Vol 87 No 4

CATHOLIC CHURCH of **St Ignatius**

All You Need

od reveals to Joseph his mission: to be Mary's husband and to be the father of the child Jesus, whose coming fulfills the prophecy of the coming of the Emmanuel, God-who-is-with-us. What God reveals to Joseph is his true self: God has always meant for Joseph to be Mary's husband and to be Jesus' earthly father.

What about us? We struggle to harmonize the selves we fashion for the world to see and approve, and the authentic selves God created us to become. We wear masks to be accepted, to be approved, to be loved, even to be acceptable before God.

What can help us to become more the person God created us to be? Matthew's presentation of Joseph gives us a clue. Joseph hears and responds to God's revelation without hesitation because he trusts in God. In our final Advent days before Christmas, I believe God is challenging us to entrust ourselves into his hands, so that we can wholeheartedly receive Jesus into our lives.

The true self is the one who needs God. If we are honest with ourselves and God, we will have to confess that we need God. We all need God whether we are struggling with our sinfulness or growing in our saintliness.

We need God because everything we have and everything we are comes from God. And it is through Jesus, with Jesus and in Jesus that God shares abundantly with us. God gives us Jesus so that we who need God can experience, know and enjoy him and his saving love in our lives.

And when we do this, God will surprise us even more: He will help us realize the fullness of who we were created to be.

As Joseph was meant to be Mary's husband and Jesus' father, we are meant to be in friendship with Jesus. And, through Jesus and in his Spirit, God means for us to live always in God's life and in God's love.

This is indeed good news that we can trust: God will meet every one of our needs, no matter how small or how big, in Jesus. This is what we can truly hope for with joyful anticipation as Christmas approaches.

So, let us be honest that we do need God. Then, we can sing out with expectant joy, "Come Lord Jesus, come, and come now!"

Fr Adrian Danker, SJ

A Quiet Silence

One of the greatest reliefs of Christmas is that it is a season when moralizing gives way to mystery — the mystery of stillness and quiet. Trust the writer of the book of Wisdom to provide us with the most beautiful of verses to greet the occasion. "While all things were a quiet silence and the night was in the middle of her course, your almighty word leapt down from heaven from your throne."

And here is the Good News, uttered in the still silence of the night and accomplishing the greatest event of history. Here in the mind surrenders before that which is beyond it, the heart is quickened by love and the will moves into action. The greatest forces in us are the quiet sources. Alas how we drown them in fearful noisiness.

Read today's Gospel in your quieter moments and let its magic and mystery reign. There will be time enough later for animated celebration. But first we must recover the object of our celebration. But we won't find him along Orchard



Sunday 18 December 2016

4th Sunday of Advent 1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14 2nd Reading: Romans 1:1-7 Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

> Monday 19 December Liturgy of the day

> Tuesday 20 December Liturgy of the day

Wednesday 21 December St Peter Canisius SJ

Thursday 22 December Liturgy of the day

Friday 23 December Liturgy of the day

Saturday 24 December Nativity of The Lord

Sunday 25 December Christmas (Day of Obligation)

Road. He is an infant God. Few take infants seriously and perhaps even fewer take God seriously.

We need to recall what was ours in our childhood days. We need to dream again and return to that simplicity which makes the wise seem foolish. We need to find God in the everydayness of a child and know that the loveliest things in life are available for free. Graciousness is the hallmark of Christmas.

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ

Parish Priest Fr Leslie Raj, SJ Assistant Parish Priests Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ Fr Matthew Tan, SJ Parish Administrator Angela Kurnadi Parish Accountant Joyce Setiawan Catechetical Director Jeremy Aloysius Youth Coordinators Yvonne Chen Gerard Robert Sacristan Robert Ong Operations Manager Facilities Manager Communications Manager

OPARISH NEWS

MEMORIAL MASS for deceased is on Friday, 23 December at 8pm at the main Church. Please note that there will be NO 6pm mass on that day. All are welcome.

INFANT BAPTISMS on Sunday 8 January 2017 at 3.00pm. All parents and godparents must attend briefing on Sunday 1 January 2017, 3.00 pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child's baptism. For enquiries, contact Simon (9790 6985) & Angela Cheong (9819 6886) or Anthony (9815 9889) & Mariana Heng (9270 8213).

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

(8.15am and 10.15am) will take a break from Christmas until 12 February 2017. Sessions will resume on Sunday, 19 February 2017.

LEADING LITTLE ONES TO GOD REGISTRATION 2017

Kindergarten 1 program is now available (1.30pm - 3pm on Saturdays) only from Term 2 as new catechists will need to receive formation training. More volunteers are very welcome. Contact coordinator Merilyn at llotg. ignatius@gmail.com.

★ Registration now open for K1 children (born 2012) until 31 December. Classes for K1 children begin after March school holidays 2017.

★ Classes for K2 children begin after Chinese New Year 2017.



THE PILGRIM COMMUNITY Advent and Christmas 2016

Christmas Eve Children's pageant followed by Mass Saturday 24 December, 5.30pm

Reflection followed by Christmas Mass 11.00pm

Christmas Day Masses Sunday 25 December, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

Special Christmas Mass and Party for the aged, sick and housebound (byPaCES Ministry) Wednesday, 28 December, 2.30pm

Carol service (by 8.15am Family Choir) Friday 30 December, 8.00pm

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MOTHER OF GOD

Year End Concelebrated Mass Saturday 31 December, 6.00pm

Sunday 1 January 6.45am, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDRENS' PAGEANT & CAROLLING

Calling children (5–10 years old) to participate in the 5.30pm Christmas Eve Children's pageant. Parents are encouraged to help and support their children. Rehearsal this Sunday at 2.00pm, main Church.

A TIMELESS AND ENDLESS LOVE

Volunteers from Church of Transfiguration are at Place of Gathering to sell tickets to COTT Gala Dinner 2017, in aid of the building fund. Featuring a musical showcase exploring various facets of eternal love through the ages. Sunday 19 Feb 2017, 7pm at Grand Ballroom Orchard Hotel

WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Registration for 2017 is NOW CLOSED. Email stignatius. wecat@gmail.com if you have missed registration but still wish to enquire about 2017 enrolment.

RIP NEWS – RISEN in the LORD

Bruce James Brown – 71 years old Date of death: 4 December 2016 Funeral Mass: 6 December, 1.00pm

Theresa Chua Swee Lan – 97 years old Date of death: 15 December 2016 Funeral Mass: 19 December, 12.00 noon

GIFT TO JESUS



DVC Youth Choir invites youths and young adults, aged 13 to 35, to sing at the Christmas Midnight Mass. Email dvcyouthchoir@gmail.com.

DVC EVE EVE PARTY!

Calling youths and young adults! Join us for fun, games and PARTY! 30 Dec (Friday), Games from 3pm, Praise & Worship, and Mass at 7pm, followed by fellowship, more games and PARTY! Dress code: Christmas Knitwear and Onesies!

Sign up at tinyurl.com/dvceveeve

ONCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8 pm.

Zone A District 1

Wednesday, 11 January 2017, SH-E Programme: Symbolon episode 7–The Holy Spirit and the life of grace

Zone A District 2

Wednesday, 21 December, 7.00pm, Sacred Heart Hall Programme: Advent celebration

Zone A District 3

Wednesday 18 January 2017, #02-06 Programme: Symbolon session 9–Mary and the Saints





Pray the Ignatian Way

dvent is a season where we prepare ourselves to once again rejoice and celebrate the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ. We are all encouraged to deepen our prayer life through Ignatian Spirituality, in seeing God in all things, more so during Christmas.

The Sojourners Companions in-

vite you to learn to pray the Ignatian way in a WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER. From 15 to 21 January, Prayer Guides will jourwith you nev in the Ignatian tradition of contemplative prayer.

Ignatian Spirituality involves detachment from earthly concerns in order to have a deeper and

more meaningful relationship with God. It's also about discernment in order to make right choices in accordance with God's will for us. Most of all, it is about God's unconditional love for us and our individual responses in gratitude for that

love. We achieve this through prayer, the most powerful way we communicate with God.

The Sojourners Companions have been conducting the Week Of Guided Prayer (WOGP) for the past 20 years, praying with God's Holy Word found in Scripture, and guiding us to seeing and finding God in all things.

I had a most enlightening and inspiring week, during which I acquired a precious tool to help me grow closer to God in my prayers. Whereas I once rattled through familiar prayers and read scripture passages as though reading a novel, now find special meaning, and soul-searching and deep experiences in the readings. My heart-felt thanks to all of you and I thank God that you are so committed to this

> calling as to sacrifice time and effort to gather more into your fold. May you continue with this ministry for the benefit of others.

> > **LULIN REUTENS**

The programme is well structured and simple to follow. I would recommend it to everyone who wants to be closer to our Lord. It has brought joy and serenity

to me as I am able to dialogue with the Lord in the private recess of my heart. It is so intimate and close. I was so touched

on a number of occasions that I cried uncontrollably with joy. My prayer is never the same now. Faith without action is quite dead. Go and improve the quality of your prayers. God bless.

JOE CHUA

"As a cradle Catholic, the primary way I was taught to pray was to recite the prayers that Catholics are all familiar with - Our Father, Hail Mary Glory Be, The Magnificat. The Week of Guided Prayer at St Ignatius gave me a new perspective to praying, a fresh impetus to my prayer life, and new insights into my faith journey. My Prayer Guide, Javina, was very patient and encouraging during our daily oneto-one sessions. It was a most edifying week! Thank you, Sozourners Companions! God Bless!

Week Of Guided Prayer (WOGP)

15–21 January 2017 The Sojourners' Companions invites you to pray with Scripture in the Ignatian tradition and to develop a closer relationship with the Lord.

Sunday, 15 January 2017 2 pm – 5 pm (Sacred Heart Hall)

Monday to Friday, 16–20 January half hour @ home + half hour to meet your personal Prayer Guide (pre-arranged time between 9 am – 10 pm at Parish Hall rooms)

Saturday, 21 January 2017 2 pm – 5 pm (Sacred Heart Hall)

> Fee \$30/participant

Registration website: www.sojourners.sg email: wogp@sojourners.sg Place of Gathering: 7–8 January 2017 during weekend Masses Parish Office: From 12 December 2016



ANDREW SNG

OJESUIT NEWS

BECOME A JESUIT

If you are considering a vocation as a Jesuit priest or brother, go to www.masjesuits.org and www.facebook.com/jesuit.vocations.malaysia.singapore for more information. You can also contact Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja SJ or Fr Adrian Danker, SJ at mas-vocations@jesuits.net.

INTRODUCTION TO BASIC COUNSELLING

A 14-week introduction to basic counselling and personal development. Learn about counselling and its benefits, and develop an awareness of mental well-being. Participants will also get to apply problem-solving strategies and techniques in a safe, supportive environment.

Dates: 14 consecutive Thursdays from 9 Feb to 18 May (except 13 Apr) Time: 7.30pm - 10pm; Contribution: \$600; Register: http://tinyurl.com/itcc14 Enquiries: Call 6467 6072 or email kingsmead.enquiries@gmail.com

Jesuit Regional Curia, Telephone: 6469 7356 Fr Christopher Soh SJ, Fr James Tan SJ **Kingsmead Hall, Jesuit Community, Tel: 6466 3225** Fr Gerard Keane SJ, Fr Gerald Tseng SJ, Fr Charles Sim SJ, Fr Colin Tan SJ, Msgr Philip Heng SJ, Fr Adrian Danker SJ, Sch Don Basil Kannangara SJ

Kingsmead Centre, Tel: 6467 6072 Jesuit Mission Office Tel: 6463 6022

OARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

THANKSGIVING MASS IN BAHASA INDONESIA

Celebrant: F.X.R. Sambodo, SSCC and Kamelus Kamus, CICM Year-end Thanksgiving Mass in Bahasa Indonesia for the Indonesian Community in Singapore, followed by fellowship.

Date: 31 December, 8pm at the Risen Christ Church, 91 Toa Payoh Central Contact: Riri Iskandar (96986385), Stephanus Widjaja (93554952), Martina (96158260) or email: angelika.sundari@hotmail.com

NO ONE SHOULD EAT ALONE AT CHRISTMAS

Invite someone who should not be eating alone this Christmas to a meal at Crossings Café. Pay only for your own meal, your guest eats for free. This invitation is for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Crossings Café, 55 Waterloo Street. Reservations: 63382669

OPEN CALL!

ONE (Office of the New Evangelisation) is looking for collaborators. Come to the ONE Day and find out more. Date: 7 Jan 2017; Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Venue: 2 Highland Road, CAEC Building (Singapore 549102) Forms available at https://goo.gl/forms/K04M9yQRLDYHEYtj2

WEEKLY

Rosary in Church Monday to Saturday, after 7am Mass and Monday to Friday 5.15pm to 5.45pm

Intercessory Prayers Tuesday, 2.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall Adoration Room, Level 2

Christian Meditation Friday, 2.30pm in St Francis Xavier Prayer Room (Kingsmead)

Gentle Light

Tuesday, 10am – 12noon in St Francis Xavier Chapel (Kingsmead) Thursday, 10am – 12noon in Sacred Heart Canteen (Room SH-A)

Divine Mercy Devotion 2nd, 3rd, 5th Friday after 6.00pm Mass; 4th Friday at 7.20pm before Memorial Mass in Main Church.

Catholic content online, login: www.FORMED.org; parish code: 4904ed

Church Office

3rd floor (from King's Road) or behind Kingsmead Hall (Victoria Park Road)

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 available at front of Church office

Weddings

Couples must make themselves known to the priest at least 6 months before the wedding. Contact: Robert Ong (8511 4614)

Columbarium Opening Hours

Monday to Saturday: 6.30am – 10.00pm Sunday: 6:30am – 8.00pm Public Holiday: Closed

Inigo Bookstore

Open during Weekend Masses.

Sick and elderly

Please contact the parish office if help is needed for parishioners regardless of which hospital they are at. You may also contact priests' residence at 6466 3225

Bereavement

Please contact the parish office Sacristan, Robert Ong (8511 4614) for help and advice before contacting the funeral director.

Entrance via, 8 Victoria Park Road

Kingsmead Hall (Priests' Residence), St Ignatius Hall, Sacred Heart Hall, Kingsmead Centre (for Ignatian Spirituality & Counselling)

MONTHLY – in Main Church

Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass Every 1st Friday, 8pm (No 6pm Mass)

Followed by Generation CHRIST! Eucharistic Adoration

Children Eucharistic Adoration Every 3rd Friday, 7.45pm

Memorial Mass Every 4th Friday, 8pm (No 6pm Mass)