



Wisdom in Creation:

Celebrating the Season of Creation

When I see ants scurrying in my room or anywhere else, I can be sure it's a sign that they are looking for food. When I see birds perched on the branches, I know that they are keeping an eye on their next meal flying by. When I see that the forest is on fire, I dread to think that our homes are in danger.

Wisdom of Creation is about the wisdom to know that we are connected to the Web of Life, the theme for this year's celebration of the Season of Creation, which is supported by Pope Francis in the *Laudato Si* spirit of caring for our common home and a call for a conversion of our lifestyle. Perhaps, the words of Pope Francis will suffice to help us reflect on this. *"A healthy relationship with creation is one dimension of overall personal conversion, which entails the recognition of our errors, sins, faults and failures, and leads to heartfelt repentance and desire to change."* (Laudato Si, 218)

How can we respond? If there is any call to conversion and action that is urgent today — it is the call to account for our stewardship of the world and all of creation that has been entrusted to us. What is the state of the world today? If we were to do an external audit and give a report, surely we will get a serious "qualified report" with many alarm bells ringing. Extreme weather of record high temperatures around the world; unseasonal floodings in Japan and India; fires raging and burning up precious forests in the Amazon and in



the Arctic (unheard of), in California ... and even in Singapore where we are not spared of the climate change upheaval with prolonged dry spells and the threat of rising sea levels and the haze from burning forests in Indonesia.

What is our call to climate action? I remember a notice, when we rented a facility once — **"Leave this place cleaner than when you first found it"**. It's a reminder of how we are to take care of our environment, our resources, and our earth so that when we leave this earth, we can be proud to say that, it will be a better place than when we first found it. Indeed, what is my legacy? How have I contributed to making our world a better place for the next generation inheriting it? What wisdom did I impart to them?

Wisdom is to know that we are stewards of God's creation, not its owners. Wisdom is to take what we need and leave more for others who do not have enough. Wisdom is to know that we are born into this world naked and will leave this world without taking a single cent with us.

The wisdom of each culture leaves us with some food for thought. Pope Francis reminds us, *"The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face. The ideal is not only to pass from the exterior to the interior to discover the action of God in the soul, but also to discover God in all things."* (Laudato Si, 233).

This spirituality of Creation that Pope Francis speaks of is a call for action. **"The best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago. The second best time is now."** — Chinese proverb.

In St Ignatius Church, we have started the green movement to promote this awareness of our responsibility in making an impact with our actions no matter how small. It is a call for action to save the world and be partners of change. Act now before we regret later. Plant a tree now. Change your life now. Join our movement now. Live with gratitude now and life is ours!

FR COLINTAN, 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 ★ Gerard Robert Youth Coordinator ★ Cheryl Lek Youth Coordinator ★ Susan Thian Catechetical Administrator

Robert Ong Sacristan ★ David Saw Operations Manager ★ Steven Leong Facilities Manager ★ Therese Gian Communications Manager

PARISH NEWS

DONATION FOR WALKWAY PROJECT

Our church is raising \$650,000 for an "additions & alterations" project to enable wheelchair access at the front of the church and covered walkways at Sacred Heart Hall behind. Since we launched our appeal at the beginning of August, you have responded most kindly and we are happy to report that we have received \$420,000 to date. We require an additional \$230,000 and continue to appeal to your generosity. Your cash/cheque should be put in the appeal envelope and dropped into the weekly collections during offertory or into the Vestry's drop box.

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO PPC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We are inviting nominations for candidates who would like to stand for elections to the PPC executive committee. Elections will be held at the annual Parish Assembly on Saturday 19 October, 9am to 12pm at the St Ignatius Hall. Nomination forms are available at the Place of Gathering and on our church website. All forms must be submitted to the parish office by 18 September.

ARISE! – WEEK 7; GROWTH IN THE SPIRIT

This Wednesday 4 September, ARISE takes a break to support the parish event talk on "How Catholic Art Saved the Faith" by Dr Lev, at the church, 8pm.

THEMATIC MASSES

Next weekend Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 September.

Saturday 6.00pm – Family Mass

Sunday 8.15am – Children's Mass

Sunday 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.

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

Invite non-Catholic friends and family to RCIA/RCIY and share the joy of the faith today.

Every Tuesday, 8.00pm

Contact: (RCIA) Teddy (9745 8313)/(RCIY) Aaron (8228 3419).

Sign up before 15 September.

JOIN THE CHOIR

Come join the Sunday 10.15am **IGNATIAN VOICES** choir. We're very friendly and you decide how much time you

can commit. If you have any interest in conducting or playing the piano, we would be even happier to have you. Practice is at 2pm – 3.30pm on Saturdays. For details, contact Agnes (9663 6819) or Adrian (9796 8136).

The fun-loving **FAMILY CHOIR** (Sunday 8.15am Mass) 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 or 9751 0970 for details.

THE LUMEN CHRISTI (Saturday 6pm, 1st, 3rd, 5th Saturday of month) and **MAGNIFICAT** (Sunday 6pm, 2nd, 5th Sunday of month) choirs are looking for singers and keyboardists. Call Jonathan (9752 0078 Lumen Christi) or Ju-Lyn (9694 1596 Magnificat).

MIGRANT CELEBRANT SUNDAY

The ACMI will be celebrating their Migrant Celebrant Sunday mass in our Parish on Sunday 22 September, 12.15pm mass. A larger crowd of 400 migrants are expected to attend. To avoid congestion, you are encouraged to attend earlier masses or the Sunday 6.00pm.

TUESDAY LADIES' JOURNEY

Join the Tuesday Ladies' Journey around the globe to the heart of the Catholic Faith with Bishop Robert Barron to see what Catholics believe and why. Begins Tuesday 1 October, 10am, Room 02-02.

Register with Theresa 9665 4451 or Jennet 9864 3793 or email yoongtheresa@yahoo.com.sg

RIP NEWS – RISEN IN THE LORD

Mary Chua – 92 years old

Date of death: 22 August 2019

Michael Tan Chye Ngee – 84 years old

Date of death: 27 August 2019

NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

ZONE A DISTRICT 1- ST PAUL THE APOSTLE

Wednesday 11 September, Rm Sh-02-E

Programme: Catholicism - The Pivotal Players - St Assisi : The Reformer

ZONE B DISTRICT 1

Tuesday 3 September, room SH-E

Programme: Recitation of Rosary/Prayer of Generosity, DVD Screening of Pope Benedict XVI, Discussion/Reflection and Fellowship

ZONE B DISTRICT 3

Thursday 19 September, #02 SH-F

Programme: 1) Daily Word of God

2) 7 Secrets of The Eucharist (DVD)

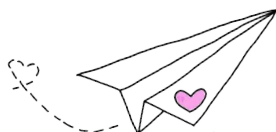
Rev. Robert E. Barron – (His website, WordOnFire.org)

Creator & Host of The CATHOLICISM series.

A little Love Note

LOVING OUR CHURCH

"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like." **ST AUGUSTINE**



Celebrating All of



God's

Creation

The annual SEASON OF CREATION is celebrated by Christians all over the world from 1 September to 4 October. In a letter from the Vatican, Catholic churches have been invited to join in the celebration with the last Sunday of September set aside for the closing of the Year of Mission.

We are asked to celebrate our Creator and his Creation together in continual prayer, changes in the way we live and consume, hands-on action and even advocacy. Care and the protection of God's creation is part of our faith.

The theme "the Web of Life: Biodiversity as God's Blessing" connects our role as the stewards of God's creation with the urgent need to protect biodiversity.

The book of Genesis begins with God's affirmation that all of creation is "very good" (Genesis 1:30). We are part of a delicate and interdependent web of life, which is valuable because it is created, sustained and redeemed by God. We are called to reflect God's image through godly leadership within the community of fellow creatures (Genesis 1:26-28). The story of Noah includes God's redemptive purposes for, and covenant with humanity and the earth and all its creatures (Genesis 9:8-17). In the New Testament all things were created by and for Christ, giving particular value to each creature (Colossians 1:15-20). God's ultimate purposes

from creation to re-creation encompass all that we call biodiversity.

Biodiversity matters not only because humans depend on stable and thriving ecosystems and the services they give to us, from clean water and food, to oxygen, clothing and climate regulation, and all the resources we use from nature. Biodiversity matters because God gives value to every creature that is created. As the Papal Encyclical *Laudato Si* states, "It is not enough, however, to think of different species merely as potential 'resources' to be exploited, while overlooking the fact that they have value in themselves ... Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no such right." (*Laudato Si*: On Care for our Common Home, 33).

Today, human behaviour is destroying God's creation at an unprecedented rate. According to the Living Planet Report 2018, there has been a 60 percent decline in global wildlife populations between 1970 and 2014, caused by deforestation, habitat destruction, climate change, and

Season of Creation 2019 Prayer

Creator of Life,
The Earth is full of Your creatures, and by Your wisdom you made them all. At Your word, the Earth brought forth plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit, the waters teemed with swarms of living creatures of every kind, and the world was filled with every kind of winged bird; walking animal, and creatures that creep upon the ground.

Mountains, plains, rocks, and rivers shelter diverse communities, and through the changing seasons Your Spirit renews cycles of life.

During this Season of Creation, open our eyes to see the precious diversity that is all around us. Enlighten our minds to appreciate the delicate balance maintained by each creature. Inspire us to conserve the precious habitats that nurture this web of life.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation,
Jesus Christ.

Amen.

pollution of soil, water and air, including the tide of plastic fouling the oceans.

This loss matters because all God's creatures have value in themselves and also as an issue of justice. It is the poor and marginalised who depend most immediately on the health of ecosystems and are affected most severely by the collapse of the natural systems that sustain all life. Billions today face the loss of productive soil, clean water, forests, fish and coral reefs, resulting in a great tide of human migration everywhere. Kenyan botanist and Christian Dr Stella Simiyu says, "The rural poor depend directly on the natural resource base. This is where their pharmacy is, this is where their supermarket is, this is in fact their fuel station, their power company, their water company. What would happen to you if these things were removed from your local neighbourhood? Therefore, we really cannot afford not to invest in environmental conservation."

ARTICLE ADAPTED FROM
SEASONOFCREATION.ORG

JESUIT NEWS

RETREAT: PRAYING WITH MIRACLES

Jesus performed many miracles as part of his teaching ministry. Through his miracles, Jesus used this power to show us the nature of God's generous love and compassion. Come and spend the weekend reflecting and praying on the meaning of Jesus' miracles in our lives today. Sit with Jesus' miracles to let them speak to your own lives and let them transform you.

Facilitator: Fr Gregory Tan, SJ

Date/Time: Friday 6 September (7.30pm) to Sunday 8 September (4.00pm)

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

Venue: Kingsmead Spirituality Centre, 8 Victoria Park Road, Singapore 266492

Register: tinyurl.com/rpwm2019

PARENTING WORKSHOP: RAISING RESILIENT CHILDREN

Resilience allows young people to experience life's ups and downs, and have the emotional capacity to stay healthy. Parents are provided the tools to support the growth and emotional wellness of your children.

Facilitator: Lissy Ann Puno, Counselling Psychologist

Date/Time: Saturday 21 September (9.30am to 12noon)

Contribution: \$30

Venue: Kingsmead Spirituality Centre, 8 Victoria Park Road, Singapore 266492

Registration: tinyurl.com/19pwrrc

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

NEW WINE CONFERENCE 2019

Conference for people involved in PPCs, Ministries and Small Christian Communities to discover new ways to build a more vibrant, evangelistic and missionary Church in Singapore.

Date/Time: 21 September, 9.30am - 4pm

Venue: St Joseph's Institution Jr, 3 Essex Rd S309331

Organiser: Office for the New Evangelisation

Register now at bit.ly/nwc19

LIVE THE GOSPEL IN THE WORLD

2-part Formation Series facilitated by Fr David Garcia, OP.

Embark on a journey of discovery of how we are called to live our faith more intentionally in our daily lives.

Part 1: Weekend Retreat

Dates : 27 - 29 September

Venue: Montfort Centre, 624 Upper Bukit Timah Road

Part 2: 3 Evening Sessions

Dates/Time: 8, 15 & 22 October, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Time: Venue: Agape Village, 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh

Information and registration at www.caritas-singapore.org or email formation@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)

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