



CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

Vol 89 No 17
Sunday
24 March
2019

Bearing Better Fruits

Social inequality. Climate change. Food shortages. War. All the strife and confusion in the world. All that befalls people. They concern us as humanity. We need to know how it happened, in order to try to avoid it in the future. What is not a concern is to judge why something happened, why someone killed, why someone became a refugee.

If we feel unable to bring good into the world, to change horrible events that happen, reflect instead on being more grateful for the life we have. But, who is responsible for the good things in our lives? Are we tangibly manipulating our entire good life? Are we always able, always in control?

As a religious, I propose that the most profitable reflection we can have is really how we can be more like incarnated grace to the unseen others, bringing love and mercy to those in need. There is a beauty in being grateful. The common good of my life is not all within my grasp, but is greatly dependent on others, most especially God.

More importantly, I can contribute to that common good by being charitable and good to others. In fact, we will feel uncomfortable, because it should challenge the status quo. Precisely because the status quo has resulted in people in need, having a different life from us, have greater or different lack from us.

This difference creates stratification of life, and of the opportunities available. These people are seemingly

our antithesis. However, the division between others and us is against the notion that the kingdom of God is for everyone, including our enemies.

While we do occasionally construct divisions, hide information, move against others, often the motivating source is negative, of fear of change, a lack of courage to face up to difficult conversations, or shame and cowardice of our imperfections. We can even feel merciful in not distressing the other persons by hiding things – which is not a bad thing in itself.

Such ambiguity is not for us to judge. Jesus asked not the reasons why people were poor or afflicted by their sins. Jesus asked them what they wished, and gave them what they wished for, including healing them of their sins and infirmities.

If we were asked about the good that we do, the fruits of our lives, would people ask us about our faith? Or would there be other qualifying measures that matter more? At the end of time, what would God ask? How would we respond to God then?

The season of Lent tries to let us get to know God – and ourselves – a little better. Ask yourself what you would do when asked by God – and think about what you might do now, in order to bear better fruits in the future. Lent is a season for preparation. Seize the opportunity to take stock, ask for Jesus' mercy, help and blessings, and make the necessary changes.

MICHAEL PHUNG, SJ



Lenten Triduum and Recollection

All Talks start at 8.00pm

Loving the World as Jesus Did

Tuesday, 2 April, St Ignatius hall
Speaker: Sundaresh Menon

Loving the World as St Ignatius Did

Wednesday, 3 April, Church
Speaker: Fr Jerome Leon, SJ

Loving the World as God Did

Thursday, 4 April, Church
Speaker: Fr Colin Tan, SJ

Lent Penitential Service

Church of St Ignatius:
Wednesday 10 April, 8.00pm
As this is a communal celebration, we invite you to remain for the closing prayer and blessing at 9.30pm.

West District Parishes' Penitential Services

All penitential services start
at 8.00pm.

St Mary of the Angels Church:
Thursday 4 April

Holy Cross Church:
Monday 8 April

St Francis of Assisi Church:
Tuesday 9 April

Blessed Sacrament Church:
Thursday 11 April



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

Third Sunday of Lent ★ 1st Reading Exodus 3:1-8,13-15 ★ 2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12 ★ Gospel Luke 13:1-9

PARISH NEWS

To accommodate this weekend's **SEC 4 ICOMM CONFIRMATION RETREAT**, please remove all cars from the open carpark at Sacred Heart Hall immediately after Saturday's 6pm Sunset Mass.

LENT BOARDS

Lent is a time for prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As a sign of your commitment, you may use the materials provided at the Place of Gathering to post your penitential intentions.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent after 7.00am Mass and before Evening Mass at 5.15pm. On Friday 5 April, it will be at 7.15pm before the First Friday Mass of Sacred Heart at 8pm.

CCD LENTEN PROGRAMMES

G1 -7 PRE-HOLY WEEK PARA-LITURGY

Tuesday 9 April & Thursday 11 April

Procession to main Church with palms.

Eucharistic Adoration for children: 4.10pm to 5pm

REFLECTING ON LENT THROUGH ART

This Lent, we welcome you to join us as we meditate on scripture centred on Lenten themes, and respond to it through creating an art/craft. Art materials will be provided. No prior experience is required, and everyone (aged 21 and above) is welcome to attend!

Location: Open Studio @ St Ignatius, classroom #01-08/09

Dates: 6 weekly Friday sessions (8 March - 12 April)

Timing: 9.00am – 12 noon

Cost: A love offering will be collected for each session.

Sessions are not linked so participants can attend the sessions that suit them.

Enquiries: Anne at anne.eighteen@gmail.com.

Registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/E2CZMK6bMrormjrn2>

(Participants may also register on the day of the session itself) or scan QR Code



THE ROAD TO EMMAUS BIBLE PROGRAM FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Young adults under the age of 35 are invited to deepen their relationship with God through encountering Him in Scripture. The Road to Emmaus Bible Program for young adults begins from 25 March, every Monday except holidays, 7.45pm at the Annex Hall. Contact Raymond (9731 8432) for more information.

FARMERS MARKET ORGANIZED BY GREEN MOVEMENT

Gather family and friends for our next Farmers Market. On offer are fresh vegetables, fruits, potted herbs and edibles, and the Green Café. Bring your own bags and takeaway containers. You can also learn about composting and up-cycling. Donations of potted herbs such as rosemary, mint and thyme would be appreciated. Contact Patricia at 9620 0085. Saturday 6 April, 10am to noon, at Annexe Lobby and Sacred Heart Hall canteen.

ALPHA FILM SERIES:

BEGIN THE GREATEST ADVENTURE

Session 7: How Can I Be Filled with the Holy Spirit? Alpha, the series of interactive sessions that explores the meaning of life in the context of our Christian faith, Thursday 28 March. Sessions begin with a meal, followed by video/talk and short group discussion. 7.00pm at Sacred Heart Hall (Canteen).

WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Parents, guardians, youths and children in our programme are reminded that Term 1 break is 16/17 March to 23/24 March. Term 2 sessions begin next Saturday 30/Sunday 31 March.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

As Jesus hung on the cross his Seven Last Words reveal how deeply he loves us and his desire for us to return to God completely in heart, mind and soul. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" John 15:13. All are welcome to Worship, Meditation and Contemplation. This Wednesday 27 March at St Ignatius Hall. Fellowship dinner begins at 7.30pm and session ends at 9.30pm.

RIP NEWS- RISEN IN THE LORD

Daniel Tan Jen Chiang – 45 years old
Departed: 14 March 2019

Rose Mary Maher – 82 years old

Departed: 16 March 2019

NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

ZONE B DISTRICT 2

Thursday 4 April. Contact: lennard.thean@gmail.com
Programme: Gospel of Matthew by Jeff Cavins

ZONE E DISTRICT 3

Thursday 28 March, SH-02-E

Programme: "Mission possible – unsung heroes" Highlighting people who have answered the call to move out of their comfort zone 1) to serve the disabled and socially disadvantaged, 2) to educate girls to reach their potential and be of service to society and nation.

A little love note

Happy families play and pray together to enjoy a sense of spiritual and physical wellbeing.



Portion of God's Love

In the Old Testament Book of Joshua Chapter 22, the Western and Eastern Tribes of Israel were instructed by Joshua to take possession of the land in Cana, that was promised to them by God, on the west and east side of the River Jordan, respectively. Because the Eastern tribes were separated from the Western tribes by the Jordan River, they decided to build a great and impressive altar to the Lord.

The altar would not be for burnt offerings or sacrifices, but as a witness between them and the rest of Israel that they too worship the Lord so that future descendants would not say that they had “no share in the Lord”. They wanted to claim their portion of the Lord their God. Of course this entire chapter reveals other fascinating aspects of honest and true worship of God; however, what touched me most was the Eastern tribes’ boldness in building this great altar as a witness of their true worship of a faithful God who fought their battles with and for them so that they could finally enter into the covenantal Promised Land.

In wondering what I ought to do this Lent, I thought, “Lord, how can I claim my portion of you?”

I know that we have Jesus Christ, today and everyday, and he is now and always our entire

portion of God's love, because he was the ultimate and final sacrifice for us to now claim our place in eternal life with the Holy Trinity. Should I, like the Eastern tribes, go and do something bold, big and great as witness that I worship the one true God?

There is so much I want to do, but the reality of my present situation tells me that there is only so much I can do and that is not much. Then I read another verse in Joshua 22 when the Eastern tribes had to explain to the rest of Israel why they had to build this great altar – they were accused of building a rival place of worship ... and their answer was: “The Mighty One, God, the Lord! The Mighty One, God, the Lord! He knows”.

I am reminded that God knows the most secret thoughts and desires of our hearts. He knows. So I shall begin by reading His Word more this Lent, that I instead may know more of Him, more of His purpose for me. And ask for His grace to listen and obey. I may not be able to build a great big altar as a witness of my faith, but with the strength and grace of the Holy Spirit, I can start with small beginnings, my family, my community.

ROSITA ABREW



JESUIT NEWS

MARITAL FIRST RESPONDER (MFR) TRAINING WORKSHOP

Pick up the seven essential skills needed to help individuals with marital issues. Learn to discern when to listen, give guidance, or direct friends and family members to seek professional counselling help.

Facilitator: Fr Charles Sim, SJ Ph.D.

Date: Saturday, 27 April 2019

Time: 9.30am - 5.30pm

Contribution: \$150 (includes lunch & refreshments)

Register: <http://tinyurl.com/mfr19>

Jesuit Regional Curia, Telephone: 6469 7356

Fr Christopher Soh, SJ, Fr James Tan, SJ

Kingsmead Hall, Jesuit Community, Tel: 6466 3225

Fr Gerald Tseng, SJ, Fr Charles Sim, SJ, Fr Leslie Raj, SJ, Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ,
Fr Gregory Tan, SJ, Fr Ravi Michael Louis, SJ, Msgr Philip Heng, SJ, Fr Adrian Danker, SJ,

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

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

HUMANITARIAN FORUM & FAIR 2019 ROADSHOW

Interested to do overseas volunteer work or go on a mission trip? Learn more about overseas humanitarian work at the CHARIS Humanitarian Forum & Fair on Saturday, 1 June 2019 at Catholic Junior College. Call 6337 4119 or email HFF@charis-singapore.org for details. To register via our online form, visit our website at www.charis-singapore.org/hff2019.

CHOICE

Come away for a Choice Weekend – it is by the choices we make that we define our life.

29 - 31 March (Friday evening to Sunday evening) at Choice Retreat House, 47 Jurong West Street 42, S 649368. Enquiries: Celia (9876 3214) Register/Info: http://www.choice.org.sg/?page_id=8

BECOMING WHAT WE RECEIVE

Sunday 31 March, at 4 Sommerville Road, 3.15pm to 6.00pm
Half-day retreat for married couples to give them time and space to be quiet and pray with the Word of God. By Verbum Dei Missionaries. To register, SMS or WhatsApp Mark at @9487 0999.

CRASH COURSE: MISSION & EVANGELISATION

Date/Time: 30 March, 1.30pm - 3pm
Venue: SFX Major Seminary, 618 Upp Bukit Timah Rd
Organised by: Office for the New Evangelisation
Discover the meaning of Mission and Evangelisation through the history of the Church until the Second Vatican Council.
Speaker: Rev Fr Kenson Koh
Register at www.one.org.sg/events

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; 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. No session in June and December

Memorial Mass

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