



*Psalm response: Remember your mercies, O Lord.*

# Loving the Other

**P**aul opens today's second reading with several verses pleading for the Christians of Philippi to work hard to form a perfect community; and he stresses the humility, self-abandonment, and generosity which this demands.

Paul does not say so explicitly or even address this aspect here, but the independence and individualism which he sees in the Church at Philippi is a weakness, a separation from God and others; such a stance is eventually and literally Hell for those who choose it. It is not at all love, which is trust in the other, giving control away, letting one's self be a gift. Marriage is the highest purely human form of this self-giving, and it is one of the most difficult forms. The New Testament talks about loving others as yourself, and this is most exceptionally and deeply true in marriage since that is what it is: the two need to truly become one — and that means letting go of self.

What Paul is asking for here instead of independence and individualism is just such a true other-centeredness. The first element of this is that we root ourselves firmly in God alone, the ultimate Other. We need to trust that God does — and indeed always will — give us everything that we need.

This is absolutely crucial, for without the freedom that this creates in us our self-abandonment will only be a form of suicide. This hope in God is a trust in which we can see even death as a gift of God, not as pain, loss, and destruction, but as a call to come closer to Him and to live the fullness of the life which He has promised us in His Son.

The second element of what Paul is asking for is that in the security which this hope brings us, we take care of others, put others before our selves, pour ourselves out for them. This other-centeredness means that I respond as a whole person to the situation that I am in, to the persons first and only then to the problems and only in that light. It means trusting that I have what I need, whether I think so or not: consider the miracles of the loaves and the fishes. It is letting go of the "me" and the "mine", and letting God's gifts flow through me — and by gifts I don't mean just money, but strength, patience, welcome, laughter, tenderness, listening with full attention

and concern, whatever.

Note that our love will always be betrayed in this world, undervalued and spurned, and we will even continually betray ourselves through sin, but that does not mean that we should stop loving others as best as we can and pouring ourselves out for them. Being rooted in God is handing our thirst for holiness over to God, letting Him take care of our sin, and directing our energy rather to loving and to sacrificing out of love (and hope) than to seeking to make ourselves "worthy".

I live in communion with God and others, whether I am aware of it or not. Individualism is equivalent to sin, and if we do not build the Body of Christ we cut ourselves off from it: "Whosoever is not with Me is against Me" (Matt 12:30; Luke 11:23). This is where the stark polarity of today's first and third readings becomes real.

Let us hear Paul's word as addressed to us today as much as it was to our brothers and sisters in Paul's Philippi.

**CHAS KESTERMEIER, SJ**

Jesuit Community, Creighton University

## PARISH NEWS

### PARISH ASSEMBLY 2020 INVITATION TO ALL PARISHIONERS

Saturday 17 October, 9.00am - 11.30am.

Fr Colin Tan, SJ, cordially invites parishioners to join him as we chart our way towards our New Reality during the Covid-19 pandemic. Your presence is also deeply appreciated as we come together as a community for PPC Exco Elections. Registration link: <https://forms.gle/NXv1gNH58WPjtXW37>. Please use the same name to register for Zoom login. Deadline: 14 October.

### PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION 2020

All Mass collections received on 4 October, memorial of St Francis of Assisi, will benefit PETER'S PENCE, an annual contribution to the Holy Father. It was started in the 8th Century by the Anglo-Saxons. The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father are used to meet the needs of the whole Catholic Church, for humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects.

### WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

#### DONATE YOUR USED MOBILE DEVICES

Migrant workers need mobile phones with the capacity to download contact tracing apps before they can get back to work. You can help by donating your used devices through this initiative by Jesuit Refugee Service Singapore, JRS, in collaboration with Hagar Singapore.

☑ The phones MUST have minimum specs: 32 GB, and Operating systems 7.1 (iPhone) or 5.1 (Android).

☑ Don't forget to include the charging wire and plug.

☑ To protect your data and personal information, do remember to factory reset to scrub out anything you might have stored on your devices.

Collection until 4 October, 8am to 8pm

Drop off points:

Agape Village Screening Station, level 1

Church of Divine Mercy, outside parish office

Church of St Ignatius, outside parish office and vestry

Email [migrantteam@jrsg.org](mailto:migrantteam@jrsg.org) for more information

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

Whatever the state of your relationship with the Lord, we need to take steps to deepen it. But what are we aiming for? What is the next step that I want to get to and how? Come for a talk on The Next Level of Spirituality. Join us this Wed, Sept 30 at 8pm. Email us at [cpg.cosi@gmail.com](mailto:cpg.cosi@gmail.com) for Zoom details.

**LISTENING TO GOD BIBLE STUDY GROUP** is embarking

on a 3-year program titled "Bible Pilgrimage 2023" to read the entire Bible. Programme outline and materials are adapted from Fr Bobby Emprayil's "Bible By Pentecost 2021" with his consent. Contact Elaine 9679 2876 or Richard 9781 7228.

**INFANT BAPTISMS** Rites registration forms for baptisms from October 2020 onwards are available at <https://stignatius.org.sg/home/sacraments/infant-adult-baptism> OR from the church office.

Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contacts for October 2020 baptisms: Marilyn and Allan Redimerio (9697 9070), Brian and Lisa Ling (9760 0978 / 9818 5281).

### MASSES DURING PHASE 2

myCatholic.sg is now open for Mass bookings for October. Mass timings for St Ignatius Church:  
WEEKDAY MASS: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7.00pm.  
WEEKEND MASS: Saturday 4.30pm and 6.00pm  
Sunday 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm, 4.30pm and 6.00pm.  
Parking is ONLY at the King's Road basement car park. Go to <https://stignatius.org.sg/> and our church Telegram channel for updates, guidelines to the resumption of Masses.

### UPDATES ON THE MASS ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION SYSTEM (MARS)

You can now cancel your Mass booking up to 48 hours before Mass begins.

You may edit your name, date of birth and mobile number on the MARS profile page. However to edit your NRIC or email address, you will need to email [mycatholic@catholic.org.sg](mailto:mycatholic@catholic.org.sg) directly.

### NO-SHOW FOR BOOKED MASS

If you are unable to attend the Mass that you had booked, please email [csi.admin@catholic.org.sg](mailto:csi.admin@catholic.org.sg) with your name as in the registration, last four digits of IC, date & time of Mass.

### LIVESTREAM MASSES

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7.00pm  
Please go to <https://stignatius.org.sg/home/>  
Tuesday and Thursday, 6.00pm. Presided by Fr Jerome Leon, SJ. Please go to [www.youtube.com/c/jeromeleonsj](http://www.youtube.com/c/jeromeleonsj)  
WEEKEND MASS: Saturday 6.00pm  
Sunday 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm, and 6.00pm.  
Please note that livestreams will only be available during Mass time and will not be accessible after the Mass.

**WEEKLY SUNDAY REFLECTION** with Fr Colin Tan, SJ.

Please go to <https://stignatius.org.sg/home/>



In celebration of Children's Day, there will be a special mass for children of our parish, celebrated by our parish priest, Father Colin Tan



Limited seats available. To accommodate as many children as possible, we request only 1 adult accompany each family. Please register your interest [here](#).

We will also livestream the mass at the same time on the parish Youtube channel.



We would also like to invite the children to submit their prayers [here](#) which will be offered up during the mass

By the Liturgy of the Word for Children Ministry  
contact: Karen ([klesw13@gmail.com](mailto:klesw13@gmail.com)) or Alison ([alison.jj@gmail.com](mailto:alison.jj@gmail.com)) for enquiries

As there are limited seats, register at <https://forms.gle/AEDVpC6UNFBAUBo9>. You will be contacted by email if your place has been confirmed.

Children may submit their prayer requests to be offered up at this Mass at <https://forms.gle/WvNZ83na2mC951wdA>.

**WEBCAST MASSES** are NOW at 6.00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. Presided by Fr Jerome Leon, SJ. Go to [www.youtube.com/c/jeromeleonsj](http://www.youtube.com/c/jeromeleonsj)  
The webcast will come online 3 minutes before 6.00pm. Videos will not be accessible after the Mass.

### VISITING THE COLUMBARIUM

Our Columbarium is open for visits on Sundays. There will be 3 sessions each Sunday until further notice: 9-9.45 am, 11-11.45am, and 1-1.45pm. The number of visitors per session is limited to 30, so do not visit unless your booking is confirmed by phone call or WhatsApp. Make your provisional booking at: <https://forms.gle/o3b1KN1nLS5d9zNf7> or use the QR code. If you are not able to book through this Google Form, please call the church office 6466 0625 (Angela/Suzie) for assistance. After office hours, WhatsApp/SMS 9675 6621.

Looking for volunteers (below 60 years old, registered at St. Ignatius with MARS, and not already volunteering at weekday or weekend Masses) to help with safety measures at the Columbarium on Sundays, and possibly Saturdays if there are enough volunteers. Please WhatsApp 9675 6621.



## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### VIRTUAL WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER WITH CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

Sunday 18 October to Saturday 24 October

Learn how to pray with scripture and experience a

### A JOURNEY FROM FEAR TO FAITH

Inviting young adults to a scripture-based online retreat over the four Saturdays in October. From 10.30am to 12pm, \$10 (non-refundable)

More information: <https://verbumdeisingapore.org/>  
Organised by Verbum Dei missionaries and disciples.

Fr Colin Tan, SJ 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 ★ Susan Thian Catechetical Coordinator ★ David Saw Operations Manager

Steven Leong Facilities Manager ★ Therese Gian Sacristan