



St Ignatius: Beggar for God's Grace

The life-sized statue of St Ignatius of Loyola at the Place of Gathering reminds us that Ignatius was once a pilgrim. But Ignatius was also a beggar in his journey of finding God in all things.

After his conversion and recovery from the battle of Pamplona (1521), Ignatius embarked on a new life as a pilgrim. He left his hometown Loyola with the goal of reaching the Holy Land. While waiting for a ship, Ignatius spent some time in Manresa and Barcelona. Three times, he found himself staying in Barcelona. The first time, he put up there for a month to prepare for his trip to Jerusalem. The second trip was the most significant; Ignatius stayed in Barcelona for almost three years.

Ignatius' dream was shattered when he was not allowed to stay on in the Holy Land. After returning from Jerusalem, Ignatius stayed in Barcelona to further his studies, learning Latin and grammar. During those two years (1524-1525), Ignatius begged for money to support himself as a student, sitting on a step of a lateral chapel at the church of Santa Maria del Mar. There is a signage written there today: "*Sitting on this stair St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus used to beg alms in 1524-1525.*"

A beggar depends on the generosity and kindness of others. In his Suscipe spirituality prayer,

Ignatius professed his life-purpose. He learnt to let go of his own dreams, offering all his liberty, memory, understanding and will, begging only for God's love and grace. He put his trust in God's generosity and set himself to be generous in serving and caring towards others for God's greater glory.



In Jesus' time, the Temple of Jerusalem was the center of Jewish worship. Devout Jews would make pilgrimages to the Temple to offer prayer and sacrifices. Pilgrims were also expected to support the temple treasury. In the Gospel, Jesus had observed how pilgrims made their financial contribution. Those who were rich contributed large sums. Those with lesser means made smaller contributions. Jesus calls our attention to a poor widow who made a small contribution with two coins of little value. He

praises her offering since she had put in everything she possessed. Her small offering was an act of profound generosity. She had given from her livelihood rather than her surplus. Likewise, a widow in the first reading responded generously to Prophet Elijah's request to share her last meal of what little she and her son had to live on. Her generous sharing received a reward of renewed-life; that her jar of meal was not spent nor her jug of oil emptied until the end of the drought.

Giving from our livelihood is not only an act of generosity, but also an act of trust in God's providence. We learn this not only from the lives of the saints, but also from the lives of our departed loved ones. Jesus himself showed us the ultimate act of God's love and generosity when he gave up his life on the cross for our salvation.

The image of St Ignatius as a beggar invites us to put our hope and trust in the goodness and kindness of others for our needs. The act of begging is an expression of faith and trust in the goodness and generosity of the *God-with-us*. Through reflecting on the life of St Ignatius, we learn of his generosity in his letting go of his dreams and nightmares, allowing God's graces to unfold in his life. *What graces would you beg from God today and joyfully share with others?*

FR AGUSTINUS TANUDJAJA, SJ

PARISH NEWS

NOVEMBER MASS BOOKINGS

Stage 3 Mass bookings for November opens on **09 November at 3pm** via myCatholic.sg. Parishioners will be able to book **ONE additional weekend Mass** and up to **FIVE weekday Masses** at each stage, subject to availability.

To allow more parishioners to attend Mass in church, our parish will be increasing the number of the Weekend Vaccinated/PET-only Masses in November.

Vaccinated/ PET-only Mass Timings (170 pax):

Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 10.15am, 12.15pm, 4.30pm & 6.00pm

Non-vaccinated Mass Timings (50pax):

All Weekday Masses
Saturday 4.30pm & Sunday 8.15am

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.

LONGING: AN ADVENT RETREAT

Reflections on our hearts' longings in the company of St Ignatius

We often talk of Advent as a time of waiting. But perhaps it would be more appropriate to call it a time of longing. In the centuries before the coming of Christ, God's people longed for the coming of a saviour. What do our hearts long for today?

Come join us on **Longing: An Advent Retreat**, led by Fr Gregory Tan, SJ, to reflect on the longings in our heart and God's longing for us.

Thursdays, 25 November, 2, 9, & 16 December 2021, 8pm - 9pm, via Zoom

Register at <https://bit.ly/StigsAdventRetreat2021>

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

As God calls Christians to embark on the 'Journey of Salvation', what is His intended destination for us? How does God want us to make that journey, so that we can safely arrive at the destination? Join us this **Wednesday, 10 November at 8pm**. Email us at cpg.cosi@gmail.com for Zoom details.

P1 WEEKEND CATECHISM REGISTRATION

2022 Primary One Registration for the Weekend Catechetical Programme for children born in 2015 opens on **08 November 2021**. Deadline for registration is **31 December, 2021**.

Register at bit.ly/stigswecat2022_p1

Please email our Catechetical Coordinator at stignatius.wecat@gmail.com if you have any queries.

ADVENT ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Calling all children in our parish to celebrate Advent with the online activities organised by the Children's Liturgy Ministry!

Every Saturday in Advent at 3pm starting from 27 November. Register at bit.ly/3pYsoGt for the zoom link or email childrensliturgy_stignatius@yahoo.com for any enquiries.



Calling all children of our parish! Come celebrate Advent with the following online activities:

- Advent wreath blessing by parish priest, Father Colin Tan (27 Nov)
- Weekly lighting of advent wreaths with contemplation, rosary and prayer for children (4, 11, 18 Dec)



GIVE A HELPING HAND. BE A DONOR.

SSVP Conference of St Ignatius is appealing for **regular donations for the Poor** to support over one hundred individuals and families living in 2 blocks of 1-room flats at Redhill Close. We are grateful for all your generous support.

By Cheque

- Crossed cheque to 'SSVP Conf of St Ignatius'
- Indicate Account Number: 0149031884 & 'Donation for the Poor' under reference
- Drop cheque at any DBS branch or mail to: 'Church of St Ignatius, 120 King's Road, S268172'

By Bank Transfer

- E-transfer to Account Number: 0149031884
- Bank/ Branch code: 7171/ 014
- Address: 1 Jalan Anak Bukit #01-19/20 Bukit Timah Plaza S588996

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 November bookings, please book at bit.ly/stigscolumbariumNov2021

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

CATHOLIC200SG: PRAYER MARATHON

Join us for **200 hours of prayer** led by various churches, religious congregations and Catholic organisations. Eucharistic adoration will be held throughout the night. Visit <https://catholic200.sg/event/prayer-marathon/> for more details.

Date: **12 November 9am to 20 November 6pm**
Livestreamed on youtube.com/catholicsg

Our parish will be leading the prayer on **Wednesday, 17 November from 11am-12pm**.

CATHOLIC200SG FESTIVAL

The Catholic200SG Festival will cap the anniversary celebrations. It will be held from **4 to 11 December 2021**. The venue is around the locality of the Cathedral Of The Good Shepherd, where the early Catholics settled and built Churches.

More than 100 exciting events await you. There is something for everyone. For families, there are light shows, concerts, exhibitions and instagrammable artwork that you can enjoy with your loved ones. To quench our spiritual appetite, there are faith sharing, devotions, Masses and confessions every day of the Festival. There are also numerous talks and forums on a range of subjects: from family life to faith and theology and how the Church is involved in society and have evolved over these 200 years!

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

Visit mycatholic.sg/festival or scan the QR code to learn more about the upcoming events and register your interest. Bookings will open on **8 November at 12.00pm**.



The Catholic200SG team will also be having a roadshow at our church on the 27 - 28 November to promote the festival.

SSVP: PATH OF COMPASSION

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP) youth from across Singapore have organised '**Path of Compassion**', a virtual race to raise funds for low-income families in need of assistance and support. Funds raised go to needy families, especially those with babies in need of milk and diapers. Come walk and/or run your way to making a difference for others!

Visit <https://ssvpsingapore.org/news-events/pathofcompassion/> to find out more and register! Registration ends **17 November**.



PATH OF COMPASSION
27 NOV - 26 DEC 2021
GO THE DISTANCE
TO HELP OUR FRIENDS IN NEED

Walk or Run to **raise funds** for the low-income and disadvantaged who need essentials such as milk and diapers and community services support.

SSVP Ltd.
Affiliate of Society of St. Vincent de Paul (National Council of Singapore)

AUDIOBOOKS FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF ST PAUL

In his World Mission Sunday message, Pope Francis reminds us that "To be on mission is to be willing to think as Christ does, to believe with him that those around us are also my brothers and sisters."

Check out Pope Francis' encyclical on fraternity and social friendship, **Fratelli Tutti** (<https://youtu.be/n4cTrWRwJaM>), now available as an audio book so you can listen to it as you commute, walk, cycle, wherever you are. Also available is **Nostra Aetate** (https://youtu.be/_9QMkt8lmjo), the ever relevant Vatican II document on our relationship with other religions.

Listen to samples of both books on shorturl.at/ejlvA