# The Holy Shirth A Gift to the Church

"Jesus Christ has come by water and by blood: not by water only, but by water and blood. The Spirit is another witness, since the Spirit is the truth," 1 Jn 5:6-7; Zc 13:1

ifty days after Easter, the power of God's Spirit comes to the whole world most powerfully as the force to renew, to rekindle and to reinvigorate the earlier Christians as witnesses and agents of change in the world.

They mark their humble beginnings as believers in the Way of Jesus Christ with the extraordinary courage and zeal that enabled them to steer the ship of Christ through treacherous waters in history infested with murderous, cruel and villainous pagan kings, emperors, princes, politicians and mad men in the likes of Emperor Nero and others, whose sole purpose in life seemed be their vain and futile attempts to rid Christians from the face of the earth.

When the day of Pentecost came, the Spirit breathed on the Apostles in the Upper Room, to give them their new identity with the birth of the Church and its prodigious, profound and prevenient evangelistic mission to make Christ known and loved. It also conferred on them three powerful keys — of Truth (Freedom), of Wisdom (Proclamation) and of Faith (Discipleship).

The first key of Truth unlocks the shackles and chains of evil, lies and deception that bind innocent people to those who seek to enslave others

in the world. If there is a more urgent mission today, this is it. Indeed, the Holy Spirit empowers Christians to be fearless warriors to storm the bastions of the enemy and set prisoners free. Especially those trapped in the tyranny of pride, power and possession, and to give sight to the blind, who live in the darkness of cyber addiction and sin. And equally pitiable, we are also called to liberate those equally pitiable coerced into modern day slavery of child labour, women in prostitution, foreign men treated as slaves in fishing fleets or illegal sweat shops.

The second key of Wisdom is to equip the Apostles and Christians with the language and speech to proclaim Christ crucified, died and rose from the dead as never witnessed before in the world past or present. The wisdom given is to help us know how and when to speak so that others may listen and believe. The spirit unites all believers of diverse tongues, race and cultures so that we are one body in Christ. The beauty of the Catholic faith is that no matter where I go, I feel united with all Christians who profess the one holy, Catholic, apostolic faith. I can pray, worship and attend Mass anywhere in the world and still feel at home even when I don't understand

the local language, be it Vietnamese, Portuguese, French, Chuukist (Island of Chuuk, Micronesia), or Nepalese. These were places where I have been and never felt a stranger in the house of God - the Catholic Church because they speak the language of the love of Christ in their heart. I remember, when I was in a remote village in Nepal and a man whom I had just met, welcomed me with such warmth as if we had been old friends simply because I was a Catholic Christian. Indeed, Christians everywhere are to show the love of Christ and called to proclaim the same Christ to the whole world with one united, powerful and clarion voice that Jesus is Lord!

The third key of Faith opens the heart of every believer to come to know, accept and believe in the testimony of God, seconded by the Holy Spirit, that Jesus Christ is sent to save us and reveal the fullness of God's love and mercy for our salvation. We believe in what is true - that Jesus is the way to Freedom, to Life and to God as through no other safer and surer path to heaven. Hence, we are empowered and fired up by the Spirit to dare go and make disciples of all nations. This is our mission because we know the Spirit is already at work from the beginning and we are merely ambassadors sent to bear witness to what God has done by his Son, Jesus in his pleasant and pleasing work to share his entire treasury of goodness and graces which we do not yet possess.

With the Spirit living in us, we can do great things for God. This is the secret force that animates us to be agents of transformation and change in the world today. Let us be guided by the Spirit to bear witness to free, proclaim and share our faith and make disciples of all nations!

FR COLIN TAN, 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

#### **OPARISH NEWS**

Last weekend's **COLLECTION FOR THE POOR** (1/2 June) totalled \$24,333.90. Our parish's Society of St Vincent de Paul uses your donations to support their programs for the Poor. Go to https://stignatius.org.sg/home/ministries/service/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul for more information.

Next weekend's **SECOND COLLECTION** is for the GIFT campaign by the Catholic Foundation.

#### JUNE - MONTH OF THE EUCHARIST

As a special devotion to the Holy Eucharist during the month of June, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before the Saturday and Sunday evening Masses, 5.20pm – 5.50pm.

## SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS – WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF PRIESTLY LIFE

The Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus begins on Thursday 20 and ends on Friday 28 June, at the 6.00pm Mass, concelebrated by Jesuits that includes the memorial and renewal of families to the consecration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

During this same period, the Worldpriest Annual Global Rosary for the sanctification of priests will be recited after the daily 7.00am Mass, and before all 6.00pm Masses at 5.15pm.

#### **WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER (WOGP) AT ST IGNATIUS**

Sojourners' Companions invites all to the St Ignatius parish retreat, in the lead up to our parish-wide celebration of the Feast of St Ignatius in July.

Taster afternoon: Saturday 6 July, 9.30am – 12.00pm, at St Ignatius Hall.

Daily (Monday to Friday): Half hour, at your convenience, with one-to-one prayer guide.

Closing: Saturday 13 July, 9.30am –12.00pm Sign up forms available from the parish office.

Email: wogp@sojourners.sg/Register: www.sojourners.sg Enquires: wogp@sojourners.sg or call Suzanne Leong at 9697 7800

#### **CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY**

"Is our faith just about going to church, studying the Bible and avoiding sins ... or does God expect more?" asks Richard Stearns. All are invited to a sharing on Matthew 25:40. This Wednesday 12 June, at St Ignatius Hall. Light fellowship dinner at 7.30pm and the session ends at 9.30pm.

ARISE (A Renewal in the Spirit Experience) is from 10 July to 18 September. You may sign up here.

INFANT BAPTISMS on Sunday 14 July at 3.00 pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing on Sunday 7 July, 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms available at the church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Lisa Ling (9818 5281) & Brian (9760 0978); or Michelle (9765 5065) & Lin Wein Khoo.



## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA) 2019/2020

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).





## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR YOUTHS (RCIY) 2019/2020

Invite non-Catholic friends and family aged 17-24 years to RCIY and share the joy of the faith today.

- ★ Welcome tea and info session on Saturday 6 July, 4-6pm
- ★ Introductory Sessions on Saturdays 13, 20, 27 July
- ★ Subsequent sessions every Tuesday from 6 August, 8pm Contact: Aaron (8228 3419) or Debbie (9817 2118) Email: rciy. ignatius@gmail.com Website: tinyurl.com/stiggysrciy

#### **GUIDED TOUR OF THE BIBLE 2019**

By popular demand, the Guided Tour of the Bible is back! The 2019 GTB begins from Thursday, 4 July 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 or 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.

#### **RIP NEWS-RISEN IN THE LORD**

Myrna Braga Blake – 83 years old Departed: 31 May 2019

Yani Haryanto – 88 years old Departed: 1 June 2019



he Lord Jesus Christ is risen indeed. And his Holy Spirit was present and dwelt among us throughout the evening of praise and worship with the music and voice of Kenneth Ngo. Father Colin Tan opened the session, announcing that this concert was one of a series that the Church of St Ignatius has planned for our parish community to provide opportunities to grow our faith and experience God through music and song.

"The Lord Liveth", the first song, composed by Kenneth, was sung with a heart bursting with joy and gratitude, exalting God and set the pace and tone for praise and worship for those present. Just as Psalm 145:3 says: "Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom", we all felt greatly loved as we listened and on occasion, sang along. We began expecting more feet-stomping and hand-clapping songs. And then along comes "The Spirit Song", invoking the Holy Spirit and basking in the wonder and grace of the Most Holy Trinity in a warm, heartrending plea. Kenneth said his inspiration comes "from another place" – the heart of Jesus Christ. As we listened we were reminded that when we use the gifts and talents that God gives us to glorify, praise and thank Him, he will "satisfy our soul" and "enter into life in Jesus' name". Listening to and watching Kenneth sing and play the keyboard, we felt this was true. There was a dynamic dimension in delivery – total freedom that only God can provide when you open your heart to receive him and proclaim his greatness.

We were also treated to classic hymns such as "Sweet Heart of Jesus", "How Great Thou Art", Jesus My Lord, My God, My All". As I looked around the church it was comforting to see everyone engaged and drawn to Jesus, Our Lord. The feeling was akin to "being at home with the one you love". The repertoire provided a comprehensive experience of the innumerable attributes of our God – majesty, mercy, love and compassion.

Kenneth's unique expression of his love for God was clearly felt. The faces of those listening told me so. And I'm sure they felt God's presence. Someone said Kenneth is "a natural" and she hopes his talent could be used to evangelise. The human desire to connect intimately with God can be found in his lyrics and

As he shared his story with us, it was clear that much of Kenneth's music and compositions bear testimony to his dramatic faith conversion to wholly commit himself through repentance and service to God in liturgical music. "For the Lord your God is gracious and compassionate. He will not turn his face from you if you return to him." 2 Chronicles 30:9b.

The final song was a pure and personal rendition of "Ave Maria". How apt that someone who loves God as Kenneth does would also honour the Mother of the God he loves, a perfect ending to a night of indescribable spirituality experienced by all from a very generous servant of God.

A member from each choir also performed as part of the seven-strong band, collaborating in unison for God's glory. We left, taking home with us from Our Risen Lord, a personally wrapped gift of His love and faithfulness through the voice and music of Kenneth Ngo.

Kenneth's songs are available on Spotify and at the church bookshop in the form of download cards.

**ROSITA ABREW** 

#### **ONCONEWS**

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

## ZONE A DISTRICT 1- ST PAUL THE APOSTLE

Wednesday 3 July, Rm Sh-02-F Programme: Symbolon: Episode 9 Building a Civilization of Love

#### **ZONE B DISTRICT 1**

Tuesday 11 June, room SH-E Programme: Recitation of Rosary 'Priest, Prophet, King' (DVD), Discussion/Reflection and Fellowship

#### **ZONE B DISTRICT 2**

Thursday 20 June. Contact: lennard. thean@gmail.com
Programme: Gospel of Matthew by Jeff Cavins

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

Thursday 20 June, #02 SH-F Programme: 1) Daily Word of God 2) Seven Deadly Sins/Seven Lively Virtues (DVD). Rev. Robert E. Barron

#### 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.

### **IESUIT NEWS**

#### **BECOME A JESUIT**

If you are considering a vocation as a Jesuit priest or brother, go to www. mas-jesuits.org and www.facebook.com/jesuit.vocations.malaysia.singapore for more information. You may also contact Fr Jerome Leon SJ or Fr Adrian Danker SJ at mas-vocations@jesuits.net

#### 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

## PERSONAL MORAL COMPASS COURSE 2019

By Rev Fr David Garcia, OP.
For all Catholics and people of goodwill interested in formation in the foundations of Ethics and Moral Theology. A one-year systematic course in Moral Theology consisting of 6 individual modules, organised by Caritas Singapore.

Module 4: "Ethics of Love, Sex and Marriage" begins Friday 12 July over 7 weekly sessions, 7.30pm to 930pm, Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street. Information and registration at www.caritas-singapore.org or email formation@caritas-singapore.org

#### **CROSSINGS CAFÉ SPECIAL**

To celebrate the Feast of St Ignatius, all parishioners of St Ignatius will enjoy a 15% discount off the food bill (excluding drinks) during the month of July. Please inform the wait staff the name of church when you patronise the Café. Located at the Catholic Centre on Waterloo Street, this is a social enterprise started by a group of Catholics, which provides employment to the disadvantaged and is committed to donating all profits to charity.

#### 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