

Led By God

The parable of the shepherd and his sheep needs quite significant makeover before it speaks to an age where leadership is found among the privileged few and largely from billionaire urban dwellers. Shepherds are known to most as figures from an age past and pastoral. Sheep are creatures seen by most as coming from Disneyland or the Christmas crib.

A leader who is defined as one "who will look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong, not to mention lay down his life for his flock and be in unique relationship with God" will just not fit the bill in today's world.

The modern citizen will not relish being called a sheep – a mutton head – someone who follows without thinking and is living in complete subservience without a mind of his own.

But strange as is the image of God and ourselves, it abounds in a wisdom that reveals a reality, which we have not the courage to acknowledge. Any genuine hope for our world surely lies somewhere beyond dominance, economics and politics. We are in need of a miracle of leadership that thinks in terms of God; that can speak with concern and compassion to those led; that can heal the wounded; and make the millions of weak stronger.

In the light of wars, poverty and sickness, surely this is what we need. But does our leadership have a unique relationship with our Father or does it try to go it alone?

What of ourselves – the sheep? Have we less wisdom than the animals who have enough sense to live as they are supposed to, and who listen to the voice of Him who alone knows and can discern that voice from false prophecy of "thieves and brigands"? Sheep live in trust, we live in fear. Animals

The Good Shepherd's Voice

arphones, a traveller's gadget, allows drivers to receive hands-free calls. It draws joggers and commuters into the voices of their consolations. One might wonder how much listening to these voices has affected one's way of life.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is also Good Shepherd Sunday and World Day of Prayer for Vocations. "Vocation" comes



Sunday 7 May 2017World Day of Prayer for Vocations

1st Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41 2nd Reading: 1Peter 2:20-25 Gospel: John 10:1-10

Monday 8 May Liturgy of the day

Tuesday 9 May Liturgy of the day

Wednesday 10 May Liturgy of the day

Thursday 11 May Liturgy of the day

Friday 12 May Liturgy of the day

Saturday 13 May Our Lady of Fatima

Sunday 14 May Fifth Sunday of Easter

know how to be animals Human beings don't often know what it is to be human.

So let's give a little thought to the Shepherd and His sheep. We might learn how to trust, to recognize the truth and to live as we were meant to.

from the Latin word *vocare* which means "to call". This word implies **listening to the voice of God** that is life-giving. In our baptism, God personally calls each one of us to encounter His love, stirring our deepest desire towards the *universal vocation to holiness*, and for some, vocation to family life, single-blessedness, or the priesthood and religious life – as part of the Church's mission in today's world.

Jesus in the Gospel assures us that the sheep will hear the Shepherd's voice. The Good Shepherd calls "his own sheep and leads them out ... he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice." Christian vocation is about listening to and getting familiar with the voice of God, who loves and cares for us. We learn to distinguish the Shepherd's voice that leads us to the fullness of life and makes our lives graced.

On increasing vocations to religious life and the priesthood, Pope Francis said, "The doors are opened through prayer, through good will, through risk. Pray with the heart, with your life, with everything," because such commitment requires passion and a sense of gratuitousness. Hospitality, being devoted to listening, and able to "waste time", are keys to hearing and understanding the questions of our deepest hearts' desires. His message for the 54th World Day of Prayer for Vocations reflects on the missionary dimension of Christian calling: "We are simply men and women touched and transformed by the joy of God's love, who cannot keep this experience just to ourselves. For 'the Gospel joy which enlivens the community of disciples is a missionary joy' (EG,21)."

We are called to hear and distinguish the joyful voice of the Good Shepherd in our life journey. What is your response?

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ

Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ

PARISH NEWS

OFFICE CLOSURE

The parish office will be closed on Vesak Day Wednesday, 10 May.

FIRST 2017 PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) MEETING

Fr Leslie Raj (Parish Priest) and Simon Cheong (PPC Ex-Co Chairman) cordially invite all PPC Members (Leaders of Ministries and NCCs) and Parish Staff to the first 2017 PPC Meeting on Sunday, 28 May, 2pm to 5pm, at the Annex Hall. Registration begins at 1.30pm. We look forward to your participation.

SERVE GOD THROUGH FLOWERS

Flower Ministry has 4 teams and work on a floral roster for Masses. Teams usually meet on Friday morning and some basic floral experience required, otherwise the team leader can help. Interested, email eden.chik@gmail.com

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR CHILDREN

Children, come sing hymns, pray the Rosary, offer intercessory prayers and spend an intimate hour with Jesus Lord in the Holy Eucharist on Friday, 19 May, 7.45pm to 9.00pm.

WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

- * Catechetical sessions for all levels resume this weekend and will continue until Saturday 20/Sunday 21 May, before the Term 2 break.
- * Youths being prepared for Confirmation and their sponsors are reminded to attend the Confirmation Rehearsal on Friday, 12 May, 7.30pm, in the Main Church.

TUESDAY LADIES BIBLE STUDY GROUP

New study on The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation by Jeff Cavins (Ascension Press). Begins from 9 May. 10am to 12pm every Tuesday, at the Annexe Hall. For information contact Marjorie Teo at marjteo@ singnet.com.sq or 9733 8730

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Discover a vital connection between Fatima and Divine Mercy via movies. 9.45am-12pm at Rm 01-08/09. Sms Jo (8183 2273) or Viv (9785 2268).

17 May - Fatima: The 13th Day

24 May – Faustina: Mystical Life of Visionary of Divine Mercy

May 31 – Rerun of Pivotal Players

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

Come hear a couple's sharing on the Role of the Holy Spirit in their prayer and daily life. In John 14:16-18, God promises to send His advocate, who will help and guide

PREPARED FOR EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency evacuation, announcements will be made through church Public Address System.

- * Parishioners should proceed to leave the church premises quickly but in an orderly manner by using the nearest Emergency Exits.
- * Able bodied people are to help the aged and the handicapped.
- ★ Use only the stairs. Do Not use the Lifts.
- * Proceed orderly to the Emergency Assembly Areas (EEA) i.e. towards King's Road/Empress Road.
- **★** Follow the instruction of the evacuation wardens.
- * Car Owners, DO NOT remove your car from the carparks.
- * Stay in the EAA until clearance is given to return to church

REMEMBER YOUR SAFETY IS IMPORTANT TO US.

and be with us forever. Come join us this Wednesday, 3 May at St Ignatius Hall. Start with fellowship dinner at 7.30pm and end at 9.30pm. ALL ARE WELCOME.

INFORMATION COUNTER

If you are new to this parish or if you need help and information, or if you have left your spectacles, Rosaries, shawls, etc, in Church, please approach volunteers at the Help stand for assistance.

PLEASE RETURN OUR CHURCH'S UMBRELLAS

If you have borrowed our church's umbrellas, please return them so that they can be made available for future use.

RIP NEWS - RISEN IN THE LORD

Maritess Yong – 63 years old Date of death: 30 April 2017

NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

ZONE A DISTRICT 1, 2, AND 3

Wednesday, 17 May, La Storta Room (opp parish office) Programme: Review of Movie "SILENCE" and Q&A session. Conducted by Sch Don Basil Kannangara SJ

ZONE B DISTRICT 3

Thursday 18 May, #01-04

Programme: 1) Gospel Sharing - Daily Word of God

2) History of Christianity

KING'S, QUEEN'S & TAN KIM CHENG'S

Wednesday, 10 May, 10.30am

Programme: Doing the guided prayers at the Prayer Stations as well as at the Adoration Room in Cathedral of the Good Shepherd

Called To Respond

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)

Hearing the account of the road to Emmaus this Easter reminded me about how I'm continually called to respond to him and walk with him in my own journey of transformation and conversion. This account, to me, represents a paradigm for how we are called and how our own vocations may play out in reality.

This call requires a response to the Lord, who calls us out of our comfort to do things or to go to places that we may feel uncomfortable about. The disciples reached Emmaus, but were so affected by the encounter with the risen Lord that they immediately responded by going back to Jerusalem to spread the good news. That's how I feel my vocation journey has been - a constant call to meet the Lord and to share this encounter with others. I've had the privilege to do this in different countries and contexts - teaching in school, accompanying people on retreats or just sharing how the Lord seems to be active in all that one encounters. This continues while I'm here in Rome during my theological studies as I get the opportunities to share this message with my companions, classmates and those whom I meet in my apostolic work.

The other aspect of the account is that everything is in process. The disciples described their hearts as "burning", an indication that the burning hearts continued, probably all the way to Jerusalem and beyond. It's the same with our vocation stories - it's not just a call, but a calling, a process that continues and renews itself with every encounter with the Lord. I'm not the same person who entered the Society of Jesus some years back, but I'm following the Lord who is constant in his love for us. One grows while on this journey and learns how to continue to keep one's heart burning out of love for the Lord and for those whom we are called to serve or be with. It started with an encounter that led to a response and then a constant process of responding and growing. That's the essence of my vocation journey thus far, one that challenges me to not just to love but to love more, always.

STANLEY GOH, SJ

JESUIT SCHOLASTIC A LAY APOSTOLATE SHARE THEIR VOCATION STORIES.

Open your heart to God... with the Jesuits

For young men, who are discerning God's call Stay-in experience: Saturday, June 24 to Monday, June 26 For information:

mas-vocations@jesuits.net

A Calling For Young Lay Women

Auxiliary of the Apostolate

The world and God's people are given to us to love and nurture. It remains also a challenging place. For the lay vocation called 'Auxiliary of the Apostolate', a woman is called to live in the world, in the buzz of the market place, with her family and friends, and still be very attentive to the Holy Spirit, and communicate the love of God wherever she finds herself. The Gospel way of life and love of Christ and his Church urges her to commit herself to the love of God alone, through the call of the Bishop.

All Christians are called by their baptism to live in this way, the difference is that the Bishop calls and sends an auxiliary to share in his pastoral concern and live out that commitment in single life.

This vocation has been lived in Singapore since the 1960s and exists all over the world in many dioceses. It was the Archbishop of Brussels, just after the First World War, who called young women to remain in schools, hospitals and work places where religious were no longer present or could not be present.

One Among God's people

As a young woman in a business corporation, I felt a strong desire to communicate God's love in my workplace, where employees, employers and stakeholders could feel valued in their daily work. This was the first inkling of God calling me to live this vocation.

To live a single life, given up to God in daily life, in society, family and church is possible by the grace of God, nourished by the Eucharist and prayer, and with the help of continuous mentoring and formation.

For more information you can call Wendy at 9626 5911.

JOSEPHINE CHEONG

JESUIT NEWS

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DIE TO EXPERIENCE HEAVEN NOW

Near Death Experiences (NDE) reveal a Divine template for the spiritual journey into unconditional love. In this retreat, we will explore in depth how the processes of each stage of an NDE facilitate a transformation with us.

Dates & Times: Friday, 2 June (7.30pm) – Sunday, 4 June 2017 (5pm)

Facilitator: Fr Matthew Linn, SJ Fee: \$270 (non-AC), \$330 (AC)

Register: http://tinyurl.com/NDERetreat Details: www.kingsmeadcentre.sg



Fr General Arturo Sosa has appointed Fr Antonio F Moreno to succeed Fr Mark Raper as the next President of the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific. Fr Moreno, who is currently Provincial of the Philippine Jesuit Province, will assume office within the next six months.

Jesuit Regional Curia, Telephone: 6469 7356

Fr Christopher Soh SJ, Fr James Tan SJ

Kingsmead Hall, Jesuit Community, Tel: 6466 3225

Fr Gerard Keane SJ, Fr Gerald Tseng SJ, Fr Charles Sim SJ, Fr Colin Tan SJ, Msgr Philip Heng SJ, Fr Adrian Danker SJ, Sch Don Basil Kannangara SJ

Kingsmead Centre, Tel: 6467 6072 Jesuit Mission Office Tel: 6463 6022

• ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

THE SPIRITUALITY OF WORK: LABOUR, TOIL AND/OR PASSION?

By Sr. Linda Lizada, RC & Team

Friday May 12 (8.00pm) – Sunday May 14 (1.00pm) @Choice House, 47 Jurong West, St 42 Contribution: \$200

This weekend of prayer invites professionals to reflect on how God labours in all creation. From our presence in the marketplace to how we are invited to participate in God's passion for giving life. We ponder life's questions: Where is God calling me (in my work)? Is there more to daily toil?

Register: www.cenaclemission/SOW

E: cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com; SMS 9722 3148

SCC DAY 2017

Office of the New Evangelisation is inviting the SCCs/NCCs in the archdiocese to come together for reflection and learning. Theme: "Community, the place to grow disciples". Date/Time: 21 May (Sunday); 1.00pm – 4.30pm

Venue: St Peter Auditorium, CAEC level 2, (no lift access), 2 Highland Road, Singapore 549102

Church Office

3rd floor (from King's Road) or behind Kingsmead Hall (Victoria Park Road)

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 6.00pm Sunday: 6.45am, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

Weekday Masses

Monday – Friday: 7.00am & 6.00pm Saturday: 7.00am

Confessions

Every Friday & Saturday: 5.40pm Every Sunday Mass: 20mins before Mass begins

Infant Baptism (each month)

Briefing for parents & godparents (compulsory): 1st Sunday, 3.00pm Baptism: 2nd Sunday, 3.00pm sharp. Registration forms are available at front of Church office

Weddings

Couples must make themselves known to the priest at least 6 months before the wedding. Contact: Robert Ong (8511 4614)

Columbarium Opening Hours

Daily: 6.30am – 8.00pm Public Holiday: Closed

Inigo Bookstore

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 4.00pm to 6.20pm and during weekend Masses

Sick and elderly

Please contact the parish office if help is needed for parishioners regardless of which hospital they are at. You may also contact priests' residence at 6466 3225

Bereavement

Please contact the parish office Sacristan, Robert Ong (8511 4614) for help and advice before contacting the funeral director.

Entrance via 8 Victoria Park Road

Kingsmead Hall (Priests' Residence), St Ignatius Hall, Sacred Heart Hall, Kingsmead Centre (for Ignatian Spirituality & Counselling)

WEEKLY

Rosary in Church

Monday to Saturday, after 7am Mass and Monday to Friday 5.15pm to 5.45pm

Intercessory Prayers

Tuesday, 2.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall Adoration Room, Level 2

Christian Meditation

Friday, 2.30pm in St Francis Xavier Prayer Room (Kingsmead)

Gentle Light

Tuesday, 10am – 12noon in St Francis Xavier Chapel (Kingsmead) Thursday, 10am – 12noon in Sacred Heart Canteen (Room SH-A)

Divine Mercy Devotion

Every Wednesday after 6.00pm Mass in the Main Church.

Catholic content online, login: www.FORMED.org; parish code: 4904ed

MONTHLY - in Main Church

Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass Every 1st Friday, 8pm (No 6pm Mass)

Followed by Generation CHRIST! Eucharistic Adoration

Children Eucharistic Adoration Every 3rd Friday, 7.45pm

Memorial Mass

Every 4th Friday, 8pm (No 6pm Mass)