# To Live as Children of God

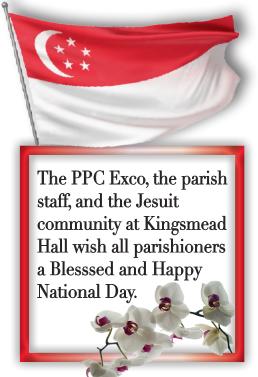
aul seems to imply here that whatever is human, earthly, or natural is bad, but I doubt that he would be at all comfortable with that generalization.

I think that he would more likely look at earthly goods in the way that Jesus is suggesting in this Gospel passage. Wealth is to be shared, spent on good works; it is not only for the sake of the wealthy and their comfort, but is an opportunity for them to become wealthy in a spiritual sense by inviting them to learn a joyful generosity in sharing all their earthly possessions, including their talents and their time. Even more, it is also a chance to find love in the personal welcome they offer (as we all should) to every one of their brothers and sisters of whatever condition - as Jesus did for all but the most obdurate of the people He met. And I say this not only for those who are comfortably well off.

This joyful generosity, however, is a matter not only of earthly items or our personal talents. It reaches its apex when it is a generosity rooted in our personal poverty of heart, when we become poor in spirit as Christ invites us to be in the Beatitudes (Matt 5:1). This attitude springs from a profound realization that what we give, always and in every way, comes to us from the hand of God and that it is of value to us only if we are free and open-handed in using it to care for others. That personal poverty comes from our letting ourselves join Christ in His baptism and from our hearing the words the Father addresses to Him as addressed to us: "You are My Beloved Child. You have all My favor" (Mark

1:11). I firmly believe that the second part of that statement might best be translated into modern terms as "I trust you absolutely, and whatever you need or ask for, I will provide. Follow your loving heart."

That we see God's love for us, and His readiness to take care of all our needs, is not the direct result of our doing (or trying to do) His will. It is simply that we abandon ourselves to Him and trust that He will provide what He thinks best for us. We do so already, moved by that love and the Spirit, and we can then experience and accept how good God really is to us – and be moved to a further trust, a further abandonment to our loving God.



DONATION FOR WALKWAY PROJECT It's been 15 years since our church was rebuilt. Through the years, the needs of our parish community have evolved. We are now raising funds to ensure accessibility and shelter for all from the main church to Sacred Heart Hall behind, and wheel chair access at the front of the church. Total cost for all A&A (Additions & Alterations) works will be in excess of \$650,000. Donation envelopes will be distributed at all weekend masses starting from August. Your contribution can be dropped into the collection during offertory at any Mass. All donations will be much appreciated.

We may ask God sincerely for whatever we think we need and be willing to open ourselves to receive what we ask for, but God will provide for us what He thinks we are ready for and should have. Whatever God offers, we need to use it in the best way, even if it is disappointment, defeat, or even suffering, and that means trusting God and thanking Him even for such things. As we say at the beginning of just about every eucharistic preface, "It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks."

The one who chooses to live a joyous and loving poverty, who wants to make others live and gives his or her all to that end, is fully in the hands of a loving Father, a gentle and strong Brother, and a bright and dancing Spirit, now and into eternity. That is our goal, to live fully and simply as children of God, easily and joyfully in the heart of that profound wisdom and endlessly powerful and active love of the Trinity.

#### **CHAS KESTERMEIER, SJ**

Jesuit Community, Creighton University

#### PARISH NEWS

#### **OFFICE CLOSURE**

The parish office will be closed on NATIONAL DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY on Friday 9 August. Weekday 7.00am and 6.00pm Masses are as usual.

#### **ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN - DAY OF OBLIGATION**

Masses: Wednesday 14 August, 6pm, Thursday 15 August, 7am, 6pm and 8pm.

#### **FAMILY CHOIR RECRUITMENT**

Love to sing? The fun-loving Family Choir (Sunday, 8.15am Mass) wants you! We welcome all in the family, from kids to grandparents. Practices are every Sunday, 10.30am -12pm. Come say hi after mass, or contact kristie.lai@gmail. com/97510970 for details.

#### **CALL FOR COLLECTORS**

The Hospitality Ministry needs volunteer collectors for the 8.15am and 10.15am weekend Masses and weekday evening Masses on Days of Obligation. You may sign up with Team leaders after Mass this weekend, at the Place of Gathering, or at the church office during office hours on weekdays.

#### ARISE! - WEEK 4 ON THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Talk on the Person of the Holy Spirit — who is He, what does He do, and what is He here for? This Wednesday 7 August, at St Ignatius Hall, 7.30pm until 9.30pm.

**INFANT BAPTISMS** on Sunday 11 August at 3.00pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend the briefing this Sunday 4 August, 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Stephanie (9116 6898) & John Ng (9677 3632) or Ava (9618 0012) & Gerald Teo (9674 6820).

#### 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. Introductory sessions: Saturdays 20, 27 July Subsequent sessions: Every Tuesday from 6 August, 8.00pm 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 and family to our Catholic faith. Baptised Catholics are also invited to journey as sponsors. Enrolment forms for Inquirers and Sponsors at the Place of Gathering and church website. Contact Teddy (9745 8313)/ Angela (6466 0625).

### A little Love Note

"If you want a love message to be heard, it has got to be sent out. To keep a lamp burning, we have to keep putting oil in it." MOTHER TERESA

#### CCD 2019 - 2020 REGISTRATION

CCD is a faith formation program/catechism classes for international schools' students aged 6 to 13 years old. Weekly Grade 1 through grade 7 classes are on Tuesday or Thursday, 4 – 5pm. Confirmation classes are on Sunday, 3.30-5pm. Begins September until the end of May 2020. Registration must be done ONLINE at www.stignatius.org. sq. Online registration opens on 1 August until 31 August. All students (new and returning) have to register online. After submitting the online registration form, please mail the required documents and fees to the Church office. For the sacraments of First Holy Communion (grade 2) and Confirmation (grade 8), a hard copy of the child's baptismal certificate is required.

Want to share your faith and get more involved? Volunteer to teach or assist in the CCD ministry. To find out more, contact Lourdes Samson at ccdstignatius@gmail.com

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

Vincent Cheah Hoong Onn – 88 years old Departed: 1 August 2019

#### **ONCCNEWS**

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

#### **ZONE A DISTRICT 1-ST PAUL THE APOSTLE**

Wednesday 7 August, Rm Sh-02-E (opp adoration room) Programme: Symbolon: Episode 10 Protecting the Dignity of the Human Person

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

Tuesday 6 August, room SH-E Programme: Recitation of Rosary/Prayer of Generosity, DVD Screening of 'Pope Benedict XVI, Discussion/ Reflection and Fellowship

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

Thursday 15 August. Contact: lennard.thean@gmail.com Programme: Gospel of Matthew by Jeff Cavins

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

Thursday 22 August, #02 SH-F Programme: 1) Daily Word of God

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

## REACHING OUT









n Bible Sunday on 14 July, some 70 Filipino migrant workers from St Ignatius parish had a taste of the Road to Emmaus (RTE) bible study program. RTE is part of the Bible Apostolate (BAT) ministry of our parish. As part of their social mission initiative, RTE decided to reach out to our migrant workers, many of whom are actively involved in the parish, as greeters at Sunday masses, as participants in an ongoing bible study program run by other members of BAT or as members of the Legion of Mary at our parish.

The program commenced with participants being welcomed at 2pm at the Annex Hall by RTE regulars, who had prepared a bible study session for the migrant workers that was modelled on the regular RTE sessions. Participants were also presented with special T-shirts that had the various books of the bible printed on them in celebration of Bible Sunday. The RTE Praise and Worship team set the tone for the afternoon and started the program with hymns of praise and worship before Sundaresh Menon extended a warm welcome to all the participants and gave them an overview of the program.

The Road to Emmaus Bible Study, led by a devoted team, has been going strong in our parish for over ten years.



Every Monday evening about 80 to 100 participants gather to prayerfully break the Word in the three Sunday mass readings of the week. There is small group sharing, a wrap-up lecture and fellowship with food and drink.

The Bible Sunday participants were similarly placed in small groups to discuss and reflect on the readings led by RTE facilitators, after which there was a wrap up lecture on the two readings and gospel passage of the day. The program ended at 4.30pm and the participants were able to enjoy fellowship with one another and the facilitators over a tea buffet sponsored by the church.

"I had a very meaningful time," said Blezy who has been working in Singapore for five years. "I've always wanted to learn more about the Bible and today's sharing and lecture helped me to understand the Mass readings better." The volunteer facilitators too had a positive afternoon. "I was so touched by the way these ladies shared their personal life stories," said one of the facilitators. "You think, when you volunteer, that you're doing someone else a lot of good, but I was the one who benefitted from this afternoon's experience."

Another participant added, "I feel so blessed that all of you did this for us. Thank You."

The enthusiastic response and the openness and heartfelt sharing at the small group sharing has inspired the RTE team to conduct more Sunday afternoon bible study sessions in the months to come for our migrant workers to try and meet their thirst for more bible knowledge and for the Word of God in the months to come.

RTE GROUP BAT MINISTRY

#### JESUIT NEWS

#### INTRODUCTION TO AUTHENTIC CONVERSATIONS

A day to just simply listen... to life, each other, and God.

This programme explores the art of listening which is at the heart of an authentic conversation. Are we aware of what we are really listening to, and how it shapes the way we live our lives – by reacting, or acting?

Facilitator: Lance Ng

Date/Time: Wednesday, 21 August, 9.30am - 5.30pm

Contribution: \$60 (includes lunch & refreshments). Register: tinyurl.com/itac2019

#### • ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

#### HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS (JESUITS)

The Society of Jesus (Jesuits) was founded in 1540 by a group of companions under the leadership of St Ignatius of Loyola. Within 100 years, the impact of the Jesuits was felt in the furthest corners of then Euro-centrist world, as far as Japan and China.

This series of talks by Fr Jerome Leon, SJ, presents a survey of the major events and characters that have shaped the historical landscape of that era.

Dates/Time: Thursday, 22 and 29 August, 5 and 19 September, 7.30pm – 9.30pm Registration: canaevents2019@gmail.com or call 6338 4048

Organised by Cana the Catholic Centre. Love offerings will be collected.

#### **WELCOMING RETURNING CATHOLICS**

Returned! An evening of testimonies by Catholics who have returned and strengthened their faith with the help of Landings is on Friday, 23 August at the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd. You will hear stories of struggles, challenges, grace and reconciliation. Register at https://bit.ly/2Dz549P Look out for the next Landings:

Cathedral of the Good Shepard, (Fridays) 13 September – 29 November, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, (Mondays) 16 September – 2 December, 8.00pm – 9.00pm

Interested participants will need to register. Registration closes 25 August. Email returning@landings.org.sg or find out more at www.landings.org.sg.

#### **REVIEW OF LIFE**

Workshop by Caritas Singapore Formation Committee

How do we make sense of our daily life challenges? How do we see clearly with the eyes of faith, live the Gospel daily and grow in faith? Join us for 2 evenings to learn the 'Review of Life' (ROL) method, to understand how to better integrate faith and life.

28 and 29 August 2019 (Wednesday and Thursday); 7.30pm to 9.30pm; at Agape Village (7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh).

Information and registration: www.caritas-singapore.org

Email: toformation@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

#### Weddings

of Church office.

Couples must make themselves known to the priest at least one year before the wedding. Contact: Sacristan, Robert Ong (8511 4614)

#### **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 pastoral help is needed for a parishioner who is homebound or hospitalised (regardless of which hospital). In emergencies, you may also contact the priests' residence at 6466 3225.

#### **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 the Columbarium.

#### 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