

Live Simply

ecently, we Jesuits had our regional annual meeting and one of the presentations was on the consequences of global warming. We were told that a slight increase in global temperature, by just one or two degrees would cause catastrophic changes in the weather, like super typhoons, drastic rise in sea

levels, death of coral reefs, extinction of certain species, rapid expansion of deserts, including the depletion of oxygen in our atmosphere among others. Trees that normally emit oxygen will reverse their process, and give out

only carbon dioxide with the increase of global temperature. If temperatures increase by more than three or four degrees, then there is no turning back at this point, which will mark the gradual extinction of all creatures including human beings.

It was a wake-up call for many of us at the meeting. I believe in some ways, we are contributing to this global warming through

our present lifestyle, and especially our consumeristic behaviour. We often forget that the earth we live in is slowly dying because we are polluting it with the burning of more fossil fuel, and the unbridled consumption of the earth natural resources.

So before you rush off for your



last minute Christmas shopping, I would like to invite you to pause, and ask yourself, "Is this really needed for Christmas?" Perhaps as a family you may



want to consider, "What can we do collectively as a family to save this battered earth today, as Jesus did for us through the Incarnation some 2,000 years ago?" Jesus became man so that we may become children of God.

It will definitely be a more meaningful Christmas if we can do our part to consume less, and make a real effort in saving our earth from destruction.

So let's "live simply so that others can simply live."

Fr Charles Sim, SJ



Parish Administrator Angela Kurnadi Parish Accountant Joyce Setiawan Catechetical Director Jeremy Aloysius Youth Coordinators Yvonne Chen **Gerard Robert**

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

Divine Healer

Saintly characters are like ourselves only more so. They suffer extremes of compelling faith and insight and troughs of great despair and doubt. Mother Teresa's memoirs come to mind as, indeed does the plight of John the Baptist in today's Gospel. He asks himself "Is this really the Christ?" One would imagine that the greatest prophets would have no problem with recognizing the One whom he spent his



Sunday 11 December 2016

3rd Sunday of Advent 1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6,10 2nd Reading: James 5:7-10 Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

> **Monday 12 December** Our Lady of Guadalupe

Tuesday 13 December St Lucy

Wednesday 14 December St John of the Cross

Thursday 15 December Liturgy of the day

Friday 16 December Liturgy of the day

Saturday 17 December Liturgy of the day

Sunday 18 December Fourth Sunday of Advent

life proclaiming. But apparently he did.

Perhaps it was because his image of the coming Christ was somewhat a projection of himself - severe, demanding retaliation and expiation and numbering the vices of mankind whom Jesus loved. Or did he expect a military hero like David who would march his army to victory? Had he forgotten the consoling and merciful Messiah predicted by Isaiah?

John got his answer, "Tell John that the blind can see, the lame walk," etc, Christ's mission was one of incredible mercy, kindness and above all, healing. Have we got John's problem? What sort of person is our Christ? Perhaps our Advent exercise might be an asking myself "Does my Saviour, due at Christmas time, need a new image and understanding?" Is Christ for me primarily, a healer and, if so, what in me is in need of the Divine physician?

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ

OPARISH NEWS

Next weekend's **SECOND COLLECTION** will be for the Catholic Foundation's GIFT campaign. Put your cash or cheque donations in the pledge envelopes (available at front desk) before placing into the collection bags. For more information, visit gift.catholicfoundation.sg to pledge online.

PARISH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

As we gather as one community in Christ, we are aware that terrorist threats are very much a reality in our world. The Archdiocese has informed all parishes to be prepared for emergencies like fire, bomb threats and attacks, which typically occur at public spaces where large crowds congregate, even places of worship.

To ensure that all of us gathered can continue to worship in safety and comfort, our Parish Emergency Planning team will be making presentations at all Masses this weekend to seek volunteers and your support.

Together with the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Archdiocese has been working with parishes throughout Singapore on enhancing emergency and security measures. Every parish has been asked by the Archdiocese to form a Parish Emergency Response Squad to be prepared in first-response evacuation and aid in the event of crisis before the authorities arrive on the scene.

Do not panic. These measures are not in place to alarm you, but are there so that parishioners can rest assured that their safety has been taken into account.

Approach the Help Desk to sign up as a volunteer first responder.

LEADING LITTLE ONES TO GOD REGISTRATION 2017

★ Registration will now open for Kindergarten 1 children (born 2012) until 31 December. Classes for K1 children will begin after March school holidays 2017.

★ Classes for K2 children will start after CNY 2017.

Generation CHRIST

Pray the Stations of the Nativity a journey of hope to the manger at this special Christmas Adoration. Each station illuminates the birth of Jesus and allows reflection on the reality of "God in our midst". St Francis Xavier chapel (Kingsmead Centre), Friday, 8.00pm.

WEST DISTRICT ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES CHURCH OF ST MARY OF THE ANGELS Monday, 12 December at 8pm CHURCH OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI Tuesday, 13 December at 8pm CHURCH OF ST IGNATIUS Wednesday, 14 December at 8pm CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS Thursday, 15 December at 8pm BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH Friday, 16 December at 8pm

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. Email Chantal Wong/Dorothy Kay at stiggy.nativity2016@gmail.com. Rehearsals at #01-01 (Cathecetical office), next to St Ignatius Hall. This Sunday and next Sunday at 2.00pm.

GIFT TO JESUS

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

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.

WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER (WOGP)

Sunday, 15 January to Saturday, 21 January 2017 The Sojourners' Companions invites everyone to a WOGP to learn how to pray with Scripture and develop a closer relationship with the Lord. \$30/participant. Register: www. sojourners.sq. Enquires: wogp@sojourners.sq

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

You're invited to CRC Year-End Party at St Ignatius Hall, Friday, 16 December, 7:30pm to 10pm. In celebration and Thanksgiving to the Lord who has been ever faithful to us. Music, dancing, food and fellowship. ALL ARE WELCOME!

RIP NEWS - RISEN in the LORD

Rosa Wong nee Chang – 86 years old Date of death: 27 November 2016 Funeral Mass: 1 December, 2.30pm

Nonie Chin – 78 years old Date of death: 28 November 2016 Funeral Mass: 2 December, 2.30pm

Agnes Yeo Swee Eng – 88 years old Date of death: 29 November 2016 Funeral Mass: 2 December, 11.00am

Charles Chew – 79 years old Date of death: 4 December 2016 Funeral Mass: 7 December, 1.15pm

ONCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8 pm. Zone B District 1

Tuesday, 14 December @ Children's Aid Society, 503 Clementi Road, Singapore 599488

Programme: Hosting Christmas party for children

Zone B District 3

Thursday, 15 December, #01-04

 $Programme: 1) \ Gospel \ Sharing-Daily \ Word \ of \ God$

2) Healing of Memories – Inner Healing (VCD) Programme 11 By Rev. John H. Hampsch



TEXT: TANYA NETTO BABY PHOTO: DIANA ANG PHOTOS: PETER KAY

n a country like Singapore where most are privileged with an abundance of food, clothing and shelter, there lies in our very midst the invisible poor. The children of these families drink diluted condensed milk in their development years and use only one or two diapers a day.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) Milk and Diapers (M.A.D) Project began as a humble initiative last year by Jenny Chua, a Vincentian. With case referrals from Family Service Centres, SSVP took on the challenge to help lowincome families by providing their

Help for the Invisible Poor



children with milk and diapers as well as befriending them to ensure the overall well-being of the child.

Over the past year, the M.A.D Project has grown to include 35 volunteers helping 60 children across Singapore, of all races and religions. With an increasing number of cases, the M.A.D Project intensified its outreach by setting up a booth at St Ignatius Church last weekend to raise awareness of this ongoing project. More than 30 parishioners signed up as volunteers/sponsors and the Advent project raised S\$11,081 in funds.

SSVP is immensely grateful to the parishioners of St Ignatius for their generous support of the M.A.D Project. We wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to all. With God's grace, we pray that the M.A.D. Project will continue to help more children in need. To find out how you can be part of the SSVP M.A.D Project, please contact: SSVPMilkandDiapers@gmail.com

"For it is in giving that we receive"

JESUIT NEWS

BECOME A JESUIT

If you are considering a vocation as a Jesuit priest or brother, go to www.mas-jesuits.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.

ADMINISTRATOR

Kingsmead Centre for Ignatian Spirituality & Counselling is seeking a meticulous, responsible and organized team player who is able to multi-task, work independently and effectively communicate with good interpersonal skills. Need to be proficient in Microsoft Office applications and possess minimum 'A' Levels or Diploma qualifications.

Send your application and resume – including present and expected salaries – to Kingsmead.recruitment@gmail.com. Only shortlisted applicants will be notified. More details at www. kingsmeadcentre.sg/vacancy.html

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

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

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

"SHOULD I READ THE BIBLE LITERALLY?" PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION

Presenter: Amy Matthews

Date: Wednesday, 21 December, 730pm (Vespers) to 9pm

Venue: St Joseph's Church, Victoria Street, Conference room

Can I read the bible as I would a newspaper? Does God speak to me when I pray to him and flip to a random passage in the bible? Explore what the Church teaches on biblical interpretation and spiritual life.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER (ME) WEEKEND

Present a ME Gift Voucher to your spouse or friends this Christmas. For December only, get the vouchers from Cana (55 Waterloo Street, Level 2) at half-price of \$25. Book a ME Weekend and pick up new communication skills for a stronger marriage. Slots are still open for the January 6-8 Weekends. E-mail mewkend@gmail.com or visit wwmesg.org.

MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

With special blessing for expectant mothers.
Monday, 12 December; **7.30pm:** Pro-life Rosary; **8pm:** Mass Celebrant: Rev Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ
Church of St Ignatius, 120 King's Road, Singapore 268172

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

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)