



For Better or Worse

Some commitments come to us as part of our identity. For example, to look after our elders, be it our parents or their siblings or the others in our neighbourhood, or in society in general. I felt that responsibility during an Air Asia flight, where an elderly couple was seemingly unattended and the gentleman was a little impatient with the entire process of being herded and held during embarkation and disembarkation.

I committed myself to be the nosy neighbor, who suggested various actions and things to him, so that he could avoid agitating people around him. In the case of the gentleman, I could say that he was given some commitments (to be on the plane) that he did not fully understand, but had to comply with in order to get to his destination together with his loved ones.

Two very different commitments, but with the same idea of achieving the common good in the end. While almost impossible to compare, yet each is important for our personal wellbeing. I felt better at being able to help the elderly couple, and the elderly couple probably felt better for not attracting unnecessary attention to themselves.

Sometimes, a few of our commitments might seem arbitrary, especially if there is an accidental element. We do not personally decide to be born in the circumstances we are in, nor take on particular responsibilities that we seemingly cannot avoid. Elisha

might have felt so when Elijah put the cloak on him. As such, Elisha tried to ask permission from Elijah to settle his prior commitments, that is to his parents. Yet Elijah's retort is rather startling, and perhaps helped Elisha realize what had really happened.

For the commitment placed on Elisha is not of Elijah's design, but God's desire. In that pivotal moment Elisha proved himself worthy to be a prophet when he interpreted what Elijah had said and done correctly. Thus Elisha made a complete and irreversible break from his previous life by sacrificing his means for living (the oxen and yoke), to commit wholly to being a prophet. Indeed, Elisha would go on to carry out many miracles similar to what Jesus did.

What Jesus tries to illustrate for us in the gospel reading is what we can expect as we endeavour to follow God's will. For an active disciple of the Word of God, the commitment is not only a promise made by the would-be disciple to stay the way and face the hardships involved, but also a promise from God that there would be enough graces for the journey ahead. This is amply demonstrated by the life of the prophets like Elisha and especially of Jesus. Commitment to God does not promise us miraculous powers, but instead the grace to meet life's challenges.

Hence, commitments are not only promises, but also a trust in God (and thus the future) and in ourselves. Trusting our own selves, believing in our abilities and strengths aided by God's grace, and choosing to affirm and

Traffic Matters

From 1 July the church has appointed a new security company to handle our traffic along King's Road on Sundays. The new traffic wardens will wear body cameras during their duties to protect them from possible abuse and avoid misunderstandings.

acknowledge that we can be the best we need be, alleviates some of the desire to be measured externally against other persons and circumstances. Wealth and worldly stature become less attractive, transient, compared to the goodness in our lives such as our family and friends, particularly our relationship with God.

Commitments can be helpful challenges that prepare us for the next few steps on our own journey, making us leave behind habits and things that have become encumbrances. My choice of helping that elderly man encouraged me to become more accepting, open-minded and patient with situations that seem challenging. Indeed, such events and circumstances are opportunities to find God, and to let God show us a way forward, for better or worse for the short term, but ultimately, unfolding and perfected by God's will and grace, in God's loving and mysterious ways, and always in God's own time and rhythm.

MICHAEL PHUNG, 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

PARISH NEWS

There will be a **SECOND COLLECTION** for the poor next weekend.

FIRST FRIDAY – SACRED HEART OF JESUS MASS

Friday 5 July, 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 invited.

THEMATIC MASSES

Next weekend Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 July.

Saturday 6.00pm – Family Mass

Sunday 8.15am – Children's Mass/12.15pm – Youth Mass

We want to encourage greater participation of children, youths and families 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.

THE OPEN STUDIO welcomes all adults, 21 years and above, to express your love for Scripture through art.

Location: Open Studio @ St Ignatius, room #01-09 (Sacred Heart Hall Annexe)

Date/Time: 6 weekly Fridays (19 July - 30 August), 9.00 am to 12 noon

Sessions, though linked by a theme, are also independent, so you can attend all or any of the sessions. Art materials are provided and no art experience is required. A love offering will be collected for each session. Participants may also register on the day of the session. Contact Anne at anne.eighteen@gmail.com for enquiries.

Registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/E2CZMK6bMormjrn2>

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY/CER FELLOWSHIP

The CRC / CER Fellowship groups invite all parishioners including ex-CER retreatants to their First Wednesday combined Fellowship. All are welcome this Wednesday 3 July, at St Ignatius Hall. Sharing of testimonies begin at 7.30pm, and the session ends at 9.30pm.

ARISE (A Renewal in the Spirit Experience) is from 10 July to 18 September.

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

Come join our Parish Community in Celebration of the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola

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

DE VITA CHRISTI WEEKEND

In celebration of Youth Day on 5 July, the DVC youth ministry invites all to discover more about the youth and young adult community of our parish. Visit us at De Vita Christi (The Life of Christ) booth next Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 July, at the Place of Gathering, to read experiences and testimonies about how being part of a community has helped youths draw closer to God, to overcome their struggles and to find God in all things.

FINDING GOD IN COMEDY

Monday 15 July, 8pm to 9.15pm, St Ignatius Hall

A fun-raising, stress-reducing and sorrow-eliminating evening featuring two stand-up acts from our parish: debutant Trevor Lum will open for headliner Keith Neubronner. This is Keith's farewell gift to the parish before joining the Jesuit novitiate. Love offerings will go to the Hai Sing Catholic School Building Fund. Drinks and light snacks will be available for purchase.

FEAST OF ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

Saturday 27 July, 8pm to 10.30pm, Main Church

Feast Day Christian Music Festival with after concert wine and light bites, in aid of Hai Sing Catholic School Building Fund.

All are invited to an evening of song showcasing St Ignatius' young talent and choirs, featuring Ollie Lim, Joseph and Stuart Lee, Genevieve Toh, Kenneth Ngo, the Family Choir and SDG. Wine and light bites will be served after the concert at the Place of Gathering.

For logistics and planning purposes, you need to register online: <https://tinyurl.com/Mfes2019> or at the Help Desk at the Place of Gathering.

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

Begins 6 August (every Tuesday, 8.00pm to 10.00pm).

Introduce friends and 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).

RIP NEWS– RISEN IN THE LORD

Linawati Johanna Karnadi – 58 years old

Departed: 20 June 2019

Betty Chew —90 years old

Departed: 25 June 2019

Guides to Prayer

In the run-up to our Feast Day celebrations, the Sojourners' Companions offers us a Week to Guided Prayer

Prayer is about communicating with God. God loves this exchange just as we love the exchanges we have with our family and friends. Fellowship with God is at the heart of prayer. An effective way to pray is to use the scriptures because they help us focus on what is really important. We can easily slip into praying only about concerns such as sickness or money or making the right decisions. It's all right to pray about such concerns, but such concerns should not remain the only things we pray about. The Week of Guided Prayer (WOGP) can help you examine your priorities and perhaps re-arrange them.

All that is required of you is a commitment to spend 30 minutes each day praying with a suggested scripture passage, and another 30 minutes meeting your one-to-one prayer guide at a pre-arranged time. The WOGP starts with a Taster morning next Saturday 6 July, 9.30am - 12.00pm, at St Ignatius Hall. It closes with a group session on Saturday morning 13 July, 9.30am - 12.00pm.

Here are the testimonies from parishioners who have experienced past retreats

I have learnt how to pray and touch and feel
- James

This guided prayer has helped me to deepen my relationship with God and Jesus. It is closer and intimate, talking/writing my thoughts become easier. The Prayer Guide has been very patient. Learnt a lot from him - Adeline Mah

I'm beginning to enjoy contemplating the bible verses on a daily basis. - Emily

I truly experience God's presence and have wonderful conversations with God. Deeper is my relationship with Him, and I truly understand what is prayer - just be with Him, remain in Him. My Prayer Guide is awesome. His guidance and questions led me to a new perspective, gave me new light that helped me to remove the block I had in prayer before. Thank you and Praise the Lord! - Max

My guide has helped me to explore a deeper level of prayer in my meditation/contemplation and helped me see different perspectives. - Diane

It has taught me to listen. - Millicent



NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

ZONE A D1- 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 2 July, room SH-E
Programme: Priest, Prophet, King (DVD),

Recitation of Rosary/Prayer of Generosity, Reflection and Fellowship

ZONE B DISTRICT 2

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

JESUIT NEWS

THERE AND BACK AGAIN: A RETREAT ON THE HOBBIT, CONVERSION AND THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

The Hobbit by JRR Tolkien, a masterful account of a journey of growth and maturity, gives insight into our own spiritual life and journey of conversion. By accompanying Bilbo's journey of growth and conversion, and illuminated by Scripture and the dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius, learn to deepen your own faith journey.

Facilitator: Deacon Stanley Goh, SJ

Dates/Times: Friday 2 August (7.30pm) to Sunday 4 August (4pm)

Contribution: \$260 (non-AC), \$300 (AC)

Register by 26 Jul: tinyurl.com/tab19

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

HEY CATHOLICS! GO OUT INTO THE WHOLE WORLD!

Date/Time: Saturday 6 July, 1.30pm - 3pm

Venue: PSB Academy @ Marina Square, 6 Raffles Blvd

Organised by: Office for the New Evangelisation

Pope Francis announced the Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Pope Benedict XV's Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud* – a document that touches on reinvigorating the sense of responsibility for proclaiming the Gospel with new enthusiasm. Rev Fr Kenson Koh will explore the significance of *Maximum Illud* for today's Catholics. To register visit www.one.org.sg/events

INTO THE CAVE — THE SPIRITUALITY OF REST

For young adults (aged 18 to 35) to reflect on the social teachings on rest and recreation.

Date/Time: Thursday 18 July, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Venue: Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street.

For information and registration, go to www.caritas-singapore.org or email: youngadults@caritas-singapore.org

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

Friday & Saturday: 5.40pm

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 Opening Hours

Saturday: 4.30pm to 7.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am to 2.00pm, 5.30pm to 7.00pm

Closed on Monday to Friday.

Enquiry: Peter Hong 9749 3702

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