly to apprentice them into a life of discipleship. Because they are not yet baptized, they cannot yet participate in the prayers of the faithful, which are the Creed, the General Intercessions, and the Eucharistic Prayer, which climaxes in Communion. Therefore, after the homily, the catechumens, accompanied by a member of the baptized, are sent to feast on the Word of God, to reflect on how God is continuing to call them in this part of their faith journey, and to discern how they are to respond.

The Threshold

This door of the Church is an important symbol in many Catholic rites. Doors symbolize transitions and new ways of life. For Christians, Christ, the Good Shepherd and the gate for the sheep, is the most important door, because "whoever enters through [Christ] will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture" (John 10:9). But doors are also liminal spaces, in-between places that are neither here nor there. Even though Christ has died and risen to save us from death, we still live in the in-between time until Christ comes again to welcome all of creation through the doors of the kingdom of God.

In the Rite of Acceptance, those wishing to answer God's call are met at the threshold of the Church by the baptized and are ritually welcomed to enter into the Church's doors.

The Cross

To enter into Christ means entering into His dying and rising, for he said, "whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Mark 8:34). Those who answer God's call will need to learn how to let go and die to their old ways of life, and this will often be painful and difficult. But the cross is also the sign of our salvation. So in the Rite of Acceptance, the Church consecrates — sets apart and makes holy — those who are committing themselves to following Christ by signing their bodies with the cross.

This article is an extract from Diana Macalintal, TeamRCIA.com © 2007, Team RCIA. All rights reserved.



⊙ JESUIT NEWS

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY A PILGRIMAGE OF MORE

Discover how Ignatian Spirituality is essentially a pilgrimage of seeing, discerning and serving, with the magis (or more) as a compass. This is the Opening Session of

Kingsmead Centre's Ignatian Festival from 10 - 21 October 2018.

Date: Wednesday, 10 October 2018

Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Facilitator: Lance Ng

Contribution: Love offering

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/igfest18>

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

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 account.

⊙ ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION will be organising a dinner hosted by His Grace, Archbishop William Goh to raise the needed funds to fulfil the vision of our archdiocese. Tables are available for sale at this fully sponsored dinner held at the Fullerton Hotel. To book a table or for more information, please contact Ms Caroline Kung at 6338-0348 or email cfddinner@catholic.org.sg.

APPEAL FOR THE HUMANITARIAN AID FUND

CHARIS is making its annual appeal for the Humanitarian Aid Fund to support the Archdiocese's overseas humanitarian work and disaster response. Appeal flyers and envelopes are available at the parish office. You can also send a crossed cheque payable to "CHARIS HAF" with your name and contact information to: CHARIS, #07-02 Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187954. More information at 6337 4119 or info@charis-singapore.org.

ACF PHOTO CONTEST 2018 - "WALKING WITH FAMILIES"

Calling all photography enthusiasts. Take part in a Photo Contest to capture what it means to be a Catholic Family and win prizes of up to \$1,500. For more information, visit: <http://bit.ly/ACFPhotoContest>

HALF-DAY RETREAT FOR MARRIED COUPLES - "MAKING CHRIST PRESENT IN THE FAMILY"

Need some time away to pray with the Word of God? Join us for a quiet and spirit-provoking afternoon of prayer with the Verbum Dei Missionaries on Sunday, 30 September 18, 3.15pm to 6.00pm. To register, SMS or WhatsApp Mark at @ 94870999.

WEEKLY

Rosary Devotion 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 the Columbarium