

Dwelling with God

ow and then when reading scripture, we are gob-smacked by the shocking truth therein. For me, a verse from today's gospel of St John provides one of these shockers. It reads, "He who knows God and His son already has eternal life". It reminds me of what was equally startling said about children, "Theirs is the kingdom of heaven". Are we really in paradise while still lingering here below? After all, we are not told that being in heaven, where all life eternal prevails, is ours in promises only. It is our present possession, and we realize that it is ours when we "know" God.

But I do know God and yet heaven seems a far distant dream. Why? Perhaps it is because I know about God rather than know Him personally. Because I know God of catechism, theology and culture, rather than God of flesh and blood, God who is the object of love rather than of a knowledge, which never makes Him mine.

Our Christianity today is in great need of re-thinking and fresh pondering. The old props to faith of devotion, external practice alone and cultural support are being cast aside as inadequate and irrelevant. We need to capture a type of faith, which brings palpable love to a world of barren materialism. I need to find the love in myself so that I may

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Assistant Parish Priests Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ
Fr Matthew Tan, SJ

Parish Administrator
Parish Accountant
Catechetical Director
Youth Coordinator
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Operations Manager

Parish Administrator
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know love of God and neighbour. I need the realization of God in me so that I may appear as I really am and so display to all around me.

In a word, I need thoughtful prayer to discover and make my own the passionately exciting truths like those of today's gospel. St John forces me to come face to face, in love with my true self in whom God dwells, making me a resident of paradise.

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ

Connecting with a Loving God

The other day, on the sale shelves of an academically-focused bookstore, I came across a book on children's spirituality. It brought home to me that my many little memories of growing up were little experiences of spirituality, of connecting with the divine.

Like noticing the butterfly on the small patch of daisies while waiting for the bus. Or the tadpoles squiggling in the pools and streams of the broken drain nearby. Or the sky on those long, dreamy afternoons in primary school, as quiet as the orange gecko on the fence. I would stand in awe at the front door, safe from the thunderstorm and lightning cracking and wind gusting. Or secretly asking at the side of my grandparent's coffin to carry up a message to God for me.

I did feel truly blessed. Like clockwork, life plodded with moments of gentle serendipity and surety. Daily little experiences of goodness to look forward to peppered the days. An eternal summer holiday seemingly stitched together from patches of memories. All too seemingly



Sunday 28 May 2017 Seventh Sunday of Easter (World Communication Sunday)

1st Reading: Acts 1:12-14 2nd Reading: 1Peter 4:13-16 Gospel: John 17:1-11

> Monday 29 May Liturgy of the day

> Tuesday 30 May Liturgy of the day

Wednesday 31 MayThe Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 1 June
St Justin

Friday 2 JuneLiturgy of the day

Saturday 3JuneSts Charles Lwanga and companions

Sunday 4 June Pentecost

good to be "real" which had to end.

Maybe God was trying to reach out to me for daring to say "I don't believe in God" in preparation for my First Holy Communion. Since I didn't know what I was experiencing, they were "ordinary" to me, such that I wouldn't tell anyone God was there. Looking back now, with a little bit more understanding, it's surprising how present God was. Out in the open for all to see - nothing special seemingly, just everyday opportunities to see the divine.

Yet, I can't help but think that my initial disbelief or uncertainty must have reached God. With all that everyone had, why was it me that noticed – and still remember to this day? I guess His love is greater than my unknowing, uncertain, disbelief. Giving the gift to see it, remember it, and now, to know that He was there all along. I guess it still is true to this day too – for me and for you too.

Michael Phung, SJ

PARISH NEWS

There will be **SECOND COLLECTION** for the poor next week.

COLLECTIONS from today's mass go to support the Archdiocese Mass Media Apostolate.

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.

FIRST FRIDAY - SACRED HEART OF JESUS MASS

Friday, 2 June, 8.00pm

Please note that there will be NO 6.00pm Mass. Come with family and friends to renew your consecration to the Heart of Jesus. All are welcome.

JUNE - MONTH OF THE EUCHARIST

The month of June has been designated for special devotion to the Holy Eucharist. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before Saturday and Sunday evening Masses, 5.20pm – 5.50pm.

72-HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR CORPUS CHRISTI

Join us for an hour or more together with your family and community in prayerful devotion in the presence of Jesus, our Blessed Sacrament for an hour as we prepare for the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Place: 2nd Floor Adoration room, Sacred Heart Hall Date: 14 June, 7pm to 17 June, 5pm

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY Invites all faithful to Life In the Spirit Seminar, begins Wednesday 14 June over 12 Wednesdays until September.

Matthew 18:19-20. Intercessory prayers to pray for Pentecost, the Charismatic church and our coming LISS, the Catholic Church, the needs of our St Ignatius Parish, and for each other's intentions. This Wednesday, May 31, at St Ignatius Hall. Start at 7.30pm with fellowship dinner and end at 9.30pm. ALL ARE WELCOME.

RCIA 2017/2018 Journey begins on 11 July for sponsors and facilitators, and 1 August for inquirers of the Catholic faith. Every Tuesday, 8pm to 10pm at St Ignatius Hall. Registration forms at the Place of Gathering and on our website. Contact Sandra (9628 6472) or Angela (6466 0625).

RCIY 2017/2018 Invites non-Catholic friends and family (aged 17 and above) for RCIY to share the joy of the faith. Welcome tea and info session on Saturday, 8 July, 4pm to 6pm. First two sessions on Saturday, 15 and 22 July. From 1 August, the journey continues every Tuesday, 8pm to 10pm at St Ignatius Hall.

Contact: Evelyn (9762 6330) or Aaron (8228 3419) Email us: rciy.ignatius@gmail.com

Erriali us. rciy.igriatius@griiali.com

Facebook: https://facebook.com/stigsrciy/

INFANT BAPTISMS on Sunday, 11 June at 3.00pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing next Sunday, 4 June, 3.00pm 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 (9691 3447) or Brian (9760 0978) & Lisa Ling (9818 5281).

WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

- ★ We are currently on our break for the June school holidays. We will resume our Catechetical sessions on the weekend of Saturday 1/Sunday 2 July.
- * Our Sec 4 Youths will be celebrating their Sacrament of Confirmation next Saturday, 3 June. Please pray for them as they receive and are sealed with gift of the Holy Spirit.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Discover a vital connection between Fatima and Divine Mercy via movies. 9.45am to12pm at #01-08/09. SMS Jo (8183 2273) or Viv (9785 2268). 31 May – Rerun of Bishop Barron's Pivotal Players

JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS

This weekend, 27 and 28 May, 9.30am to 1pm at St Ignatius Hall. Shop for small gifts and support a good cause – the Parish Social Mission Fund.

ASSISI FUN DAY 2017

Volunteers from Assisi Hospice thank parishioners of St Ignatius for last weekend's ticket-sale support for Assisi Fun Day 2017. A total of S\$10,000 including donations were collected.

NOURISH YOUR FAITH WITH GOOD MEDIA

Daughters of St Paul are at the Place of Gathering with spiritual supplements for a healthy spiritual life. On offer are spiritual books, CDs, and DVDs to help us nourish our faith. To raise funds for a new convent, receive a gift of Pope Francis T-shirt or music CD when you donate \$10 and more. Please give the Sisters your generous support.



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 D DISTRICT 2

Wednesday 31 May, #02-06

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

ZONE E DISTRICT 3

Thursday 1 June, SH-F

Programme: Video on "The entire story of the Apparitions of our Lady of Fatima". Followed by Rosary



or many years, I kept a note card on my refrigerator that proclaimed the message: "We are an Easter people." I received the note from a parishioner, a mother of 13, grandmother of more, who was living with an advanced stage breast cancer at the time the card was written. In the week after Easter, Barb and some of her grandchildren had scripted this pink magic-marker message on a variety of her personal note cards and sent them to family and friends.

I remember opening this Easter greeting and reading it several times. It did not say "Happy Easter" or "Rejoice, the Lord is risen." It said, "We are an Easter people." As I read the card, I knew it bore a message of profound faith. As her death approached, Barb wanted all whom she loved to know that the power of faith transforms even death. For, we are an Easter people.

The note card kept its post for many years. It became a memorial prayer card for Barb and a daily reminder that encouraged a faithful life. In the face of illness and death, this proclamation of faith is a consolation. Yet in all times, this proclamation holds the potential to be an everyday guide: We are an Easter people.

What then does it look like to be an Easter people? How are we to live? If we start at the very beginning and search the Acts accounts of the Easter season Scriptures, we learn how that very first community of Jesus' followers began to shape their priorities and create a way of life.

Within the early community, "there

was no needy person among them" (Acts 4:34). Those who had more property and wealth liquidated their assets and gave the money to the apostles to distribute to those in need. This may be startling information to our 21st-century selves, but nonetheless true.

As the community developed attitudes, rules and a self-image, the Spirit was at work among them. At first, the Jesus followers shunned the newly converted Paul. They feared that he had not changed and would turn on them. But they came to believe, with the help of their own Barnabas, that radical change is the sure sign of the work of the Spirit of Jesus (Acts 9:27).

Those early folks also had presumptions about whom God favored and loved the best. In time, they understood that God truly shows no partiality among humankind (Acts 10:34). All are equal in the sight of God. Finally, there was a clear message on that Ascension day that Easter people do not dawdle looking up at the sky, but must live as active witnesses to faith wherever they are (Acts 1:11).

In response, we might say that times are very different now. We might add that the smaller size of the nascent community made sharing one's wealth a manageable practice, but not in our age. We might want to maintain our own exclusive practices, loving those who look and think as we do, judging those who do not. We might want to ignore the faith's invitation to radical change that invites reexamination of our own priorities, our words and

actions, and even our use of time. We might want to say those things and more, but the truth of Scripture is ever ours, speaking anew to us each day, calling us to be truly an Easter people.

To be honest, there are Easter people in all of our parish communities whose faithfulness inspires our own. They are the ones who trust the Spirit's presence, even in the midst of adversity. They are the ones who refuse to keep up with the envied "Joneses" and raise their children to do the same. They are the ones who accept their own illnesses as opportunities to reveal God's love to others. They are the ones who quietly feed the hungry and share their own resources with faithful abandon, and shape the next generation so they will do the same. They are the ones whose hearts ache with grief as they approach the Eucharist, hands outstretched and the "Amen" on their lips. "So be it, I believe."

And they are the ones who gather their families in the face of approaching death and remind them that they are an Easter people.

We are the Easter people who believe that the Cross transformed all suffering and pain, and the Resurrection secured the promise of eternal life. It is this paschal mystery, this Easter faith, that we are called to live each day.

Peg Ekerdt, pastoral associate at Visitation Church in Kansas City, Mo.

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JESUIT NEWS

FINDING GOD IN DRAMA RETREAT

Using Ignatian principles and bibliodrama, let the drama of finding yourself unfold in a creative and inspiring weekend retreat. Let God meet you in your drama.

Dates & Times: Friday, 9 June (7pm) – Sunday, 11 June (4pm)

Contribution: \$260 (non-AC), \$300 (AC)

Facilitators: Keith Neubronner & Anthony Siow

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

OPEN YOUR HEART TO GOD... WITH THE JESUITS

A weekend for men aged 20 to 35 who are discerning a vocation to the religious life and priesthood. Saturday, 24 June to Monday, 26 June at Kingsmead Hall, 8 Victoria Park Road, Singapore 266492

To register email: mas-vocations@jesuits.net

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

INVITATION TO JOIN ACTS MISSIONS FOR ADVENT 2017

ACTS "A Call to Share", started in 2006, aims at sharing the experience of Christ's love with our regional neighbours. Applications for ACTS 2017 missions to the Philippines, Myanmar (Hlaing Thar Yar, Chanthagon and Anisakan), and Cambodia (Battambang and Phnom Penh) are now open. Participants aged 15-70 for all missions. Young people (aged 12 to 15) are invited to Cambodia. Come and chat with ACTS members at the Place of Gathering. Go to www.acts-singapore.com to learn more and register. Closing date: Tuesday 13 June.

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)