# of St Ignatius

Vol 90 No 45 Sunday 4 October 2020

### "Do Good and Avoid Evil"

ope Francis in September, invited us to reflect on the Season of Creation as a time to care for the earth and be good responsible stewards of our common homeland. How have we measured up so far?

Do I prevent wastage in everything I use? In what I eat? In what I wear? I remember the wisdom of my grandmother who told me as a boy, "Don't waste even a single grain of rice! The poor does not have enough food to eat." That lesson has remained with me till today, and my bowl is always a clean one without a single speck of rice left in it!

At another level, do I try to save the Earth that is facing a crisis as we see the impact in the climate change that is escalating by the day, by the hour, by the minute? The evidence is clear and indisputable with glaciers in the Arctic melting at an alarming rate; with more wild fires burning up swathes of land in California, in Siberia, and in the Amazon Forest. The bad news is real and alarming.

The gospel for this weekend reminds us of the parable of the landowner of the vineyard with vintage grapes planted in them, and the wicked tenant who not only refused to pay the rent, but even killed all the servants who were sent to collect the rent! The final straw was when they killed the son of the landowner with such evil thoughts in their hearts: "Come, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." (Mat 21: 38)

The message is clear for us, if we persist in our ignorance, our callous attitude of greed and our evil deeds, what we have will be taken away from us — our land, our property, our share of the Kingdom of God. Jesus is inviting us to review our lives, to change and to repent of our wickedness before it is too late.

In the same way, we are asked to take whatever small, but significant, steps to save the Earth before it is too late, and contribute to making this world a better place for the next generation who will inherit the earth.

Finally, we all have to pray and plan what we can do to make a difference by a conversion of our lives. St Paul exhorts us: "Fill our minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we

#### Season Creation

#### Creator of Life,

At Your word, the Earth brought forth plants yielding seed and trees of every kind bearing fruit. The rivers, mountains, minerals, seas and forests sustained life.

The eyes of all looked to You to satisfy the needs of every living thing. And throughout time the Earth has sustained life. Through the planetary cycles of days and seasons, renewal and growth, you open your hand to give creatures our food in the proper time.

In your Wisdom, you granted a Sabbath; a blessed time to rest in gratitude for all that you have given; a time to liberate ourselves from vicious consumption; a time to allow the land and all creatures to rest from the burden of production.

But these days our living pushes the planet beyond its limits. Our demands for growth, and our never-ending cycle of production and consumption are exhausting our world.

The forests are leached, the topsoil erodes, the fields fail, the deserts advance, the seas acidify, the storms intensify. We have not allowed the land to observe her Sabbath, and the Earth is struggling to be renewed.

During this Season of Creation, we ask you to grant us courage to observe a Sabbath for our planet. Strengthen us with the faith to trust in your providence. Inspire us with the creativity to share what we have been given. Teach us to be satisfied with enough. And as we proclaim a Jubilee for the Earth, send Your Holy Spirit to renew the face of creation.

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

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love and honour and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise ... keep doing all these things and the God of peace will be with you" (Phil 4: 8-9). So keep on doing good, and avoiding evil.

#### FR COLIN TAN, SJ

#### 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.

#### WEEKEND MASS SEATINGS UP TO 100

★ Seating capacity at weekend Masses in St Ignatius Church will increase to 100 parishioners with effect from Saturday 10 October

★ On Tuesday 6 October from 9.00am, parishioners who DO NOT have any weekend Mass bookings for October may book the newly available weekend Mass seats. ★ On Tuesday 13 Oct, from 9.00am, parishioners may book one additional weekend Mass for October, subject to availability.

★ the seating capacity for weekday Masses for October will remain at 50 parishioners. It will be increased to 100 parishioners in November.

#### **MASSES DURING PHASE 2**

Please book your Mass slot at myCatholic.sg 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 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 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 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/

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 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, at 9.00am-9.45am, 11.00am-11.45am, and 1.00pm-1.45pm; and Saturdays at 5.00pm-5.45pm. For Sundays, make your bookings at https://forms.gle/o3 b1KN1nLS5d9zNf7 and for Saturdays at https://forms.gle/fi76SLpxtUAdV3Sv6 Only 30 visitors are allowed per session, so please do not visit unless your booking is confirmed by the parish through phone call or WhatsApp. If you need help in booking, please call the church office 6466 0625 (Angela/ Suzie). 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

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Columbarium on Sundays, and possibly Saturdays if there are enough volunteers. Please WhatsApp 9675 6621.

#### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

Join our community for an interactive discussion on FINDING GOD IN ALL THINGS, to be able to see Him in a beautiful sunset and in darkness too. This Wednesday 7 October, at 8pm, for Praise & Worship, short talk and small break out groups. Email cpg.cosi@gmail.com for Zoom links.

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.

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



his Wednesday 7 October, the Church celebrates the feast day of Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary, established by Pope Saint Pius V on the anniversary of the victory at Lepanto on this day in 1571. The naval victory was attributed to the Virgin Mary whose intercession was entreated through the recitation of the Holy Rosary.

The Church dedicated the entire month of October to the Holy Rosary so that people, families, and communities would pray the Holy Rosary, if possible, on a daily basis for peace in the world. "Not only do we earnestly exhort all Christians to give themselves to the recital of the pious devotion of the Rosary publicly, or privately in their own house and family, and that unceasingly, but we also desire that the whole of the month of October (in this year) should be consecrated to the Holy Queen of the Rosary" (Pope Leo XII; On Devotion of the Rosary, September 1, 1883).

"Because Mary is our mother, devotion to her teaches us to be authentic sons: to love truly, without limit; to be simple, without the complications which come from selfishly thinking only about ourselves; to be happy, knowing that nothing can destroy our hope. 'The beginning of the way, at the end of which you will find yourself completely carried away by love for Jesus, is a trusting love for Mary.' I wrote that many years ago ... and since then I have often experienced the truth of those words. I am not going to complete that thought here with all sorts of reasons. I invite you to discover it for yourself, showing your love for Mary, opening your heart to her, confiding to her your joys and sorrows, asking her to help you recognize and follow Jesus"

## **OCTOBER** Month of the Holy Rosary Rosary with **Devotion**

(St Josemaria Escriva; Christ is Passing By, no. 143).

#### **6 WAYS TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY** WITH DEVOTION

Pray the rosary daily privately, or with friends and family "... if you say the Holy Rosary every day, with a spirit of faith and love, Our Lady will make sure she leads you very far along her Son's path" (St Josemaria Escriva; Furrow, no. 691).

Pray the rosary during the day — not at bedtime. "If there is no other time, say it in the street without letting anybody notice it. It will, moreover, help you to have presence of God" (Furrow, no. 478). **3** Use a book like Holy Rosary or an audio recording to help you

enter more deeply into each mystery. "Each day we will hear their family conversations. We will see the Messiah grow up. We will admire His 30 years of hidden life ... We will be present at His Passion and Death ... We will be awed by the Glory of His Resurrection ... we will contemplate, carried away with Love ... each and every instant of Christ Jesus" (St Josemaria Escriva; Holy Rosary, Author's Note).

Multication When praying the family rosary with young children, use a booklet or app that shows an image for each mystery of the rosary.

When you see an image of our Lady, o direct a glance at it and send her an affectionate interior prayer or greeting. This was a practice St Josemaria Escriva started from a young age and that he recommended to others throughout his life.

Make a pilgrimage to a nearby church or shrine dedicated to Mary. Make a "local pilgrimage" with a small group of friends or family, if possible, walking to and from (or part way) a Church or a shrine; reciting five mysteries of the rosary on the way; praying another five mysteries at the shrine; and praying another five mysteries on the way back.

#### THE HOLY ROSARY AND THE SAINTS

"The experience of the Saints bears witness to it: this popular Marian prayer [the Holy Rosary] is a precious spiritual means to grow in intimacy with Jesus, and to learn at the school of the Blessed Virgin always to fulfill the divine will. To be apostles of the Rosary ... it is necessary to experience personally the beauty and depth of this prayer which is simple and accessible to everyone. It is first of all necessary to let the Blessed Virgin take one by the hand to contemplate the Face of Christ: a joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious Face. Those who, like Mary and with her, cherish and ponder the mysteries of Jesus assiduously, increasingly assimilate his sentiments and are conformed to him" (Excerpt from the Meditation of Pope Benedict XVI, On the Recitation of the Holy Rosary, October 19, 2008).

Article courtesy of the St Josemaria Institute