



# CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

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## A Choice to Dwell in Christ

**T**he feast of Christ the King is the only feast that I know of which celebrates something that hasn't visibly happened yet, and one which I find hard to imagine. I have seen too many elaborate pictures of Christ enthroned in the center of adoring hosts of angels and saints, and everything else described in the book of Revelation – and that's not my Christ. The Christ I know, love, and seek to follow is poor, active, caring, with penetrating eyes and overflowing heart, outgoing, intensely focused, and gently personal to those who are doing their best.

What the feast of Christ the King celebrates is the end of time, when Christ's work is complete and when all creation and all history is healed and restored to order in Him, the order described in the early chapters of Genesis. That book starts with chaos, a void that is formless and which God moulds into a Garden, a place for His children to live in and for Him to walk with us in love and care.

The simple story of those chapters says that we are responsible, in Adam, for the end of that perfection, but a more modern reading of those chapters puts a very different accent on those events. God is in charge, and

the Garden (innocence, familiarity with God) is where we are bound for, not where we came from.

There are different names for that Garden, and some of them are (for the Old Testament) the Promised Land, the Peaceable Kingdom, and the Reign of God and (for the New Testament) the New Creation, the Body of Christ, the Mystical Body, and even Christ the King. Notice how one sequence ends in "the Reign of God" while the other ends in "Christ the King". The Reign of God is the reign of His Son. All of these are images: God is not literally a father any more than He is literally a mother. Jesus is not really a king with a court, a bureaucracy, policies, taxes, armies, and all of that, but we need images to be able to understand what the Lord is calling us to and that is why we have all these names for what is, in short, Heaven.

The land for which we are bound, the point that we are trying to get to, is Christ alive, and in Him we will find absolutely everything in Creation in the order and harmony to which God called it in creating it. Christ is not, for me, a King so much as He is my beginning and my ending, the Alpha and Omega (Rev 22:13) for everything, resulting in the New Creation in

Him because of the Incarnation. Christ heals, resolves, brings to completion, ending the rule of sin, healing every hurt, feeding every good hunger, and bringing all into the perfect order of His very self. Think of the image of an exploding planet – and then run the film backwards, every piece and every bit coming together in a magical and beautiful way. That is how well God's plan will work, for believers.

In eternity we will live not in mansions made of wood and stone, but in the very heart of Jesus, where we are already. But we have to choose to be there and to really be at home there, a very dynamic and progressive process ... or we can choose to be on our own. We MUST choose, and there are only those two possible choices.

There we will live in the sunlight of God's smile, in innocence, finally complete and whole, healed, and renewed. It will be an end to the nagging solitude and incompleteness which we suffer while we wait for the full revelation of Christ bringing us all home to the Kingdom of His Father.

**CHAS KESTERMEIER, SJ**

Jesuit Community, Creighton University

## PARISH NEWS

### DECEMBER MASS BOOKINGS

Stage 1 Mass bookings for December opens on **23 November at 3pm** via myCatholic.sg. Parishioners will be able to book **ONE weekend Mass** and up to **FIVE weekday Masses** at each stage, subject to availability.

Do take note of the following changes in Vaccinated/ PET-only Mass timings and capacity w.e.f 1 December 2021.

### Weekday Masses

Vaccinated/ PET-only (100 pax):  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 7.00pm

Non-Vaccinated (50 pax):  
Tuesday & Thursday 7.30am and 7.00pm

### Weekend Masses

Vaccinated/ PET-only (230 pax): Saturday 6.00pm,  
Sunday 10.15am, 12.15pm, 4.30pm & 6.00pm

Non-Vaccinated (50 pax):  
Saturday 4.30pm & Sunday 8.15am

**Christmas Mass** bookings will open on **14 December at 3pm**.

### 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.

### 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](https://bit.ly/3pYsoGt) for the Zoom link or email [childrensliturgy\\_stignatius@yahoo.com](mailto: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)

## Advent & Christmas 2021

### Longing: An Advent Retreat

A 4 week-retreat reflecting on the longings in our heart and God's longings for us, led by Fr Greg Tan, SJ

**Thursdays, 25 Nov, 2, 9, & 16 Dec**  
8pm - 9pm via Zoom

Register at [bit.ly/StigsAdventRetreat2021](https://bit.ly/StigsAdventRetreat2021)

### Advent Adoration

**Every Friday in Advent, 3, 10 & 17 Dec**  
7.30pm, Main Church \*

\* Walk-ins, capped at 100 pax, first come first served basis (Vaccinated/ PET-only). Those who book a slot for the 7pm Mass may stay after Mass to join in the Adoration session.

### Advent Reconciliation Service

| Date              | Time            |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Saturday, 18 Dec  | 2pm - 4pm       |
| Sunday, 19 Dec    | 2pm - 4pm       |
| Monday, 20 Dec    | 7.45pm - 9.45pm |
| Tuesday, 21 Dec   | 7.45pm - 9.45pm |
| Wednesday, 22 Dec | 7.45pm - 9.45pm |

Booking details to follow.

### Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve, Friday, 24 Dec**  
5.30pm & 11.30pm

(400 pax, Vaccinated/ PET-only)

**Christmas Day, Saturday, 25 Dec\***  
8.15am (50 pax)

**10.15am, 12.15pm & 4.30pm**  
(400 pax, Vaccinated/ PET-only)

Bookings open on 14 Dec via [mycatholic.sg](https://mycatholic.sg)

\*Please note that the 6pm Mass on 25 Dec **DOES NOT** count as Christmas Day Mass, but Feast of the Holy Family instead.

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

Join us for a sharing in preparation for Advent — a new look at the Timeline, the elements of Advent in the Eucharist and how these can apply in our lives. This **Wednesday, 24 November at 8pm**. Email us at [cpg.cosi@gmail.com](mailto:cpg.cosi@gmail.com) for Zoom details.

## ADVENT OUTREACH 2021



### GIFT-A-PRAYER ADVENT 2021

*Outreach to Vulnerable Transnational Families*

In collaboration with ACMI (Archdiocesan Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants & Itinerant People), the Church invites your family to adopt and pray for the transnational families under the care of ACMI. Join other families as part of the Parish community in this season to shine the love and light of Christ into the lives and hearts of our transnational friends who are far from home and in need.

#### Who are the beneficiaries of your gift of prayer?

The beneficiaries of your gift of prayer are 35 transnational families (TNFs) under the care of ACMI. TNFs are families where a parent and at times, the children, are not Singaporeans or permanent residents.

If you are interested in participating in this outreach programme, please sign up at [bit.ly/Gift-A-Prayer-2021](https://bit.ly/Gift-A-Prayer-2021). Should you have any queries, contact the Church Social Mission Team at [csi.social@catholic.org.sg](mailto:csi.social@catholic.org.sg)

### P1 WEEKEND CATECHISM REGISTRATION

2022 Primary One Registration for the Weekend Catechetical Programme for children born in 2015 is now open. Deadline for registration is **31 Dec, 2021**.

Register at [bit.ly/stigswecat2022\\_p1](https://bit.ly/stigswecat2022_p1)  
Please email our Catechetical Coordinator at [stignatius.wecat@gmail.com](mailto:stignatius.wecat@gmail.com) if you have any queries.

### 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 slots, book at [bit.ly/stigscolumbariumNov2021](https://bit.ly/stigscolumbariumNov2021)

December bookings will open on Tuesday, 23 November just after 3pm. Please book at [bit.ly/stigscolumbariumDec2021](https://bit.ly/stigscolumbariumDec2021)

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

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

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### ADVENT & CHRISTMAS REFLECTION 2021

The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced a reflection e-booklet to journey with you throughout Advent and Christmas. They are available in English, Chinese and Tamil. The reflection theme for Advent is "The Promised Word" and for Christmas is "Word Made Flesh".

Download the e-booklet at [bit.ly/AdventChristmas2021](https://bit.ly/AdventChristmas2021)

### GIFT CONTRIBUTIONS

This weekend is the collection for the **GIFT (Giving in Faith and Thankfulness) programme** to build a more vibrant, evangelising and missionary Church. Sign up for a monthly pledge, the most sustainable source of funding for the archdiocese, to support its organisations and projects. Or give regularly via **PayNow to 201231391K** (include name and mobile no. or email). GIFT envelopes can be dropped into the Mass offering box. More info at [catholicfoundation.sg](https://catholicfoundation.sg)

### 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!

Visit [mycatholic.sg/festival](https://mycatholic.sg/festival) or scan the QR code to learn more about the upcoming events and book your slots!



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

# Evangelisation Project: Reaching Out to Connect



Traditionally, the Secondary 1 teens from the Sunday group would invite the Primary 2 cohort to St Ignatius Hall for the Evangelisation Project. This year, due to the pandemic, they had no choice but to bring the project online and prepare their session for the Primary 2 children. It was a logistical challenge to co-ordinate the two levels but with the help of the Secondary 1 and Primary 2 catechists, the session got going. The teens worked hard on their presentation slides. They stepped up as they grappled sharing with much younger kids the many PowerPoint slides, video clips, quizzes, and activities, as well as engaging them in reflection questions on the Advent and Christmas themes. We catechists are keenly aware of the difficulties of the project. With joy, the Secondary 1 teens shared Jesus' light and love with the young ones.

*Weekend Catechism Team*

## Icebreakers

All of you will take turns introducing yourselves and answer these questions so that you can get to know each other!

1. Your name
2. Your school
3. Questions:
  - If you could have one superpower, what would it be?
  - If you had a genie, what are three things you would wish for?
  - What's your favourite book, movie or TV show and why?

