



# CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

## The Love of Constant Conversion

**W**hen couples who are going to be married in the Church come to see me for the first time I get them to fill out a questionnaire. The last two questions ask: “What do you like best about your partner?” “What do you like best about yourself?”

The first question usually presents no problems, although it can hold a few surprises and sometimes a playful punch if the right answer is not forthcoming! The second question presents all sorts of difficulties. We find it hard to name the God-given qualities we value most in our character. Some couples try to pass it off, “That’s for others to say”.

The question does cut to the heart of both today’s second reading and Gospel. “You must love your neighbour as you love yourself.” We cannot say in the same breath, “I hate myself, but I am a good Christian.”

For St Paul, love of self was not indulgent, but the cornerstone of our mission to love as Jesus loves us. Paul knew the difference between self-love and self-

adoration. Our love of God is expressed in the healthy and appropriate esteem we have for ourselves. Put another way, we cannot love anyone else if we don’t love ourselves. If we have poor self-esteem then often we need others to fill up this gap in our self-love. Most relationships cannot sustain such a demand.

We used to be taught that self-denial were good Christian virtues, and indeed they can be. When properly understood they are never opportunities for self-hatred. The sanest spiritual writers in our tradition saw these virtues as paths of closeness with God and service of our neighbour. St Ignatius Loyola in the Spiritual Exercises saw that it was precisely as sinners that God loves us. He saw that one of the greatest gifts the Lord can give us is when we see our sinfulness for what it is, but are not overwhelmed by it, and that we experience the power of God’s love for us who calls us to walk as children of the light.

Jesus in today’s Gospel teaches us that those who do not love their neighbour

## My Neighbour, My Friend

**+** If I have a row or disagreement with my neighbor, how do I put it right? How do I remedy this? How do I make up with my neighbor to whom I am not on speaking terms? Does gospel help?

Jesus is inviting us to practice, to forgive and accept. So how do we do it? Does the gospel answer your question? You need to show that the gospel works. If we want to get to its root, we must dig our way, question by question. Forgiveness on earth, recognized in heaven. If you wish to obey Christ, you must first free yourself of all “righteous”

anger. This will not be easy. And will never be.

Accept and acknowledge that we are not composed of goodness and sinfulness. We must see others as children of God, who are full of weakness. Must we live up to find our true selves as the child of God?

Perhaps it will be easier if we write about love of neighbor. Forgive in love, and such love becomes pardon when that neighbor trespasses against us, as we trespass against God.



**Sunday 10 September 2017**

**Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

2nd Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

**Monday 11 September**

Liturgy of the day

**Tuesday 12 September**

Liturgy of the day

**Wednesday 13 September**

St John Chrysostom

**Thursday 14 September**

Exaltation of The Holy Cross

**Friday 15 September**

Our Lady of Sorrows

**Saturday 16 September**

St Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop

**Sunday 17 September**

Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

as they should be to be treated with dignity and respect and offered every opportunity to seek forgiveness until it is clear they can no longer be a part of the Christian family. The challenge and hallmark of the Christian life is the way in which we live out God’s love and forgiveness. And, although the Christian community should be the last group to exclude anyone, even we have to have our boundaries. Sometimes this involves holding others to account for what they say and do, especially if they claim to be a follower of Christ.

The love and forgiveness of God does not mean that “anything goes”. It is a love that calls for constant conversion. We can witness to it only to the degree that we have experienced it, from God, from others, and in the way we love and forgive ourselves. And we know when these qualities are taking deep root in us because answering a question like, “What do you really like about yourself?” is a piece of cake!

*Fr Gerry Keane, SJ*

*Fr Richard Leonard, SJ*

## PARISH NEWS

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

### PARISH ASSEMBLY 2017

Sunday, 1 October, from 2.30pm to 5.00pm at the main Church. There will be reflection on our Parish Prayer, fellowship and Sharing our Parish Priorities. All parishioners are encouraged to participate actively in the assembly.

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR CHILDREN

Come, join us to adore Jesus in the Holy Eucharist! Sing hymns, pray the Rosary, offer intercessory prayers, and spend an intimate hour with Our Lord in celebration of the Feast of the Cross. Friday, 15 September, 7.45pm to 9.00pm

### CATHOLIC EDUCATION SUNDAY

In Celebration of 165 Years of Catholic Education, SJ and CJC students are at the Place of Gathering this Sunday to share about the Exhibition on Catholic Education and to distribute Prayer Cards.

### SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY

Wisdom: God's Vision for Life, an 8-week DVD series by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith, helps you to seek God's wisdom in Scripture when navigating life. Begins next Saturday, 16 September, 1.30pm at Rm 02-02. Contact Magdalene at svdp88@gmail.com or 91528227. Pre-registration is required.

### WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Catechists, children and youths are reminded that catechetical sessions for Term 4 resume next weekend, Saturday 16/Sunday 17 September.

### "COME FOLLOW ME"

#### – CATECHETICAL AWARENESS WEEKEND

An outreach for catechists to serve in our various catechetical ministries. Please pray about answering this fundamental call to follow Christ and make disciples by serving the young people of our parish. Do have a conversation with our catechists at the Place of Gathering after masses next weekend, 16/17 September. You may also contact us through email: catechesis@stignatius.org.sg

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

In Thanksgiving to our Lord for 12 blessed weeks of Life In the Spirit Seminar, Fr Leslie Raj celebrates mass this Wednesday, 13 September. Praise & Worship at 7.30pm at St Ignatius Hall, leading to Mass, and ending with fellowship dinner. ALL ARE WELCOME!

### 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.

### CONSIDERATE PARKING

Park only at designated lots in multi-storey, basement car park. Absolutely no parking on ramps and driveways. Parishioners who remain for prayer, fellowship and events apart from Masses, have found their cars blocked. Non-compliance also poses a safety concern if the car-park capacity is exceeded. Your immediate co-operation is appreciated.

### FORMED.ORG

Parishioners of St Ignatius can now access this online platform, which provides information on the truth, teaching and meaning of the Catholic faith. Explore links to renowned speakers, online movies and audio resources. Go to 1) [www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org)  
2) Enter our parish code 4904ed on the homepage

## NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

### ZONE A DISTRICT 1

Wednesday 13 September, SH-02-E  
Programme: Who Am I to Judge? – Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love" by Edward Sri  
Session 2 – Recovering the Basics: Virtue and Friendship

### ZONE A DISTRICT 3

Tuesday, 12 September 7.30-9.30pm, Cathedral of the Good Shepherd  
Programme: Participate in the celebration of The International Centennial Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Fatima. Mass at 7.30pm followed by Adoration of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary

### ZONE B DISTRICT 1

Tuesday, 15 September, SH-E  
Programme: Rosary/Discussion on previous week's scripture readings /Discussion on year-end visit to a children home

### ZONE B DISTRICT 3

Thursday, 21 September, #01-04  
Programme: 1) Gospel Sharing – Daily Word of God  
2) History of Christianity

Fr Leslie Raj, SJ Parish Priest ★ Fr Matthew Tan, SJ Assistant Parish Priest ★ Fr Jerome Leon, SJ Assistant Parish Priest

Angela Kurnadi Parish Administrator ★ Joyce Setiawan Parish Accountant ★ Jeremy Aloysius Catechetical Director ★ Gerard Robert Youth Coordinator ★ Cheryl Lek Youth Coordinator  
Robert Ong Sacristan ★ David Saw Operations Manager ★ Steven Leong Facilities Manager ★ Therese Gian Communications Manager

# Journey of Faith

**Our parish community will be celebrating the Combined Rite of Acceptance of Inquirers into the Order of Catechumens and of Welcoming of Candidates for Confirmation and Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.**

**T**here is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God, the Father of all.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is one rite divided into various periods that respect the individual's journey of faith. Community celebrations that serve as transitions or steps throughout the rite mark these periods of initiation formation. The periods of the RCIA and their accompanying transition celebrations are as follows:

- Period of Evangelization and the Precatechumenate
- Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens and the Rite of Welcoming
- Period of the Catechumenate
- Rite of Election
- Period of Purification and Enlightenment
- Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation
- Period of Mystagogy

These various periods are a process of formation to the gospel. The RCIA helps facilitate the experience of God for those seeking full initiation into the community. This formation to the gospel becomes the seed for renewal in the parish community not only because new members come into community, but because the actual formation team for the RCIA is the parish community.

The rite of acceptance into the order of catechumens is the first of the public rites celebrated in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. During this important ritual, the inquirers publicly declare their intention to continue their journey toward full initiation into the Catholic church, and the community accepts them, offering its support and witness during the journey. In rather vague and

broad language, the ritual text defines what is required for an inquirer to make this first step: the beginnings of the spiritual life and the fundamentals of Christian teaching have taken root. We celebrate the rite at various times during the year depending on need and local conditions. One of the significant "local conditions" is the liturgical year as celebrated in the community. (Typically,) we celebrate this rite outside the major liturgical seasons of the Church calendar. (The ritual text) highlights the importance of the baptised community in the celebration of this rite, and the various ministries appropriate to its celebration.... Considering this and everything else said about the central role of the liturgical assembly, we celebrate this rite at the Sunday Eucharist. The ritual text reminds pastoral leadership to include the names of the new catechumens and their sponsors, along with the information about the rite (date, presiding minister) in the registry of catechumens, as directed in... the Code of Canon Law. This book should be kept in a secure place, along with other registries such as the baptismal registry. (The ritual text also) reminds us that (once they have celebrated the rite) catechumens are now members of the Church, although not fully initiated members. Therefore, they should be actively involved in the liturgical prayer of the Church.... If a catechumen marries before full initiation, the appropriate rites from the order of celebrating Christian marriage are used. Similarly, if a catechumen dies, he or she is to be considered a member of the Christian faithful.... Following the principle that we experience liturgy first, and then reflect on the experience to discover new meanings, the major movements and experiences of the rite become the content of the

*You are invited to the celebration of this Combined Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming, at 6pm mass next Sunday 17 September, followed by fellowship at Swacred Heart Hall.*

ensuing catechesis. There will be many feelings present for the catechumens. (They should be given) an opportunity to talk about the experience, and their hopes and desires.

The significant difference (between the rite of welcoming of the candidates for confirmation and full communion and) the rite of acceptance is the recognition that these candidates are, indeed, baptised and nothing is to be done to suggest otherwise.... The ritual structure of the combined rite attempts to integrate the two aforementioned rites while maintaining the important distinction between the catechumens and the baptised candidates.... The primary way this is done is by first addressing the catechumens and then, when there is a parallel moment in the rite, addressing the candidates.

The rite of acceptance and the rite of welcome are the formal entry points into the period of the catechumenate. During this prolonged period of formation, the catechumens and candidates will have the opportunity to be opened to the mystery of God's presence in their lives and in the Christian community. Through catechetical, liturgical, spiritual and apostolic formation, the candidates and catechumens, along with their sponsors, team, and the community as a whole, journey in faith, discerning God's call to authentic life and discipleship. This first ritual step will provide a firm foundation upon which we can build this formation process.

**TAKEN FROM THE RCIA: TRANSFORMING THE CHURCH BY THOMAS H. MORRIS**





## JESUIT NEWS

### LITERARY IMAGINATION AND ST IGNATIUS' SPIRITUAL EXERCISES – PART 1: SELF-KNOWLEDGE

Follow the progression of the Spiritual Exercises through selected literary works to gain deeper self-knowledge. Explore existential attitudes, self-awareness, sense of sin and forgiveness, and life choices.

Date & Time: Wednesday, 4 October, 7.30pm to 9.30pm  
Contribution: \$50

Register: <http://tinyurl.com/DanKister>  
Details: [www.kingsmeadcentre.sg](http://www.kingsmeadcentre.sg)

### BECOME A JESUIT

If you are considering a vocation as a Jesuit priest or brother, go to [www.mas-jesuits.org](http://www.mas-jesuits.org) and [www.facebook.com/jesuit.vocations.malaysia.singapore](http://www.facebook.com/jesuit.vocations.malaysia.singapore) for information. You can also contact Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ or Fr Adrian Danker, SJ at [mas-vocations@jesuits.net](mailto: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, Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ, Fr Gregory Tan, SJ, Msgr Philip Heng, SJ, Fr Adrian Danker, SJ,

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

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### HOW ARE YOU SAVED? UNDERSTANDING THE DOCTRINE OF JUSTIFICATION

How are we saved by God? What is relationship between Catholics and Protestants 500 years after the Reformation? A presentation on the main issues in the Declaration on Justification by Catholic and some Protestant Churches.

Speaker: Mike Arents, Parish Pastoral Executive for IHM Church, studied theology in the Netherlands.

Venue: St Joseph's Church, Victoria Street (Parish House, Conference Room)

Time: 7.30pm to 9pm

Date: Wednesday, 20 September

### FREE ACT TALK ON CATHOLIC SEXUAL ETHICS

Understand why the Catholic Church considers masturbation, homosexual activity, fornication (pre-marital sex) and adultery (extra marital sex), and contraception as mortal sins. Why a non-consummated marriage can be dissolved, and why civilly remarried divorced Catholics cannot receive Holy Communion. These and other questions on sexuality will be answered in this talk, based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Theology of the Body and the Natural Law. FREE, All welcome

Speaker: Andrew Kong, BSc, LLB, JCL

Date / Time: Friday, 22 September, 7.30pm to 9.30pm

Venue: St Joseph's Church Conference Room, Victoria Street

### Church Office

120, King's Road, Singapore  
268172 or 8, Victoria Park Road,  
Singapore 266492

**Entrance via 8 Victoria Park Road**  
Kingsmead Hall (Priests' Residence),  
St Ignatius Hall, Sacred Heart Hall,  
Kingsmead Centre (for Ignatian  
Spirituality & Counselling)

### 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.

**Church of St Ignatius has no  
official social media accounts.**

### 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)