#### NOVEMBER

## Month of Remembrance of our Dearly Beloved

#### Communion with the Dead

"In full consciousness of this communion of the whole Mystical Body of Jesus Christ, the Church in its pilgrim members, from the very earliest days of the Christian religion, has honoured with great respect the memory of the dead; and 'because it is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins' she offers her suffrages for them" (Lumen Gentium 50). Our prayer for them is capable not only of helping them, but also of making their intercession for us effective (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 958).

In the month of November, prayers are offered for our departed loved ones who have joined the communion of saints and angels. You can submit names of deceased relatives and friends and drop them in the box provided at the Place of Gathering. These names will be offered during All Souls' Day Masses and weekend Masses in November.



The statue of Christ of the Abyss in our columbarium. The original bronze statue is submerged somewhere in the Mediterranean Sea.

# The Invisble Cloak of Bartimaeus

e have seen in Harry Potter movies the use of his invisibility cloak to dash around Hogwarts unseen and in The Lord of The Rings, the elves supply Frodo and his companions with magic cloaks so they can blend into the background unseen. Today, we don't have to use a "magic cloak" to make ourselves or others "invisible". Often there are sectors of society who will be "invisible" to us - people like beggars whom we intentionally do not want to see, pretending that they do not exist. It is easy to ignore them because they are a source of embarrassment or a source of shame to us. Jesus did not turn a blind eye to Bartimaeus. He saw him and called him to Himself. What would you have done?

Our calling as disciples of the Lord is to see and "gaze lovingly at things that are real" in society. How can we see with loving eyes? When there is a need and we respond to them in a way that is within our capacity and capability. To say "Yes", is to be his disciples who can respond with a sense of urgency; "Yes" to letting go and be free when we are asked to leave behind, and throw off the cloak of our guilt, shame and stigma. We are invited to choose when the Lord calls and we must be ready to respond at once with energy and enthusiasm. Like Bartimaeus, we have to be in a state of freedom and availability, not to allow social niceties and political mores and policies to restrict our desire to be free and to see and be seen again -- to be recognised, acknowledged, accepted, and take our place in our family, in our work place and in society with dignity and respect. Saint Ignatius talks about this spirit or state as total availability, mobility and disponibility in the following of Christ

with detachment and freedom.

I heard once from a visiting Jesuit who shared his experience of being caught in a flood when he stayed in a hotel nearer the airport in Manila. On the morning he was about to leave, he could see clearly from his room that the flood water level was rising quickly. He had to make a split-second decision whether to stay and wait for the flood to subside or to chance it and leave immediately. The question is always whether we choose and respond with faith, and not allow fear to paralyze us. Luckily, he chose to leave in the nick of time! I had a similar experience when visiting Lourdes four years ago. We were fortunate to have left early or we would have been caught by the floods rising from fast flowing waters in Gave de Pau river. Later, we heard on the news that it was one of the worst floods in recent history. The waters had risen all the way up to altar level in the grotto of Our Lady!

How might we be prepared to respond to Jesus asking us, "What do you want me to do for you?" Apart from having an attitude of freedom, we should also be always vigilant in life —to be on the look out for dangers, for telltale signs of trickery at work by the enemy. Many had been caught in the trap of greed — of promises of fantastic returns from investment, from Ponzi schemes like Bernard Madoff's that ruined the lives of many pensioners. "When it is too good to be true — it is probably not true." We must always throw off the invisible cloak of shame, pride, greed and guilt and put on the armour of Christ in all we do. Then we will be able to "put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." (Eph 6:12).

FR COLIN TAN, SJ

#### PARISH NEWS

Next weekend's **SECOND COLLECTION** is for the poor.

#### ALL SAINTS' DAY (A DAY OF OBLIGATION) MASSES

Wednesday 31 October: 6.00pm

Thursday 1 November: 7.00am, 6.00pm and 8.00pm

### ALL SOULS' DAY (COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED) MASSES

Friday 2 November: 7.00am and 6.00pm. Blessing of niches at our columbarium after 6.00pm Mass.

\*Please note there is No First Friday Mass on Friday 2 November.

#### **LANDINGS ARRIVAL**

Landings Ministry is coming to St Ignatius. The outreach program helps welcomes back those who have been estranged from the Church. Contact Fr Jerome if you are interested in becoming coordinators and facilitators.

#### **CHRISTMAS CHORISTERS**

DVC Youth Choir invites all choristers to join them in singing for this year's Christmas Midnight Mass. Email dvcyouthchoir @gmail.com by Wednesday 31 October. The first practice is on 2 November.

**SALVE REGINA ORCHESTRA** invites string/woodwind musicians, aged 10 years and above (including adults), to accompany the Christmas Pageant Mass. Rehearsals begin next Sunday 4 November. Contact Claire at ooi.claire@gmail.com for information.

#### **RESPONDING TO CONFLICT**

PARISH-WIDE FORMATION SESSIONS
St Ignatius Hall, 7.45pm-10pm
SESSION 3: Responding to Conflicts in School (8 November)
For details and registration, go to www.stignatius.org.sg, scan the QR code, or get forms at the Place of Gathering.

The **PARISH EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM** is looking for more volunteers to help in preventing and managing emergencies in church. These range from providing simple medical assistance to guiding parishioners, especially the elderly and the young to safely evacuate from the church premises should there be a fire, security violation or other emergencies. Register at the Help Desk at the Place of Gathering or online https://goo.gl/forms/ai4szMJ5lKwZFA6m2. Training will be provided.

**INFANT BAPTISMS** on Sunday 11 November at 3.00pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend a briefing on Sunday, 4 November 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms available at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Michelle Ng (9633 8236) & Dennis (9457 7772) or Alison (9691 3447) & Gordon Pinto (9615 3447).

#### **LEADING LITTLE ONES TO GOD**

**REGISTRATION FOR 2019 CLASSES** 

LLOTG K2 classes (for children born in 2013) will be on Saturdays from 4.00pm to 5.30pm. Register at http://bit. ly/K2-LLOTG-2019 (case-sensitive).

LLOTG K1 classes (for children born 2014) will be on Saturdays from 1.30pm to 3.00pm. Register at http://bit.ly/K1-LLOTG-2019 (case sensitive) Closing date: Friday 16 November.



#### CHILDREN'S DAY GIFT OF TOOTHBRUSHES

ACTS Cambodia invites the children of St Ignatius to celebrate Children's Day 2018 by giving toothbrushes to children in Cambodia. 5000 child-sized toothbrushes will be sent to 2,500 children in Battambang Province and Don Bosco Schools. Hand your gift to your Catechist during the Weekend Catechetical, CCD, Children's Liturgy, Leading Little Ones or CGS sessions, or leave them in the boxes provided at the Place of Gathering, Catechetical office or parish office. Until 28 October.

#### WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Primary 1 registration for 2019 opens from this Thursday 1 November. Limited spaces are also available for NEW registrations for other levels – subject to the existing enrolment and other conditions. Registrations close on 30 November and are available ONLY on our website at: http://stignatius.org.sg/home/ministries/faith-formation/catechetical-ministry/weekend/registration Existing youths and children in our programme need not register. Email stignatius.wecat@gmail. com for queries.

#### **CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY**

Our community unites with our parish to remember our saints and dearly departed for the Feast of All Saints. This Wednesday October 31, there is no prayer meeting.

#### **SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET**

Saturday 3 November. 9.00am at La Storta Room. HOW ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTANTS IMPACT ECO SYSTEMS AND HEALTH: Talk by Assoc Prof Karina Gin, who teaches Environmental Engineering atNational University of Singapore. Register with Angela Sng at 9664 2094 by Wednesday 31 October.

Visit our edible garden and marketplace with organically farmed vegetables, fruits, herbs, plants and saplings, home baked cakes, desserts, seed exchange programme and more. Contributions most welcome. 10am – 12 Noon at Annexe Porch (next to Sacred Heart Hall). Contact Patricia Cheah at 9620 0085 for details.

#### MASS POWERPOINT SLIDES

AV Ministry is conducting a survey on the effectiveness of the slides during Mass.

Feedback forms are available at the Help Desk at the Place of Gathering after Mass. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.



# Parish Assembly

lose to 100 parishioners attended the Parish Assembly held on Saturday 20 October at Ignatius Hall to review 2018 and to chart the course for the coming year.

Musician and songwriter Fr Ricky Manolo, CSP, and his musical collaborator Janet Sullivan Whittaker, were visiting our parish from the US to give a concert later that same day. We began with a meditation on Fr Manalo's composition "Be Still and Know I'm Here". Fr Manalo spoke to us on Encountering Christ in Worship. He challenged us to examine which symbols, persons and experiences have led us to a deeper encounter with God. He shared his own experiences growing up in a prayerful Filipino family in New Jersey and as a member of his parish church.

While the immediate goal of Liturgy is to lead us to a dynamic, participatory experience of worship as one unified body of Christ, he explained that its final goal is the total surrender of ourselves to live the mystery of God that we cannot ever really comprehend. Perhaps this is the final resting place where we are still and know He is God.

We reviewed the past 10 months of 2018 -- Parish Priest Fr Colin Tan examined a number of new initiatives that had been introduced to our community of St Ignatius. Among them were monthly thematic masses built on his vision of an inclusive community. Talks on the family have addressed the many strains and stresses that Catholic couples and families are facing today. Fr Colin's passion for conserving the environment gave birth to green initiatives such as the Farmers Market, and the creating of green spaces for eco gardening and reducing waste.

As a parish we continue to focus

on inter religious dialogue and social mission projects. Our Feast Day Fiesta (shown in a video montage) not only brought our community together in a morning of fun, food, games and fellowship, it also raised \$800,000 for the displaced Rohingya people.

Looking towards 2019 in the "Periscoping Ahead" segment, Fr Colin spoke of the need to carry on and build on these initiatives, and to explore some new areas for the future. He spoke of his desire to look into "How to be More Loving". When he took over as parish priest, Fr Colin spoke







of his vision to lead St Ignatius to be more Loving, Inclusive, Discerning and Apostolic (LIDA). So in 2019 we will begin with Loving.

Ignatian Spirituality will always be a driver in all that we do as a parish family. For next year Fr Colin has planned a Feast Day Triduum by South African Fr Peter McIsaac, SJ, a Christian Music Festival and a parish wide retreat. Bible Conex will be introduced to offer small groups the chance to deepen their understanding of Scripture.

Addressing practical needs, Fr Colin revealed plans to build a covered walkway, a wheelchair ramp for better access and improving the pick up/drop off points in the driveway. Noting how our talk on the Christian perspective towards end of life issues was very enlightening, he canvassed the idea of offering talks on Christian financial management to parishioners.

The Parish Assembly ended with the election of 9 members to the Parish Pastoral Council – Simon Cheong (current PPC Chairman), John Lum, Alexander Ee, Joyce Wong, Kenneth Goh, Margaret Wan, Marjorie Teo, Raymundo Yu, Renato Sirtori and secretary Michele Ng. Fr Jerome led us in a closing prayer of thanksgiving, entrusting our plans for the future to God.







#### **ONCC NEWS**

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

#### **ZONE A DISTRICT 3 – ST JOSE MARIA RUBIO**

Wednesday, 31 October, Rm SH-E

Programme: "The Virgin Mary revealed through Scripture" by Dr Scott Hahn

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

Thursday, 15 November, Rm SH-F

Programme: 1) Gospel Sharing – Daily Word of God 2) Introduction to Ignatian Spirituality

Members of all NCCs are invited and encouraged to attend a recollection and Mass, followed by lunch, celebrating the end of the year. Saturday 8 December, 9.00am to 1.00pm. Please inform your respective NCC facilitators of your attendance.

#### JESUIT NEWS

#### A RELIGIOUS-CHARISM RETREAT

Have you ever wondered about the different religious orders in Singapore? What makes each charism so special and unique in answering God's call to vocation? Open to all aged 25 – 45 years.

Dates & Times: Saturday 10 Nov (9am) – Sunday 11 Nov (3pm)

Contribution: \$120 (non-AC), \$140 (AC)

Facilitators: Celina Lin & Team Register: http://tinyurl.com/rcr18

#### 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

#### IS BLIND FAITH A VIRTUE?

"Heart" or faith is often contrasted against "head knowledge" or the role of reason in the Christian faith. Based on the teachings of Pope John Paul II's encyclical Faith and Reason, discover how this is critical in the task of evangelization. 20 November, 7.30-9.00pm at CANA The Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street #02-01. Speaker: Kelvin Ng, Lector and RCIA sponsor at the Church of the Sacred Heart. Enquiries and registrations to theology.sg@gmail.com or call Nick at 9784 3682.

#### 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 account.

#### **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

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