



The Body and Blood of Christ

Two things about this Gospel reading call out for attention as we see the blessing of the Eucharist foreshadowed here, and these things are not something that we consider very often.

First of all, what we read in today's Gospel is not directly and primarily about the Eucharist: it is about just what it seems to be, the multiplication of loaves and fish, God literally feeding His people as His Son feeds their souls. Only when we have established that this is what this passage is actually about can we go on to see it on an entirely different level, a prefiguring of the Eucharist.

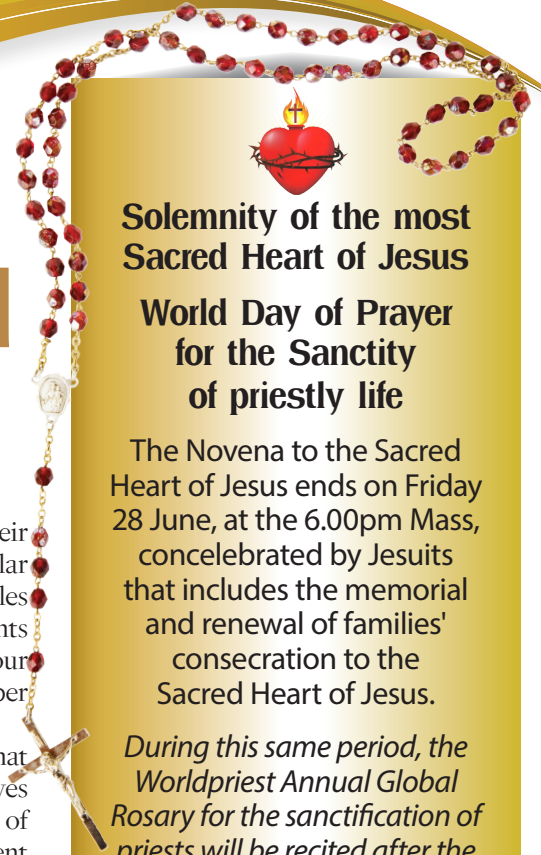
This is "analogical" thinking, not clear-cut deduction and logic, and it reflects the fact that we understand things only progressively: Santa Claus makes sense when we are children, and through him we learn generosity, love and bringing joy to others, yet when we are older we can get beyond him to live those lessons without being limited by that image. Just so for this development of how we understand God's love and grow to see unsuspected depths in it beyond the original events and scriptural texts.

John's baptism, for example, was not at all what we have as the sacrament of Baptism, and conflating the two into one like that too quickly and too easily merely because of a similarity of names and actions robs both the baptism of

John and today's sacrament of their deeper meanings. Here we see a similar relationship: the multiplication miracles and the Eucharist have certain elements in common, and the miracles prepare our minds and hearts to accept the deeper miracle of the Eucharist.

A second thing to notice is that every case of the multiplication of loaves or every reference to the celebration of the Eucharist in the New Testament is a matter of a group of people, not a single or hidden act that has value or merit in itself. The Eucharist is always and primarily a communal event, Christ present in a living Church, and then and only then in function of that do we have such things as carrying communion to the homebound, benediction, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, and perpetual adoration.

Since Vatican II we live in a Church which is much more horizontal than previously, taking advantage not only of a much more educated and involved laity, but of those as well who are simply the faithful, the people of God who believe and live their faith there, where they are as individuals and as the Christian family. We are (and cannot escape being) individuals, but by choice we come together in that community of faith where each and every one of us must love and serve all the others, and even those who are not visibly members of that community. In today's Gospel,



**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 ends on Friday 28 June, at the 6.00pm Mass, concelebrated by Jesuits that includes the memorial and renewal of families' consecration to 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.

Jesus missions the Twelve to serve, like servants, those who are seeking Him, those trying to learn from Him, and that mission applies to us.

And we live that life as those who celebrate the Eucharist together, celebrating the Body of Christ but also ourselves, the Mystical Body, and our contribution to making that Body live in the world today. We are ourselves defining the Church as we go and are writing Church history.

The Eucharist is not some sort of magic, some sort of Catholic power pill; it is the living God Himself who seeks to be with His Church, as individuals and as a people, and in that presence to share His triune self and His love.

CHAS KESTERMEIER, SJ

Jesuit Community, Creighton University

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

Next weekend's collection is for **PETER'S PENCE**, an annual contribution to the Holy Father. It was started in the 8th Century by the Anglo-Saxons. Let's help the Holy Father to help others! Your contribution, however small, is important. The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father are used to meet the needs of the Church, for humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects.

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, 5.15pm – 5.45pm.

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 morning: 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 at Place of Gathering and office
Email: wogp@sojourners.sg/Register: www.sojourners.sg
Enquires: Suzanne Leong at 9697 7800

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

As Christians, we are called to be Christ's disciples. What does this entail and what is our response? All are invited to Bible Sharing on Matthew 7:21-27. This Wednesday 26 June at St Ignatius Hall. Light fellowship dinner begins at 7.30pm and prayer meeting ends at 9.30pm.
ARISE (A Renewal in the Spirit Experience) is from 10 July to 18 September. You may sign up here.



INIGO BOOKSTORE NEW OPENING HOURS

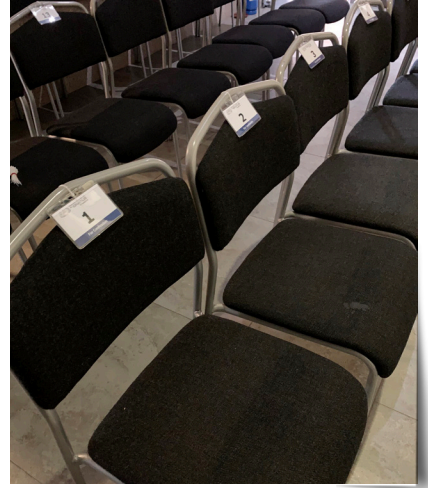
From 1 July, our bookstore will open on Saturdays 4.30pm to 7.00pm.
Sundays 8.00am to 2.00pm, 5.30pm to 7.00pm,
Closed Monday to Friday.
Enquiry: Peter Hong 9749 3702

JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS

Come support the Homemakers Ministry's jumble sale next weekend Saturday 29, 9.30am to 3.00pm and Sunday 30 June, 9.30am to 1.00pm at St Ignatius Hall. In aid of the Parish Social Mission Fund. All are welcome.

CONFESSION QUEUE

The chairs at the Place of Reconciliation have now been numbered. Please seat yourselves accordingly in sequence when you next go for confession!



INFANT BAPTISMS on Sunday 14 July at 3.00 pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend a 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 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

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).

SPONSORS



INQUIRERS



RIP NEWS– RISEN IN THE LORD

Sarah Lim Swee Lee – 77 years old
Departed: 18 June 2019

NCC NEWS

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 2

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

ZONE E DISTRICT 3

Thursday 27 June,
Programme: A talk cum video presentation on "The Holy Land — A Pilgrim's Experience".


Laudato Si': Care for Creation
Buy things that last. The upfront cost may be higher, but it keeps waste out of landfills for longer and saves you money.



THE EUCHARIST: Our Greatest Treasure



Generation CHRIST! Ministry celebrated their 11th Anniversary at the First Friday Eucharistic Adoration at St Ignatius Church on 7 June. Below is an extract of the reflection:

As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."

Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

"We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

"Bring them here to me," he said ... And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up 12 basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

This event is so significant, that all four Evangelists included it in their Gospels. The account of Jesus feeding the five thousand holds some important lessons for us.

Firstly, **Jesus sees problems as a door of opportunity.** While the apostles saw the multitude of hungry people as a problem for their limited resources, Jesus saw an opportunity. We too can learn to view our problems as opportunities for God to use us, for His Glory. This reminds us to have eyes like Jesus, to always be on a lookout for opportunities, to care physically and spiritually for the people who come our way.

Secondly, Jesus was moved with compassion — to the apostles' suggestion of "send the crowds away", Jesus replied, **"You give them something to eat"**. This scripture teaches us that we need to commit ourselves to share with others and to work with God in communicating His compassion. It is so easy to see things

as other peoples' problems.

Thirdly, before the food was distributed, Jesus **gave thanks** before He broke the bread. Jesus made it a practice to always **thank God.** We too can adopt the same attitude as Jesus, to **give thanks to God** in all circumstances and trust in God, that He is working the best on our behalf.

Finally, Jesus did not make the loaves and fishes appear like magic. He asked His disciples **what they had;** He invited them to share **the little** that they had. The version from John's Gospel, tells us that the disciple Andrew, presented a little boy to Jesus, together with his loaves and fishes. A boy, 5 barley loaves and 2 fishes — three insignificant items in the Jewish culture of that time — were instrumental in the making of this miracle. No one in the crowd would have thought that this little boy mattered.

This scripture tells us that God loves small things. In God's economy, bigger isn't always better. God specializes in using small things to do great work. Even Jesus used the smallest seed — the mustard seed, to illustrate the Kingdom of God.

Small things become large things, **in the hands of Jesus** — and that includes you and me. What is more important is our willingness to share what we have. We will never know which little person God would use and how. In God's eyes, we are never lost in a crowd. We are never without anything to offer. It is in our brokenness, weaknesses and inadequacies that Christ meets us and His power is made perfect. Whatever our past or

present, God can do wonders in us and transform us, and the people around us, so long as we are open and receptive to Him.

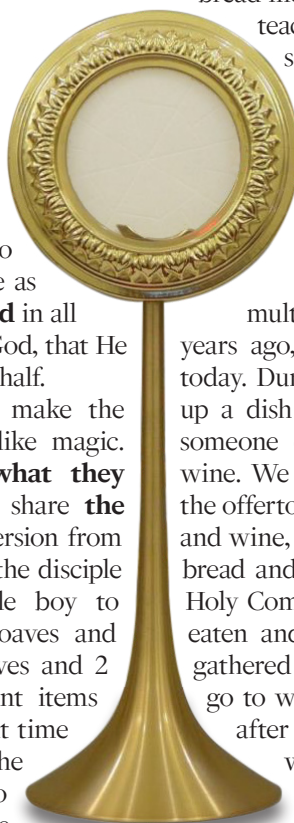
This scripture also has liturgical references to Holy Communion. Jesus took the bread, looked up to heaven ... gave thanks ... broke the bread ... gave it to his disciples ... who gave it to everyone ... and they all ate and were satisfied. The feeding of the 5,000 was a prelude to Jesus' teaching, **"I AM the Bread of Life"** and Holy Communion.

Christ does not give the bread directly to the people. Rather, He gives it to the disciples and tells them to distribute it. The bread means the Eucharist. The Lord is teaching us that the Eucharist is not something He gives directly and immediately to individuals, but it is a **sacrament** which He has entrusted to His Church. The Eucharist is the **greatest treasure** of our Catholic Church.

It is amazing how the multiplication of the loaves 2,000 years ago, also happens at every Mass today. During offertory, someone brings up a dish of little piece of bread, and someone else small jars of water and wine. We give our financial blessings at the offertory. The priest then takes bread and wine, give thanks over it, breaks the bread and gives it to the people during Holy Communion. After the people had eaten and were satisfied, the disciples gathered the leftovers, so none would go to waste. This is also seen at Mass after Holy Communion, the priest would gather the leftover pieces of consecrated hosts and place them in the tabernacle.

Like the multitude of people with Jesus, we too are hungry, looking for meaning in life, meaning for our pain and suffering, meaning for our joys. We are looking to be filled with authentic love and fulfillment — in the only place it can be found today, in the **spiritual nourishment of Christ's own Body and Blood, in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.**

Let us bring to Jesus the little that we have. There is nothing too little or insignificant for God. If Jesus can feed crowds with 5 loaves and 2 fishes, if the Lord can change bread and wine into Himself, just think of what Christ can do with you.



JESUIT NEWS

AUTHENTICITY AND CARE RETREAT

For all of us who care because "To Care" is a common human expression of our love and fidelity to each other. What do we really mean — has it been duty, manipulation, possession or love? To grow in awareness of what is authentic care. Facilitator: Lance Ng.

Date/Time: Friday 5 July, 7.30pm to Sunday 7 July, 4.00pm

Contribution: \$260 (non-AC); \$300 (AC).

Venue: Kingsmead Centre, 8 Victoria Park Road

Register: <http://tinyurl.com/raac19>

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

PARENTING ESSENTIALS

Speakers: Rev Fr Henry Siew and Josephine Loh (Morning Star Community Services)

1. What Christian Parents (really) Need

2. What a Child (really) Needs

Fr Henry will speak on developing essential parenting qualities by giving priority to spiritual values, while Ms Loh will share the key elements of communications, and how to apply problem solving steps to help your children cope with stress.

Date: Friday 12 July

Time: 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Venue: Caritas Singapore-Agape Village, 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh.

Register: agapevillage@caritas-singapore.org

NEW EVANGELISATION CONFERENCE 2019

Date: Saturday

Time: 27 July, 9.30am - 4pm

Venue: PSB Academy @ Marina

Square, 6 Raffles Blvd
Organised by Office for the New Evangelisation

Come and find out what evangelisation is, and is not! This conference will equip Catholics with new and innovative ways to tell others about Jesus.

Speakers include Rev Fr Terence Pereira & Rev Fr Gino Henriques, CSsR. To register visit www.one.org.sg/events

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. The next monthly session (every 4th Tuesday of the month) is this Tuesday 25 June, 7:30pm at Agape Village, Toa Payoh Lorong 8. Contact us via email: 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; 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