



## 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



## Laetare Sunday

**T**oday is Laetare Sunday, the day in the middle of Lent on which the Church calls us to rejoice, as the Latin name suggests.

Why would we read the story of the Prodigal Son on such a day?

The word “prodigal” means “generous” but also “spendthrift” and “squandering,” and it actually applies more to the father than it does to the younger son: the father knows beforehand what is in the son’s heart and how the son will handle the money, and when the son returns home, the father is ready to give him even more. This is in spite of the fact that the son breaks his father’s heart: the son sees his father only as a source of money – and a supposed resultant freedom – and is eager to cut himself off from anything else the father offers.

More than wealth, what the father offers to this wastrel is love, but the young man does not see how much his father yearns for him to return that love. When the son returns and approaches his father’s house, the father is already out on the road, carefully watching, and sees his son coming and recognizes him even while he is still far off. He is eager to offer his son full restoration of everything, not only wealth but his original place in the family, something the son can receive and cherish now that he has found humility and is willing to repent and redeem his ungratefulness by a new way of life.

We can see how this part of the story calls to us, but the tale is not complete until we consider the older brother, who would have been generally considered, precisely as the older brother, to have more inheritance rights than the daughters or the younger sons. He clearly works on the basis of establishing his merit and increasing how much the

father “owes” him; he never knows the father’s love because he never feels that he has earned it yet. There is a certain arrogance here, a belief that he can be accepted and even loved sheerly on the basis of his own efforts and sacrifices, and his attitude towards the welcome which the father offers his brother is very revelatory of the difference between him and his father.

Our merit and worthiness, even our sinfulness, are not what God is about. Our God is always on the lookout for us, wherever we are and whatever we are doing, already gifting us with what we need to live properly and to discover and live in His love – but our eyes and our hearts are childishly turned away from Him.

Here, that amounts to our holding tight to our guilt and our shame, refusing to open ourselves to accept the forgiveness, peace, freedom, confidence, and everything else that comes with God’s love. Our Father’s love is so constant, perfect, and overwhelming that even guilt doesn’t matter – as long as we are seeking Him in a concrete and heartfelt manner and giving ourselves to the humbling act of continually turning and returning to Him.

All of this is not a matter of our understanding and insight, not if we want to truly profit from it. It is a personal matter, a question of our hearts and our radical simplicity and trust as children of God. Thus it is a matter of our turning to our Father in prayer to ask Him to help us make that passage from our childish refusal to be loved to that child-like trust and joyful openness to Him.

If we can do that, this truly can become Laetare Sunday for us.

**CHAS KESTERMEIER, SJ**

Jesuit Community, Creighton University

## PARISH NEWS

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

### THEMATIC MASSES

First weekend of April:

Saturday 6.00pm – Family Mass

Sunday 8.15am – Children's Mass

Sunday 12.15pm – Youth Mass

We want to encourage greater participation of children, youths and families in our Liturgy so that they can take ownership of the Mass, and together make all feel at home in St Ignatius Church. Please make a special effort to join us.

### FIRST FRIDAY – SACRED HEART OF JESUS MASS

Friday 5 April, 8.00pm

Please note that there will be NO 6.00pm Mass. Come with family and friends to renew your consecration to the Heart of Jesus. All are welcome.

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR CHILDREN

12 April, 7.45 pm – 9.00pm (2nd Friday of April)

Special Lenten programme of Stations and Veneration of the Cross, tailored for children. Come together as a family and spend an intimate hour with Jesus Christ.

### 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

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

### WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Catechetical Term 2 sessions begin this Saturday 30/ Sunday 31 March.

**SUNDAY CANTEEN** is open this Sunday 31 March, 9.00am to 12.00pm. All are welcome for Sunday brunch, fellowship and family gatherings.

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

There is no CRC prayer meeting this Wednesday 3 April as we join the Parish at the Lenten Triduum and Recollection. We encourage everyone to join in and support our Parish's Lent activities.

### INFANT BAPTISMS Sunday 21 April, 3.00pm.

Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing on Sunday 14 April, 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) & BC Chong, or Anthony (9815 9889) & Mariana Heng (9270 8213).

### BETTER LATE THAN NEVER:

#### CATECHESIS FOR LATE-BLOOMERS

Catechetical program for adults seeking confirmation on Saturday 8 June. Five sessions beginning from Thursday 2 May, 8.00pm at Annexe Hall. Others who need a "refresher course" on the faith are also welcome. First four sessions are conducted by Fr Jerome Leon, SJ, and the final by Ian de Vaz. Candidates for confirmation must attend all five sessions, with recollection (morning of 8 June), while confirmed parishioners may sign up for individual sessions.

### 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.

### DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

"Apart from the mercy of God there is no other Source of Hope for mankind." St John Paul II

All parishioners are invited to Divine Mercy Novena starting on Good Friday 19 April, 10.15am at St Ignatius Hall. Conducted by Frs Colin Tan, Ravi Louis Michael, Gregory Tan and Jerome Leon, SJ. Offering of petitions, healing and thanksgiving is at 6.00pm Mass on Sunday 28 April, Feast of Divine Mercy, followed by an unveiling of the new Divine Mercy painting and procession after Mass.

### RIP NEWS– RISEN IN THE LORD

Paul Teo Tian Guan – 104 years old  
Departed: 27 March 2019

### WEST DISTRICT AMAZING RACE

Make new friends, play games, and grow in faith. Youths aged 16 to 18 are invited to the West District Amazing Race, organised by 5 West District parishes. Saturday 6 April, 2.30-10pm. Cost \$10 (includes West District T-shirt). Sign up at <https://form.jotform.me/90588872000458>. DM Vic (8545 9891) or Ben (9828 0391) for information.

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 ★ Robert Ong Sacristan

Gerard Robert Youth Coordinator ★ Cheryl Lek Youth Coordinator

David Saw Operations Manager ★ Steven Leong Facilities Manager

Therese Gian Communications Manager

### A little love note

Show love and patience for your ageing parents by listening to their repeated stories as if you are listening to them for the first time. Your children are always observing you and will usually model your behaviour.



# Parts of the Same Body of Christ



At the Day of Recollection for Ministries in St Ignatius Parish Church on 9 March, Parish Priest Fr Colin Tan, SJ, reminded members of ministries that we are all parts of the same Body of Christ.

## Unity and Love as prerequisites for Ministry

In St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 12:12-27, although we are many parts, we are one body where no one is unimportant. Fr Colin asked us to search ourselves and ask, "Whatever I do, does it bring greater unity, does it express love or do I create division?" He also asked us to consider "what unity looks like". With this year's parish theme on being "More loving in your family", we were asked to consider how each of us can add "building bricks of love and encouragement for shaping the church".

## Jesuit priorities for the next 10 years

Fr Colin introduced the newly formulated "Universal Apostolic Priorities" (UAPs) of the Jesuit Order for the next 10 years. The Superior General of the Jesuits, in wide consultation with the Jesuit Order in many countries and in discussion with Pope Francis, has formulated FOUR UAPs. In a video presentation, Superior General Fr Arturo Sosa, SJ, passionately called on all Jesuits and all those in Jesuit parishes and ministries to take on board the four priorities. They are: **1.** To live and to teach the Spiritual Exercises and Common Discernment. We have to be people of prayer, rooted in Christ if this is to take place. **2.** To work with the poor, outcasts, those whose dignity has been violated, and to work for reconciliation with the poor and with creation. **3.** To accompany young people in order to create a hope-filled future, and **4.** To Collaborate in the care of our Common Home.

## Collaboration among Ministries

In a ONE video, Fr Terence Pereira compares the Communion we are called to, to the forest in which we have dense vegetation, but each plant and tree has its place and role and all belong together. Communion in the church can be like the "supportive eco-system" of the forest, and where Jesus is for everyone. Unfortunately, he says, we are often doing our own thing trying to divide up a bowl of soup meant to be shared from the one pot. We are all deeply one, united by our Baptism into the life of Jesus. Bernard Yu emphasised that Collaboration is a necessity. We may be so focused on our own particular ministry that we forget the wider needs of the persons involved, working with multiple ministries to serve people holistically. His own Magis Family Ministry widely covers many dimensions of family, which needs collaboration with different groups.

PPC chairman Simon Cheong sent us into small groups for discussion. He reminded all that we are called to grow in Holiness ourselves as well as bring others to Christ. It was agreed that the most important step was to build better relationships among the ministries, and all in the parish. Social Mission, for example, is a common ground for ministries to work together. Catechumens could be invited to experience the various ministries prior to baptism. NCC members could visit families with sick, elderly or bereaved members.

## Conclusion

Simon exhorted all present to get a move on and not wait for the priests or PPC to do everything. There is so much we can all do in our own ministries and families. Let's get the conversations started. Let us build stronger relationships and bring about deeper communion.

## **NCC NEWS**

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

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

Wednesday 17 April, #02-06

Programme: Symbolon, Session 4: Penance & Anointing of the Sick

### **ZONE B DISTRICT 1**

Tuesday 2 April, room SH-E

Programme: Stations Of The Cross/ Reflection, Discussion and Fellowship

### **ZONE B DISTRICT 3**

Thursday 11 April, #02 SH-F

Programme: 1) Gospel sharing – Daily Word of God

2) Seven Deadly Sins/Seven Lively Virtues (DVD). Rev. Robert E. Barron

## **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>

## **ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS**

### **LENTEN RECOLLECTION 2019**

Spend a day reflecting and praying on the invitations of the Lenten season, as deepening dispositions in us, not just for Lent, but throughout the year. By Cenacle Sisters.

Date/Time: Sunday 7 April, 9.30am – 5.00pm (Mass included)

Venue: St Patrick's House, 490 East Coast Road (behind St. Patrick's Sec Sch)

Contribution: Love Offering

Register at: [www.cenaclemission.com](http://www.cenaclemission.com)

### **SEXUAL RISK FORUM II – PORN PROOF YOUR CHILD**

Saturday 27 April, 9am - 1pm

Pornography – one of the most pervasive and perilous issues in sexuality. For parents/teachers/catechists/all to be equipped with knowledge and tools on how to porn-proof children. Register online at [sexualforum2019.peatix.com](http://sexualforum2019.peatix.com) or call 6488 0278.

### **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. No session in June and December

#### **Memorial Mass**

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