

# Yearning for the Father

Some years back, it was my privilege and joy to spend a night in a longhouse in Sarawak. Earlier in the evening, I was chatting with the young mother who sat bare-breasted in her modest serenity. Soon, her young three-year-old naked son came crashing in, threw himself at the mother's inviting breast and started to guzzle madly. The little fellow was, like all children, such that inhabit the kingdom of heaven. His madly wild drive was a longing for God, a thirst for fulfillment, a yearning to be with his Heavenly Father. He was but displaying a yearning of which we all manage to hide or ignore. For we are all born of an unease, which finds rest ultimately in God.

The little fellow did not know the way but he was on the right path. We all long to know the way. We sometimes yearn for a manual, which might teach us every step to the Father. But the Father does not want directions to come from a book, but from the personality of a loved friend – from the compelling love that comes from intimacy. To give is to be on the road to the Father, because all is life in Christ, who when seen, reveals the Father. To love Christ then is the only way. But we love an incarnate Christ - born into flesh and shown to us in our fellowmen. We are given a Christ utterly human, who slept, ate, grew tired, smelt stale at the end of a travelled day, who argued as we all do, who needed the toilet. We seek Christ in prayer, in pilgrimages, in stillness, but what use are such practices if we don't return to a Godfilled world peopled by the wretched, the fumbling, the unsure and the unbelieving.

Let's return to God in bread and wine – the bread and wine of the everyday found in Christ and each other and we will be on our way to the Father.

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ

## Revolution of Tenderness

ope Francis, in his TED talk, urges people to make real connections as the only hope for the future and to start a "revolution of tenderness." Tenderness is "love that comes close and becomes real." It is "the path of choice, not



## **Sunday 14 May 2017** Fifth Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 6:1-7 2nd Reading: 1Peter 2:4-9 Gospel: John 14:1-12

> Monday 15 May Liturgy of the day

**Tuesday 16 May** St Andrew Bobola SJ

Wednesday 17 May Liturgy of the day

Thursday 18 May St John I

**Friday 19 May** Liturgy of the day

**Saturday 20 May** St Bernadine of Siena

**Sunday 21 May** Sixth Sunday of Easter

Parish Priest Fr Leslie Raj, SJ Assistant Parish Priests Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ Fr Matthew Tan, SJ

Parish Administrator Angela Kurnadi Parish Accountant Joyce Setiawan Catechetical Director Jeremy Aloysius Youth Coordinator Gerard Robert

Sacristan Robert Ong

Operations Manager David Saw
Facilities Manager Steven Leong

Communications Manager Therese Gian

weakness, [but] fortitude. It is the path of solidarity, the path of humility."

Jesus in today's Gospel reveals God's tenderness, "I am in the Father and the Father is in me." During Easter, we celebrate God's tenderness that is unveiled through the dying and rising Lord, in which the baptized becomes part of the Body of Christ - "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light." God's tenderness also brings to mind the gift of mothers as we celebrate Mother's Day this Sunday. We are grateful for the love that our mothers have given us. As Christians, we are blessed with two mothers – our earthly mother and our Heavenly Mother, the Mother of Jesus. Happy Mother's Day to all mothers.

One hundred years ago, our Blessed Mother appeared to three children at Fatima. We celebrate the Centennial of Our Lady of Fatima as this is one of the most significant of all Marian apparitions, along with Lourdes (11 February) and Guadalupe (12 December). The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared once every month, from 13 May until 13 October, to the three shepherd children Lucia dos Santos and her cousins, Jacinta and Francisco Martos at Fatima, Portugal. Our Lady asked the children to recite the Rosary every day for world peace. The message of Fatima highlights many central truths and devotions of the Catholic faith that call for prayer, especially the Rosary, and penance. St. Pope John Paul II added the 13 May Feast of Our Lady of Fatima to the general Roman calendar. The month of May is a good start to praying the Rosary regularly together with your family.

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us.

Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ

## PARISH NEWS

Next weekend's **SECOND COLLECTION** is for the GIFT campaign by the Catholic Foundation.

### FIRST 2017 PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 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 at 1.30pm. We look forward to your participation.

### **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.

### THANK YOU FROM CCD MINISTRY

As the 2017/18 year comes to a close, the CCD Ministry wishes to thank volunteers in the catechism program for 400 students of the international schools – the Tuesday and Thursday Catechists, Sunday Confirmation Teachers and the "Office Angels".



**INFANT BAPTISMS** on Sunday, 11 at 3.00 pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing on Sunday, 11 June, 3.00 pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Gordon (9615 3447) & Alison

Pinto (96913447) or Brian (9760 0978) & Lisa Ling (9818 5281).

### **WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME**

Parents of Primary 3 children being prepared for First Reconciliation are reminded to attend the Parents Formation session on Wednesday, 17 May at 8pm in Annexe Hall.

### 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

### **CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY**

Bible sharing on putting the Word into practice in James 1:19-25: "You must do what the Word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves."

This Wednesday, May 17, at St Ignatius Hall. Start with fellow-ship dinner at 7.30pm and end at 9.30pm. All are welcome. The Charismatic Renewal Community are at the *Place of Gathering* with invitations to Life In the Spirit Seminar, begins Wednesday 14 June over 12 Wednesdays until September. Develop a relationship with the Holy Spirit – Advocate, Comforter and Guide – given to us in our daily lives.

### **ASSISI FUN DAY 2017**

The Assisi Fun Day is an annual event to raise funds for the Assisi Hospice, a Catholic charity that cares for patients with life-limiting illnesses and supports their families. At SJI International School on Sunday 18 June. Please give them your generous support. For more information, call Ms Lillian Lee @ 6832 2880 or email lilian.lee@assisihospice.org.sq

### **RIP NEWS - RISEN IN THE LORD**

Vincenzina Yap – 82 years old Date of death: 7 May 2017

Catherine Yuen Chee Sin – 97 years old

Date of death: 8 May 2017

Paul Lai Thiam Hock – 85 years old

Date of death: 10 May 2017

Julie Cho Guek Eng – 91 years old Date of death: 10 May 2017

### NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

### **ZONE A DISTRICT 1**

Wednesday 14 June SH-02-E (opposite Adoration Room) Progamme: Mother Teresa (Movie)

### **ZONE A DISTRICT 1, 2, AND 3**

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

### **ZONE B DISTRICT 3**

Thursday 18 May, #01-04

Programme: 1) Gospel Sharing - Daily Word of God

2) History of Christianity

### **ZONE C DISTRICT 1**

Friday 19 May, #02-05/06

Programme: Praying the rosary and celebration of the

Centennial of Our Lady of Fatima

### **ZONE C DISTRICT 3 GRP 1-3**

Monday 15 May, SH-E

Programme: Reflection and Sharing on movie "Silence"

with Brother Don Basil SJ

### **ZONE D DISTRICT 2**

Wednesday 31 May, #02-06

Programme: Understanding Church History - from the Early Church Fathers, the Crusades to Vatican II

# Eucharistic Adoration

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that the Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC 1324) and this manifestation of Jesus in the Eucharist is "unique" and "in the fullest sense", and therefore worthy of special devotion (CCC 1374).

**Eucharistic Adoration occurs in** every mass, before we receive the Holy Communion: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world". Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our communion with Christ and the whole Church.

Holy Hours are the Roman Catholic devotional tradition of spending an hour in Eucharistic Adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, where the faithful can pray, read the Bible, meditate, contemplate, adore or just being there ("wasting time") in the presence of Jesus as the Bread of Life. Jesus will meet us where we are. We need patience in allowing Jesus to be the Christ, and be humble in welcoming Him into our hearts and lives.

**Eucharistic Adoration also** draws the worshiper into spiritual communion with God and fosters our devotional participation in the Mass that brings us nourishment, healing and sustenance. Pope Francis invites Christians to immerse in silent Eucharistic Adoration as the secret to knowing the Lord, and "to come to know Christ, we need to know ourselves."

The Girl was immersed in the onsen (Japanese hot spring) when three generations of females entered. The young girl, mother and grandmother made interesting contrasts - the evolving physical, mental, and intellectual progress was clear to see. The Girl has noticed the evolution in herself. Those are exterior, visible, and observable. A thought crossed her mind. How about the invisible, the deeper self?

She pondered about her faith and prayer. Especially her struggle in understanding the dichotomy of free will and God's will. She was taught that man has free will; and yet "Thy will be done" was also imparted and repeated often in prayers.

She remembered praying as a child and adolescent, petitioning for favours - good grades for exams, birthday presents, a boy to notice her. She expected that her prayers would be granted. And to increase the odds, she would promise to be good. It was always about her will, bargaining and buying grace. It did not occur to her that God has will. The conversation was one-way - her speaking, Him listening.

Slowly the Girl learnt that she did not always get what she asked for. When her childhood best friend had leukemia, the adult Girl prayed hard for intercessions, and her friend was cured. She was elated. God was good. When the cancer recurred six years later, she prayed harder and added Novenas and weekly fasting. Reciting "Thy will be done" was more on the lips than in the heart, for she was devastated when her friend passed on. Even though she could accept that it was God's will, she could not help but question the contradiction of her will versus His will.

How could this paradox ever be resolved? Mathematically, the only logical answer would be when her will is equal to His will. Which would only be possible if she completely surrendered her will and submitted to Him. If she totally believed that He knows her better than she knows herself, that He loves her more than she loves herself, that His ways are higher than hers. Ceding control. Complete trust. Complete faith. Like Jesus on the Cross. Was that even possible?

Her thoughts were interrupted by laughter. The young girl's gullible chuckle and the grandmother's gentle laugh. Her eyes were drawn to the grandmother's wrinkled face. A face that has seen and lived through bounties of joys and sorrows. A wise, peaceful soul. Perhaps it is possible.

**CORPUS CHRISTI EUCHARISTIC ADORATION** St Ignatius Church, 2nd Floor Adoration Room, Sacred Heart Hall From 14 June 7:00 pm to 17 June 5:00 pm. So you had not the strength to stay awake with me for one hour? as an individual, family or community for a Silent Adoration and quiet Re 14 June, 7:00 pm to 17 June 5:00 pm. The 72 hour Adoration ends with Registration for the 72 Hours duty roster is at the Place of Gathering at all Mass 13/14 & 20/21 May. Forms are also available at the Parish office.

He points out that St. Paul "does not only pray; he adores this mystery which surpasses all knowledge, and it is within the context of adoration that he asks this grace".

St Ignatius Church's 72-hour **Eucharistic Adoration is the** build-up to the Feast of Corpus Christi on Sunday 18 June. This parish-wide Eucharistic Adoration is organized by the NCCs (Christian Communities). All parishioners, and members of ministries, prayer and working groups, are encouraged to come with families or ministries/ communities to spend an hour or more in quiet adoration at the Sacred Heart Hall Adoration Room.

We need about 140 volunteers to be on duty roster throughout this 72 hours. Just commit to one hour in silent adoration during an allotted time slot, beginning from Wednesday, 14 June (after evening mass and Divine Mercy), until Saturday, 17 June, ending with Mass and a Corpus Christi procession. If you wish to participate, please sign-up at the Place of Gathering.

**ROSINA SIMON** 

### 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

### 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

# PRAYING OUR LIFE'S QUESTIONS: A VOCATION RECOLLECTION BY CENACLE SISTERS

Saturday, 20 May, 9am – Sunday, 21 May, 1pm @Choice House, 47 Jurong West, Street 42 Contribution: Love offering Inviting baptised Catholic Single women (21-35 years old) with a deep desire for God to glimpse into religious life in the Cenacle. To help young women pray and discern some common life's questions: What will I do with all my gifts? Is there "more" to life? How do I discern where God is calling me? Register: www.cenaclemission/PLQ E: cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com; SMS 9722 3148

### MORALITY AND ETHICS: IS A NON-RELIGIOUS APPROACH POSSIBLE FOR CATHOLICS?

Scripture teaches that moral law is "written in the heart" (Romans 2:15) of every human being. Talk examines whether the ideas of Natural Law theory can be a common language for Catholics and non Catholics to understand the workings of our conscience and the basis for morality.

Date: Wednesday, 17 May, 7.30pm to 9pm (begins with Vespers)

Venue: St Joseph's Church, Victoria Street, Parish Hall, Conference room

Registration/Enquires: theology.sg@gmail.com or call Nick @9784 3682

Presenter: Mr Andrew Kong

## KICKSTART – COMBINED UNIVERSITY FRESHMEN GATHERING

The Office for Young People invites students who are entering NUS, NTU, SMU, SIM, JCU, SUTD, SIT, Yale-NUS, or other local and overseas universities for a time of worship, fellowship, encounter and more. Date: Saturday 10 June, 10am to Sunday 11 June, 6pm

Venue: Office for Young People, 2 Lorong Low Koon, SG 536449

Sign up by Wednesday 31 May at: http://oyp.org.sg/kickstart17rego

#### **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)