



Learning and Commitment

This weekend, we celebrate **Catholic Education Sunday**. We are grateful for 169 years of Catholic Education in Singapore.

Some of us may know about the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm (IPP) which begins with the context in which the learner finds himself. It promotes an individual approach to education. As teachers, we need to understand the world of the student. **“Praise, reverence and service”** should mark the relationship that exists not only between teachers and students, but among all members of the school community. The IPP focuses on the interplay of *experience – reflection – action*. For St Ignatius, *experience* went beyond intellectual grasp since the whole person (mind, heart and will) should enter the learning experience. St Ignatius encouraged the use of imagination, feeling and reason to understand one’s lived experiences. He knew himself to be constantly subjected to different stirrings and invitations, alternatives which were often contradictory. He made great efforts to discover what moved him in each situation, what led him to good or to evil inclinations. Based on his exercises, St Ignatius invites us to *reflect* upon our own experiences in prayer and discern where the Spirit of God is leading us. *Reflection* matures when it

fosters decision and commitment. For St Ignatius, *“love is shown in deeds, not in words”*. In the context of education, *action* will then focus on strengthening the students’ attitudes, values and ideals upon which they would make decisions for the welfare of society. All teachers know the importance of evaluating a student’s progress in academic achievement. These reviews and feedback offer opportunities to personalise encouragement and advice on academic improvement for each student.

The IPP framework can be applied to this weekend’s Gospel. Christ Jesus, our Lord, began with the context by asking his disciples, **“Who do people say I am?”** He then asked about his disciples’ personal experiences with him, **“Who do you say I am?”** Peter spoke up, **“You are the Christ.”** Peter acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah, the one sent from God. Jesus then invited his disciples to *reflect* on who the Christ is and His mission. Jesus also responded to Peter’s disagreement by asking his disciples to decide on their personal commitments, **“If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me.”** Jesus warned them and us that following in his footsteps will not be easy and will bring suffering and death. We will also struggle to accept failure and imperfection in

others and ourselves. But, Jesus teaches us how to accept his own failure and imperfection by dying on the cross, because He trusted in God who would make him whole.

Today, we can emulate the disciples in their profession of faith and commitment. In their faith journey, they experienced failure, confusion and darkness, abandoned their Master and despaired in the passion, crucifixion and death of Jesus. However, when they held on to their faith, there was hope and new life, encountering the Risen Christ, experiencing Pentecost, and forming new communities. We also learn that their faith commitment would bring most of the disciples into the same fate as their Master and Lord, proclaiming the Good News and ending their lives as martyrs.

The disciples learnt and discovered the values of their faith commitment in Jesus Christ. With and in Christ, suffering and death are not the last words but eternal life and God’s glory are. The Responsorial Psalm sums up this faith commitment and learning that *“I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.”*

How do you evaluate your faith commitment to follow Christ more closely today?

FR AGUSTINUS TANUDJAJA, SJ

PARISH NEWS

SEPTEMBER MASS BOOKINGS

Stage 4 Mass bookings for September opens on **14 Sep at 3pm** via myCatholic.sg. Parishioners will be able to book **ONE additional weekend Mass** and up to **FIVE weekday Masses**, subject to availability.

The cut-off time for Mass bookings/ cancellations has been reduced from **3 hours to 1 hour**. Do cancel your bookings if you are unable to attend.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are available every **Monday, 6.00pm-6.40pm** and **Wednesday, 6.00pm-6.20pm**. Kindly call the parish office (Pauline/ Suzie) to make an appointment before coming down. **Confession slots are limited to 5 persons per priest.**

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Due to the Covid-19 situation, parishioners in need of this sacrament are advised to contact the priests early, ideally prior to hospitalisation. You may also call the PaCES ministry for any assistance. Contact details can be found on our parish website.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

We intercede when we hear, see and feel the needs of God's people. At the same time we are also called to set our minds on things above, not the things on earth. How can we use our spiritual senses to pray with our eyes fixed on what is unseen? Join us for Intercessory prayers this **Wednesday, 15 September at 8pm**. Email cpg.cosi@gmail.com for Zoom details.

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Do you desire to help the poor and needy? Are you looking for ways to grow spiritually? Is God calling you to do something more with your life?

Calling all who wish to live their faith by loving and serving their neighbours. SSVP is looking for passionate volunteers to join in our cause.

Email us at ssvp.stignatius@gmail.com or click here to find out more: tinyurl.com/SSVP-Volunteer-Form

VISITING THE COLUMBARIUM

Our Columbarium is open for visits on Saturdays, 5.00pm-5.45pm; and Sundays, 9.00am-9.45am, 11.00am-11.45am, 1.00pm-1.45pm, and 5.00pm-5.45pm.

For September visits, please book at bit.ly/stigscolumbariumSep2021

If you need help in booking, please call the church office at 6466 0625 (Pauline/Suzie). After office hours, WhatsApp/Telegram/SMS 9675 6621.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

PROJECT CLOVER

We are a group of JC1 students from SJI Independent organising a fundraising and awareness campaign for **Singapore Cancer Society**. Through fundraising, merchandise sales, and ukulele lessons for beneficiaries, Project Clover aims to provide peace of mind for those in need of financial support while they go through treatment.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we ask for your support to raise **\$10,000 by October**. Funds and donations raised will go towards Singapore Cancer Society and their beneficiaries.

Please visit www.giving.sg/campaigns/project_clover or scan the QR code below to support our cause.



Your donation can make a
Profound difference

Aim of raising \$10,000

"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."
2 Corinthians 9:11

Buy our merchandise and more on our Instagram @[loverforhope](https://www.instagram.com/loverforhope)

Fr Colin Tan, SJ Parish Priest ★ Fr Gregory Tan, SJ Assistant Parish Priest

Pauline Khoo Parish Administrator ★ Suzie Wee Parish Accountant ★ Gerard Robert Youth Coordinator ★ Natalie Ang Youth Coordinator ★ Susan Thian Catechetical Coordinator
David Saw Operations Manager ★ Steven Leong Facilities Manager ★ Therese Gian Sacristan ★ Chrestella Setiyadi Communications Manager