



## The Poor Among Us

**T**oday's readings are challenging. Yet, that challenge affirms our struggles and faithfulness, that all is not in vain. The psalmist appeals for us all, yet we still have to check our reality. Have we really been faithful?

One of the more interesting canon laws is Canon 512 §2. It states that "the Christian faithful who are designated to a pastoral council are to be selected in such a way that they truly reflect the entire portion of the people of God which constitutes the diocese, with consideration given to the different areas of the diocese, social conditions and professions, and the role which they have in the apostolate whether individually or joined with others."

In other words, these designated Christian faithful – in conformity with §3 of the same canon, that is to be a "Christian faithful outstanding in firm faith, good morals, and prudence" – should include the poor and marginalized as far as possible. They represent but a part of the diversity of the diocese as stipulated in canon law.

Note that this diversity is not limited to the parish, but to the diocese. Who else would be included in this scope? We could take a leaf from an interpretation offered in the Guidelines for Parish Pastoral Councils of the Archdiocese of Washington, USA, in that the composition of the council should consider "women and men of different age groups and civil status (married, single, widowed, young adult, senior citizen, etc.); people from different walks of life and different racial, ethnic, cultural and social conditions; people from different geographic sectors of the parish; [and] representatives from the religious men

and women residing in the parish."

In such a wide demographic range, those who contribute of their own volition contribute out of excess and generosity. However, since participation in the parish council is a "designation" and not a purely voluntary post, perhaps special consideration and help should be given to enable timely diverse and unhindered participation. Voluntarism can be a discriminating factor, rather than a benign virtue. In other words, in being unable to diversify its composition accordingly, then the parish council is perhaps only reflecting a bias formed by structural sins.

These are harsh words, but perhaps a necessary though bitter tonic. As it is, Christ came not for our immediate peace and harmony, but to upturn those structures that are unjust and hinder the greatest command to love God and to love one's neighbour as oneself. We don't have to wait for another prophet or messiah – the teachings are in plain sight, and the sign of the times are so prevalent we can't help but brush up against them.

However, there are potential silver linings in the interesting times that we are living in. One of them is to explore the use of telepresence technology in parish council meetings to enable greater participation, especially of single parents or stay at home parents. Another is to consider satellite groupings of council members who will then telepresence in to the main meeting, a particularly interesting solution as it could promote a greater sense of belonging and relationships than individual telepresence. In the end, the greatest difficulty is perhaps not so much about technology or processes, but the attitudes and behaviour of

## Care for Creation

### A Call for Conversion and Change

Care is a word that binds us to others as an expression of affinity, affection and attention. To say that "I don't care" is tantamount to saying, "I am not interested in your life, plight or pain." It is in a word — rejection.

Truly, as Christians, it is not our nature to be uninvolved, uncaring and unloving towards our neighbour or to God's creation. As we mark the end of the Season of Creation, we are invited to be more caring, concerned and compassionate. We realise that we are to be the custodians of God's wonderful world. It is created by God to sustain our lives and promote our well-being so that we may learn to care for creation and not exploit it.

May we respond with gratitude to all God has blessed us with. We are to examine and change our lifestyle to mitigate the climate crisis that is crying out to us to act now with urgency before we reach the point of no return. We have to CARE because God cares for us. To love God is to care for each other, for creation and for the future of our children. May we dare to change – for to change is to care.

FR COLIN TAN, SJ

ourselves and our brethren.

It is no wonder then that we are exhorted to continue to be good and faithful Christians in the second reading. Attitudes and behaviour are ours alone to change, in response to God's grace as mediated by others, a disposition considerably improved by our actions and orientations. Yet by and large, such change is also the work of the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in our humble and contrite hearts. Let us never forget to pray for such a grace of active, striving humility, and thus be more like Lazarus, the poor among us, than the rich man.

MICHAEL PHUNG, SJ

## PARISH NEWS

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

### OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE ROSARY

We welcome all parishioners to make a special effort to join us in praying the Rosary at 7.30am and at 5.15pm before the 6.00pm weekday Masses.

### NATIVITY STABLES ROADSHOW 2019

Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 October at Place of Gathering  
Pre-order your Christmas gifts of handcrafted Nativity sets, figurines and ornaments. 20 percent of sale proceeds will go to the Hai Sing Catholic School building fund.  
For details, contact 9681 2257

### FIRST FRIDAY – SACRED HEART OF JESUS MASS

Friday 4 October, 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.

### THEMATIC MASSES

Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 October  
Saturday 6.00pm – Family Mass  
Sunday 8.15am – Celebrating Children's Day Mass  
Sunday 12.15pm – Youth Mass  
We want to encourage greater participation of children, youth and families so that they can participate more fully at these masses, and create a greater sense of belonging in St Ignatius Church. We are also celebrating Children's Day with the Children's Mass at 8.15am. Please make a special effort to join us.

**PARISH ASSEMBLY 2019** will be held on Saturday 19 October, 9am to 12pm at St Ignatius Hall. Attendance is compulsory for all heads of ministries and NCCs, and core team members of ministries. Parish Priest Fr Colin Tan, SJ, will outline the new Parish organisational structure, and speak on the Universal Apostolic Preferences, pronounced by Jesuit Superior General, Fr Arturo Sosa in February 2019. All parishioners and ministry members are also encouraged to attend and to support candidates standing for election to the PPC executive committee.

### DONATION FOR WALKWAY PROJECT

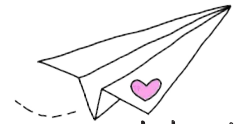
Our church is raising \$650,000 for an "additions & alterations" project to enable wheelchair access at the front of the church and covered walkways at Sacred Heart Hall behind. We have received \$630,000 to date. Your cash/cheque contribution should be put in the appeal envelope and dropped into the weekly collections during offertory or into the Vestry's drop box. Thank you for your generosity.

**INFANT BAPTISMS** on Sunday 13 October at 3.00pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend the briefing on Sunday 6 October, 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Michele Khoo (9765 5065) & Lin Wein Khoo, or Lea (9815 9889) & Wahjudi Gunawan.

## A Little Love Note

### LOVING OUR CHURCH

"You learn to speak by speaking, to study by studying, to run by running, to work by working, and just so, you learn to love by loving." ST FRANCIS DE SALES



### JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS

Saturday 23 November, 9.30am to 3.00pm and Sunday 24 November, 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 or electronic items like TVs, printers, video, cassette tapes, and textbooks. Place your donations by 10 November at the drop-off point outside the Sacred Heart Hall canteen.

### NOSTRA AETATE

In conjunction with the Archdiocese Extraordinary Month of Mission in October, St Ignatius Church invites you to a talk on Nostra Aetate and why Catholics need to engage with people of different faiths.

Panel speakers:

Gerald Kong, Executive Secretary, Archdiocesan Catholic Council for Interreligious Dialogue (ACCIRD)  
Fr Colin Tan, SJ, Parish Priest, St Ignatius Church  
Date/Time: Saturday 12 October, 9.30am - 11.30am  
Venue: St Ignatius Hall, 8 Victoria Park Rd. S266492  
Register via the QR code or visit our website under "All Events". For more information, contact Angela at 6466 0625.



### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

Bible Sharing on Luke 1:39-45, Mary's Visit to Elizabeth. Elizabeth was moved by the Holy Spirit to recognise the presence of our Lord Jesus, when Mary visited her. How open are we to be led by the Holy Spirit? All are invited this Wednesday 2 October, at St Ignatius Hall. Light dinner fellowship at 7.30pm, and the session ends at 9.30pm.

### POP-UP CAFÉ

Parents are invited for discussions and sharings on parenting in the context of our faith. Come for coffee at the pop-up cafe while your children are at their catechetical sessions. Hosted by the Magis Family Ministry at Sacred Heart Hall, Saturday 19 October, 3.45pm to 5.30pm. Topic: Communication with our kids. Love offerings are welcome.

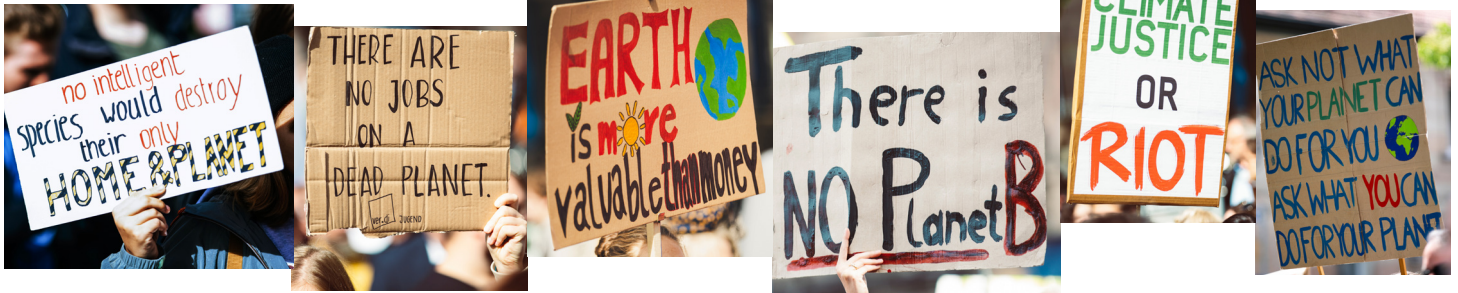
### SSVP SHOP

The Society of St Vincent De Paul is pleased to announce the launch of its social enterprise SSVP Shop. The shop sells new and pre-loved items of good quality with something for everyone at affordable prices. Profits fund SSVP programmes for the needy.  
Address: 501 Geylang Road, Singapore 389459.  
Open: Tuesday – Sunday, 10am – 6pm  
Call 6974 2480 or email shop@ssvpsingapore.org  
Nearest MRT station: Aljunied

### RIP NEWS – RISEN IN THE LORD

Nicholas Haminoto – 79 years old  
Departed: 22 September 2019

# CHANGE



**D**uring one of my first Religion lessons, I remember being astonished after my good friend prayed, “I hope that my pigs will live”. This was at the beginning of my boarding period in Brisbane. Coming from Singapore and preoccupied with settling into boarding school, I failed to see the significance of the prayer. By contrast, my friend came from Walgett: a rural drought-stricken town in New South Wales.

A few weeks ago he revealed that Walgett had reached Day 0. The label Day 0 is one every farmer fears, for it means that a town has reached a situation where its water supplies are insubstantial to sustain living conditions. Although it was once the regional economic hub of New South Wales, no amount of economic prosperity could now save his home town from the clutches of the menacing 6-year drought. Taps turned off, livestock killed and homes evacuated, Walgett has now been subdued to a barren wasteland.

Since his family owns a Stock and Station company, the family business has fortunately been partially shielded from the wrath of the drought. Others are not so lucky. He confides, “Sometimes I don’t feel like going home. Everything there is just so depressing.” Suicide rates for farmers have risen drastically over the past 5 years, with tales of farmers killing themselves along with their livestock far from uncommon. For most, the focus of life has radically shifted from

# Do It Now

prospering to surviving. In other parts of Queensland and in the Northern Territory, typhoons rage, while elsewhere in the region, torrential rain has caused floods across the low-lying islands of Tonga and the Solomons, sparking fears of underwater submersion.

Such erratic weather has been predominantly attributed to the depleted ozone layer over Oceania.

The unprecedented ramifications of climate change have been poignantly encapsulated in Pope Francis’ encyclical *Laudato Si*, with

the Pontiff describing climate change as a “global problem with grave implications”.

The Pope, implores all to take “swift and unified global action” to rectify the current state of the environment.

The constant interaction I experience with my fellow boarders, those who rely on the land for a living, has made me realise the importance of everyone’s obligation to conserve the environment. I recall the words of another 15 year old, AnnMary Vikatoria Raduva, an inspirational climate change activist who was invited to speak at the IUCN Oceania Regional Conservation Forum held in Suva, Fiji from 29 July to 2 August, “The land, our reefs, our fishing grounds and our forests are crying with us. We must heal and reconnect. We must do it now.”

**LEON SIMONETTI**

Fr Colin Tan, SJ Parish Priest ★ Fr Matthew Tan, SJ Assistant Parish Priest ★ Fr Jerome Leon, SJ Assistant Parish Priest ★ Fr Ravi Michael Louis, 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

## NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

### ZONE A DISTRICT 1 – ST PAUL THE APOSTLE

Wednesday 9 October, Room Sh-02-E (opp adoration room)  
Programme: The Pivotal Player: Michaelangelo – The Artist

### ZONE B DISTRICT 1

Tuesday 1 October, Room SH-E  
Programme: Recitation of Rosary/ Prayer of Generosity, reflection, discussion and finalisation on November home visit.

## JESUIT NEWS

### THE DYNAMICS OF FORGIVENESS IN IGNATIAN TRADITION

The Christian mission is one of forgiveness, which occurs when we, filled with the Holy Spirit, continue the mission of Christ in the world. This talk presents the dynamics of forgiveness by discovering that the work of forgiveness goes beyond our personal salvation.  
Date/ Time: Wednesday, 9 October, 7.30pm–9.30pm.  
Contribution: \$50 for 1 talk, \$80 for 2 talks.

MAGIS  
Series

### RETREAT: THE SEARCH FOR A HOME

This film retreat will explore the theme of the search for a home and belonging as the desire of every human being.  
Date/Time: 11 October (7.30pm) – 13 October (5.00pm)  
Contribution: \$270 (non-AC); \$330 (AC).

Facilitator: Fr Monty Williams, SJ.

Registration: <http://tinyurl.com/monty19>; T: 6467 6072

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

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### 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.  
3 Evening Sessions  
Dates: 8, 15 & 22 October  
Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
Venue: Agape Village, 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh  
Information and registration at [www.caritas-singapore.org](http://www.caritas-singapore.org) or email [formation@caritas-singapore.org](mailto:formation@caritas-singapore.org)

### PIETA MEMORIAL MASS FOR CHILDREN

Friday 8 November, 7.30pm at Cathedral of the Good Shepherd.  
We come together as bereaved families to remember our children who have died, including unborn and adult children. The mass will be celebrated by Msgr Philip Heng, SJ.  
Parents who wish to include the name of your child for this mass, REGISTER before 18 October at <http://tinyurl.com/PietaMM2019>  
Email: [pietamass@gmail.com](mailto:pietamass@gmail.com)

### 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. 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](http://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