



## Transforming Fears into Faith

**L**ike anyone else, I too grew up with my fair staple of ghost stories, aliens from outer space, weird “green creatures”, and frightening spirits with supernatural powers and human beings possessed by evil spirits. One that I remember was the rumour that the stone eagles on an entrance of a house along Upper Serangoon road, would come alive and fly at night to attack people. Often, these are exaggerations and tall tales not facts.

Still, it is obvious that humanly, we do harbour some measure of fears and phobias tinged with fascination for the extra-ordinary and the supernatural things in life. When we hear of miraculous phenomenon” like the inexplicable “image” of Mary or of Jesus appearing on a window in a hospital in Malaysia or on the wall of some houses in Indonesia, or weeping statues in Korea or the US, we almost instinctly want to go and see for ourselves.

Yet, in this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus gives us his insightful reading of human nature and its tendency to be easily taken in by prophets of doom and the end time scenario. Perhaps, knowing the background to Mark’s social and political context of turmoil and persecution of

the Christians can help frame the meaning of what our Lord is telling us.

Christians living in and around Rome under Nero (AD 37-68) had been the scapegoat for the epic fire that burned in the great stadium of Circus Maximus in Rome in July, AD 64. It was also a time where Jewish uprisings were common as they fought back against the repression of the Roman soldiers. This resulted in the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 AD. Hence, many in Mark’s community wondered if the end times predicted by Jesus were in fact quite near, especially when many Christians were cruelly treated as food and game for the wild animals in the circus.

**For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**(Rm 8:38-39)**

It is in this context, that Jesus instructed his disciples about the need for watchfulness so that they will not be caught unprepared for this final Day of Judgment. Jesus continues this teaching by pointing out to his disciples that there are signs to look out in nature like a fig tree for the seasons and times.

Similarly, they can tell when the end is near for Jesus when he is grievously accused and persecuted. But more importantly, Jesus also teaches, however, that no one knows when the

**SSVP MILK & DIAPERS (MAD) project** helps low income families by providing milk and diapers for their children (below 3 years old). It provides the children with basic sustenance and nutrition in their crucial developmental years. To find out more about how you can help, visit SSVP and MaD booths at the Place of Gathering.



end time will come, except the Father.

At our staff retreat recently, we watched a movie, “Paul of Tarsus”. I was struck by the response of Paul when questioned by Maritius about his indifference to suffering, torture and death. “Do you think I would be willing to die for Christ if I had doubts?” (Paul of Tarsus replying to Mauritius, Prefect of Rome). “For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Rm 8:38-39).

Hence, we must not fear what is to come in life. All we need is to have love, to stand firm and hold tight to our faith and the certainty of being loved by God. All fears can be transformed into unwavering faith if we only believe and trust in God’s goodness and providence and love. “How can I grow in this certainty of faith?”

**FR COLINTAN, 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

### NOVEMBER — MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE DEAD

You can remember deceased relatives and friends by submitting their names at the Place of Gathering. These will be offered at all weekend Masses in November.

### ADVENT WREATH MAKING

The Welcoming Ministry invites families and friends to come together for Advent wreath making with music, games and festive potluck. Saturday 1 December, 3.15-5pm. @ \$50 per wreath with nett proceeds to the Social Mission Fund. Contact Lynette at [Lynette@gmail.com](mailto:Lynette@gmail.com) by Sunday 18 November. On a first come first served basis, and places run out fast. Please leave payments at the church office, after receiving an email confirmation.

### ADVENT / CHRISTMAS REFLECTION BOOKLETS

The Office for the New Evangelisation's booklet of reflections for Advent and Christmas is available in English, Mandarin and Tamil with the theme "Watching & Active Waiting in Communion" for Advent, and "Celebrating in Communion" for Christmas. Online edition at <http://bit.ly/one-advent-2018>

All are invited to spread joy at the **SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MASS AND PARTY FOR THE AGED, SICK AND HOUSEBOUND** by the PaCes Ministry. Friday 28 December, 2.30-5.00 pm. Sign-up forms at Place of Gathering.

**INFANT BAPTISMS** Sunday 9 December at 3.00pm  
Parents and godparents are required to attend a briefing on Sunday 2 December, 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 Bob (9767 3053) & Beth Bermundo (9648 5345) or Stephanie (9116 6898) & John Ng (96773632).

### LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

Our final session for 2018 is Sunday 25 November, on the Solemnity of Christ the King. The Children's Liturgy Program will be back on Sunday 17 February, 2019.

### LEADING LITTLE ONES TO GOD NEEDS YOU!

LLOTG needs to recruit Catechists for 2019, to successfully continue our Formation Program for K1 and K2 children. We have two time slots – 1.30pm to 3pm, or 4pm to 5.30pm – for just 10 Saturdays a year. As we have different teams teaching each week, volunteers can choose their team and dates. Email: [llogt.ignatius@gmail.com](mailto:llogt.ignatius@gmail.com)

### WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Primary 1 registration for 2019 is NOW OPEN. Limited places are also available for NEW registrations for other levels – subject to the existing enrolment and other conditions. All registrations will close on 30 November. Existing youths and children in our programme need not register. Register ONLY through our website at: <http://stignatius.org.sg/home/ministries/faith-formation/>

catechetical-ministry/weekend/registration Email [stignatius.wecat@gmail.com](mailto:stignatius.wecat@gmail.com) if you have any queries.



### JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS

All are welcome to the Jumble sale on Saturday, 24 November, 9.30am to 3.00pm and Sunday 25 November, 9.30am to 1.00pm at St Ignatius Hall. In aid of the Parish Social Mission Fund.

### LANDINGS ARRIVAL

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

**NCC DAY OF RECOLLECTION/YEAR END MASS AND FELLOWSHIP** 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 2.00pm. Please inform your respective NCC facilitators of your attendance.

### CER FELLOWSHIP

Thursday 22 November, 7.30pm-9.45pm at Annexe Hall with Fr Colin. All are welcome including non-CER retreatants to learn more about this fellowship. The theme is: "The Ineffable Love of God". Please register via scanning the QR code.



### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

#### PRIEST, PROPHET & KING PREVIEW

Learn from Bishop Barron the priestly, prophetic, and kingly missions of Jesus and his followers. On Wednesday 21 November, 9.30am-12pm. To register, sms Viv (9785 2268) or Jo (8183 2273).

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

In Matthew 16:24-28, Jesus challenges us to take up our cross and follow Him. All are welcome to a sharing on this bible passage and how we can take up this challenge in our daily lives. This Wednesday 21 November, at St Ignatius Hall. Fellowship dinner starts at 7.30pm, and the evening ends at 9.30pm.

### RIP NEWS– RISEN IN THE LORD

Catherine Kwee Sioe Wan – 70 years old  
Departed: 27 October 2018

## NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

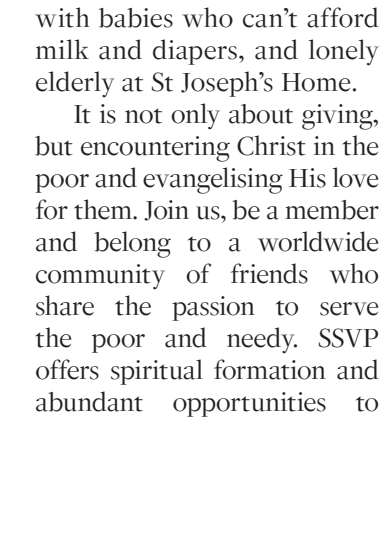
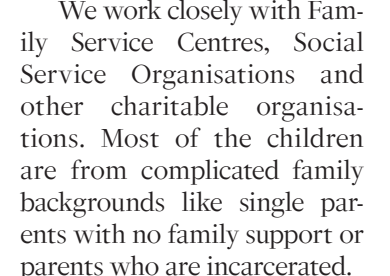
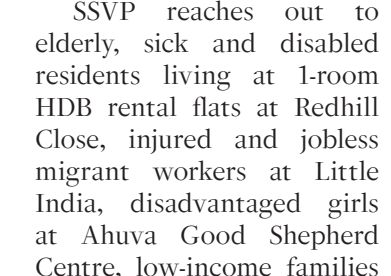
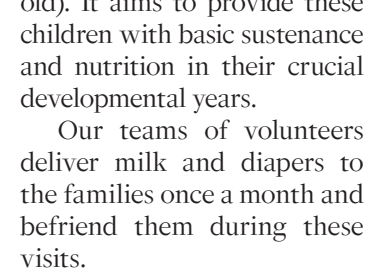
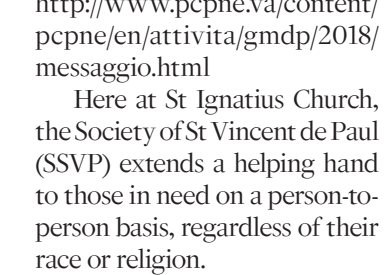
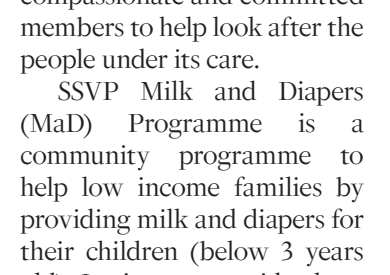
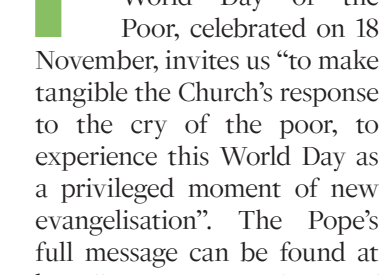
### ZONE A D2 – ST AUGUSTINE

Wednesday, 21 November, Rm #02-02 Sacred Heart Hall  
Programme: Preparing for the Coming of the Lord

### ZONE B DISTRICT 2 GROUP 1

Thursday 22 November, contact: [lennard.thean@gmail.com](mailto:lennard.thean@gmail.com)  
Programme: Gospel of Matthew by Jeff Cavins





# A Helping Hand

**“This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him” Ps 34:6**

**P**ope Francis in his message for the second World Day of the Poor, celebrated on 18 November, invites us “to make tangible the Church’s response to the cry of the poor, to experience this World Day as a privileged moment of new evangelisation”. The Pope’s full message can be found at <http://www.pcpne.va/content/pcpne/en/attivita/gmdp/2018/messaggio.html>

Here at St Ignatius Church, the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) extends a helping hand to those in need on a person-to-person basis, regardless of their race or religion.

SSVP reaches out to elderly, sick and disabled residents living at 1-room HDB rental flats at Redhill Close, injured and jobless migrant workers at Little India, disadvantaged girls at Ahuva Good Shepherd Centre, low-income families with babies who can’t afford milk and diapers, and lonely elderly at St Joseph’s Home.

It is not only about giving, but encountering Christ in the poor and evangelising His love for them. Join us, be a member and belong to a worldwide community of friends who share the passion to serve the poor and needy. SSVP offers spiritual formation and abundant opportunities to

help you to grow in your faith! SSVP needs more compassionate and committed members to help look after the people under its care.

SSVP Milk and Diapers (MaD) Programme is a community programme to help low income families by providing milk and diapers for their children (below 3 years old). It aims to provide these children with basic sustenance and nutrition in their crucial developmental years.

Our teams of volunteers deliver milk and diapers to the families once a month and befriend them during these visits.

We work closely with Family Service Centres, Social Service Organisations and other charitable organisations. Most of the children are from complicated family backgrounds like single parents with no family support or parents who are incarcerated.

There are currently 100 families (and 120 children) being helped in northern and western parts of Singapore (namely, Bukit Batok, Bukit Panjang, Choa Chu Kang, Boon Lay, Jurong, Yishun and Woodlands).

We would be grateful to receive your support in the form of a donation or sponsorship of a child, or you can join us and be a volunteer befriender.





## JESUIT NEWS

### ADVENT DAY OF QUIET

Spend time this Advent season to reflect on the coming of our Lord. For beginners or seasoned seekers who would like to experience a day in silent prayer and reflection.

Dates/ Times: Choose either Friday, 14 December 2018 (10am – 5pm) or Saturday, 15 December 2018 (10am – 5pm)

Contribution: \$60 (inclusive of lunch and refreshments)

Facilitators: Fr Greg Tan, SJ & Roselie Chia

Register: <http://tinyurl.com/ador18>

**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. Tuesday 20 November, 7.30-9pm 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](mailto:theology.sg@gmail.com) or call Nick at 9784 3682.

### QUIETING THE SOUL: SINGAPORE

by The Cenacle Sisters and Team

Date: 23 (Friday 7pm) – 25

November (Sunday 4pm)

Venue: St Patrick House (behind St Patrick's School)

Contribution: \$250/person (single rm)

Registration: [www.cenaclemission.com](http://www.cenaclemission.com)

Enquiries: 9722 3148; Whatsapp

9641 5651; Email: [cenaclemission](mailto:cenaclemission)

[singapore@gmail.com](mailto:singapore@gmail.com).

Step aside from the busyness of life for quiet prayer and reflection, and deepen your relationship with God. Individualized retreat, guided by a trained spiritual director, who will help you process your prayer and to discern God's voice.

**PIETA** is a support group for bereaved parents who seek God's comfort, wisdom and hope through prayer and reflection on the WORD OF GOD. Our next monthly session (every 4th Tuesday of the month) is Tuesday 27 November, 7:30pm at Agape Village, Toa Payoh Lorong 8. Email: [pieta.singapore@gmail.com](mailto:pieta.singapore@gmail.com) or facebook: <https://facebook.com/PietaSingapore>

### 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 one year 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](http://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