



Is this Love?

Jesus' new commandment for us is to love one another. We're used to receiving love. From our parents, family and friends. From pets. And we have given love in return, shown in ways that are meaningful to us, and to our loved ones receiving our attention. Love makes the world go round, the nation work, care for the environment, making every day bearable, even joyful. Yet, is this the love that Jesus showed to each of us? How does Jesus love?

Jesus' love starts not from a position of power but lowering, humbling himself, to love unconditionally, continually, culminating in and redeemed at Easter.

In the Easter season, the cross and resurrection are palpable reminders of God's love for us, signs of how Jesus loved. A way of loving that started from the very beginning. Jesus incarnated just as a baby, born in a network of caves that shepherds used. A place probably associated with thieves, ruffians, the dregs of society, as shepherds were regarded as such at that time. Jesus trustingly placed himself into his parents' circumstances, in the desperation and fear of dealing with shame, with prejudice.

Like his Father, perhaps Jesus was creating, bringing to completion, what had stalled, faltered – not failed, for Jesus doesn't seem to judge as such, at least not yet. No, even thugs and their abode are just a step in the perfection of every person on earth.

These shepherds were always on the lookout for an opportunity, wary of dangers, eking out a hard life. First to visit Jesus, someone still had to tell them how to interpret those signs of the times

they experienced and how to find Jesus.

Thus informed, they made a voluntary decision of faith to visit Jesus, presented to them in a comforting way, non-threatening, and in those familiar caves. In a place they called their own, probably associated with shame, guilty pleasures, sadness and longing, Jesus came to the shepherds vulnerable, not as a powerful and almighty God, but someone they could understand and trust, a mere baby.

Jesus' presence ignites the long-prophesied completion of the arrested development of humanity, starting with the lowest of the least. Jesus met them in their home, and elevated their thieves' den as a step in our means of salvation.

From a broken home, Jesus starts showing the way to his heavenly home, an example of humility gracing the damaged and marginalized. Jesus' love starts not from a position of power but lowering, humbling himself, to love unconditionally, continually, culminating in and redeemed at Easter.

God's mission does not influence Jesus himself as much as it does those asked to do likewise as Jesus did. Jesus did not think of shame and humiliation from appropriating a lowly status as a suffering in itself, but a way to love, and it became the way of hope and mercy.

It's a challenge to our regular ways of thinking and doing. It's a wake-up call against the daily grind: am I leading by example to another? Is this Jesus' way of loving, or are we leading Jesus to do our bidding instead?

MICHAEL PHUNG, SJ

INTER-RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS CONFIDENCE CIRCLE (IRCC)

Ulu Pandan & Al-Huda MMB Event

Our Parish is part of the Inter-Racial and Religious Confidence Circle (IRCC Ulu Pandan). In June, the IRCC together with Al-Huda MMB (Mosque Management Committee) is organising its yearly joint event for the month of Ramadan.



In line with our "Loving the World" theme, we invite volunteers to help distribute porridge to some 300 needy residents living in the Ghim Moh and Jalan Haji Alias area on Saturday, 1 June. Blk 2 Ghim Moh Road, 2.30pm - 4.00pm, and Jalan Haji Alias, 5.00pm - 6.00pm

We also invite parishioners to better understand our religious neighbours by attending the IRCC Talk and experience Iftar, the evening meal to break fast with Muslims, on Sunday 2 June at Al Huda Mosque, 34 Jalan Haji Alias, 5.30pm - 8.00pm. Limited places are available.

We encourage your support to help build relations with our neighbours. Sign up for these activities at the Place of Gathering.

PARISH NEWS

OFFICE CLOSURE

The parish office will be closed on Monday 20 May for Vesak Day public holiday. Daily 7am and 6pm masses are as usual.

MEMORIAL MASS for deceased loved ones is on Friday, 24 May, 6.00pm at the main Church, followed by prayers in the Columbarium. All are welcome.

MAY – MONTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The month of May is a special time for us to honour our Blessed Mother Mary. The Rosary will be recited after the daily 7.00am Mass, and before 6.00pm and Saturday Sunset Masses, from 5.15pm to 5.45pm.

GUIDED TOUR OF THE BIBLE 2019

By popular demand the Guided Tour of the Bible is back! The 2019 GTB begins from 4 July, Thursday, with a few sessions on Monday nights, 8pm to 10pm, until 24 October. Conducted by Sundaresh Menon in the Main Church, the tour starts with Genesis and ends with the Book of the Revelations. No prior knowledge of the Bible is expected or required. The journey takes you through the story of salvation in a simple and systematic way, while giving you an introduction to several important theological themes and highlighting the amazing unity between the Old and the New Testament. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/2019GTB> Email inquires to gtb.stign@gmail.com

JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS

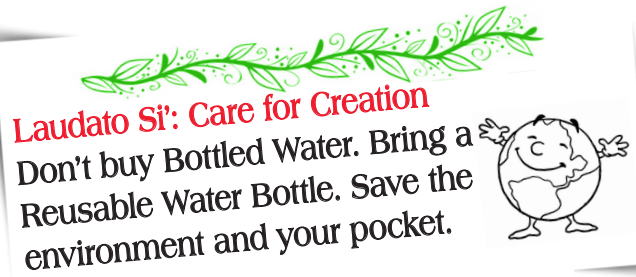
Saturday 29 June, 9.30am to 3.00pm, and Sunday 30 June, 9.30am to 1.00pm, at St Ignatius Hall. In support of the Parish Social Mission Fund. Ensure all donations are in good and saleable condition. NO bulky furniture, outmoded machines, TV and printers, video and cassette tapes, and text books. Place your donations by Wednesday 19 June at the drop-off outside Sacred Heart Hall canteen.

INFANT BAPTISMS on Sunday 9 June at 3.00pm.

Parents and godparents are required to attend a briefing on Sunday, 2 June 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms available at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Audrey Hwang (8128 8613) or Valerie (9189 3770) & Gerard Lee (9677 0078).

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

The Wednesday Bible Study's talk on Restorative Practices (RP) allows you an opportunity to experience the use of RP in building effective relationships and managing conflicts. This introductory RP session by certified trainers shows the way to build relationships and repair harm where needed. Activities include talking, learning, listening, support, peace, celebration, re-entry. Register with Viv (9785 2268) or Jo (8183 2273). Wednesday 29 May, 9:45am - 11:45am, at Annexe Hall.



OUR BEAUTIFUL WORLD. OUR BEAUTIFUL CREATURES

Come view our beautiful Kingsmead Tree, the Chalice Vine, the Coastal Glider, Hummingbirds and more. This photo exhibition celebrates all that God has created. Support the community garden fund with a love offering for any of the prints on display. Scan QR code to order. Organised by the Green Movement Ministry. Venue : Place of Gathering. Until 10 June.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA) 2018/2019

Begins 6 August (every Tuesday, 8.00pm to 10.00pm). Introduce friends or family to our Catholic faith. Baptised Catholics are also invited to journey as sponsors.

RCIA sponsors' and facilitators' briefing and training: every Tuesday from 9 July, 8.00pm. Enrolment forms for Inquirers and Sponsors at the Place of Gathering and website. Contact Teddy (9745 8313) or Angela (6466 0625).



CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

In the season of Easter, we are reminded of the immense love God has for us. It is through the Paschal mystery, we are invited to believe and to hope, and by hoping we may love. All are welcome to a Bible Sharing on 1 John 4: 6-12 this Wednesday, 22 May, at St Ignatius Hall. Light fellowship meal begins at 7.30pm with our light fellowship and session end at 9.30pm. All are welcome.

RIP NEWS– RISEN IN THE LORD

Tung Chao Ying –92 years old
Departed: 6 May 2019

NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

ZONE A DISTRICT 1- ST PAUL THE APOSTLE

Tuesday 4 June, Rm Sh-02-F

Programme: Symbolon: Episode 7 A Love That Lasts
Discovering Authentic Love

ZONE B DISTRICT 2

Thursday 6 June. Contact: lennard.thean@gmail.com

Programme: Gospel of Matthew by Jeff Cavins

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

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) together with ministries, NCC, SCC and other church group leaders, gathered on 4 May to take stock of the achievements of 2019 to date, and to chart the way forward.

To Grow As

After an introductory prayer by parish priest Father Colin Tan, PPC Chair Simon Cheong took the group through the agenda for the day. Fr Colin outlined the four new Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAP), announced by the Jesuit Superior General:

- ✓ *Promoting Discernment and the Spiritual Exercises*
- ✓ *Walking with the Excluded*
- ✓ *Caring for our Common Home*
- ✓ *Journeying with Youth*

If this sounds familiar, it's because it falls in line with our Parish's call to be more "loving, inclusive, discerning and apostolic (LIDA)". Little did we realise that when LIDA was conceptualised last year, that it would manifest in the UAP announced by the Jesuit Superior General. It is indeed heartening to know that we are on the right track.

Fr Colin also took stock of the milestones that the Church had achieved in 2019 which included the formation of four new ministries.

Joyce Wong (PPC Exco member), Angela Kunaidi (Parish Administrator) and Suzie (Parish Accountant) provided us with timely refreshers on the website, bulletin and financial procedures of the Church which came in handy for all.

Looking towards at the rest of 2019, Father Colin highlighted key events including the upcoming Triduum from 23 to 27 July,

leading up to our Feast Day Celebrations. This was followed by more good news – that the church will be installing multi-purpose ramps and covered walkways. This is another step (literally) towards being loving and inclusive – be it the wheelchair-bound, babes in strollers or people with walking aids – the church is making access easier. Of course, we can't do this alone, and fundraising will begin in earnest for this project soon. The church hopes that everyone, young and old, will open their hearts (and wallets) to help the Church fund the renovations.

Aside from enhancing the physical surroundings, and growing more ministries, more challenges lay ahead of us. These challenges were posed by Simon to each of us as we split into our groups. How do we increase cross-collaboration, or do we even know enough about the various ministries/groups in our Parish? How do we increase opportunities to bring new members into the fold and to build relationships with one another? Some ideas tossing around in my mind was an open day for all ministries and groups to engage with the newly baptised; joint Days of Recollection among ministries and groups that have a common purpose.

With such a free flow of ideas, it was little surprise that time ran out. There was a common consensus however – How do we as a parish continue to grow, as ONE church, united in one mission serving God? As individual ministries and groups, we have our own mission, but that must ultimately translate into one common goal for ONE church.

God did not create Earth in a day, so similarly, we can't change everything in a day, but together, we can harness our efforts as one church, to protect and love what God has given to us. "Two are better off than one because together they can work more effectively" (Ecclesiastes 4:9).

REBECCA THAYER

PHOTOS: JAMES CHOO



Church



JESUIT NEWS

HOW TO CHANGE WHEN YOU CAN'T CHANGE

How to deal with change? Why does science say it takes 2 months to change a destructive habit? How can it take less? This weekend retreat will look at what the Gospel and science say about what helps those who change successfully.

Date: Friday 31 May (7:30pm) to Sunday 2 June (5pm)

Facilitator: Fr Matthew Linn, SJ

Contribution: \$270 (non-AC), \$330 (AC)

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/linn19>

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

CHARITIES WEEK 2019 is launched during Lent as part of the Archdiocesan fundraising campaign. Your donation will provide much-needed funding to support the work of the Caritas Singapore family to partner and journey with the poor and vulnerable including low-income families, youth-at-risk, the incarcerated, people with physical disabilities, and also people with mental health problems. Pick up the purple appeal envelope and give generously. All Donations are eligible for 250% tax deduction.

Please note that Charities Week will close on 26 May 2019.

If you have any concern or require more information, please feel free to contact Pamela Lim at 6337 6197 (9271 3335) or email: pamela@caritas-singapore.org.

BROADWAY COMES TO TOWN!!!

Cana invites you to the presentation of the Gospel of Luke

and the Acts of the Apostles by Broadway actor, Bruce Kuhn. Bruce was in Singapore a few years ago and played to packed audiences – he's back with the same fervour, same passion for spreading the good news of Luke and Acts. Tickets at \$15 - www.canacatholiccentre.com or email canaevents2019@gmail.com or call 6338 4080/9176 8909

GLOBAL ROSARY RELAY

Encircle the world in prayer for all our priests.

WOUNDS OF THE HEART OF JESUS

Day of Recollection: Saturday, 22 June, 9.00am to 5.30pm

SACRED HEART SOLEMNITY

World Day of prayer for the sanctification of priests
Friday, 28 June, 10.00am to 2.00pm

Venue: Good Shepherd Place (chapel), 9 Lorong 8, Tao Payoh, S319253

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