



# CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

## Sincerity in Virtue

**W**hat does the Lord mean when he speaks of “salt”? Do we believe we should give things a special quality? Why does man promise easily, but won’t bring out the best quality?

One of the most lovable traits of human relation is the gift of sincerity. Making our deeds match our words. Today’s parable is all about the virtue of fitting our deeds to our words.

How can we be sure that our words are sincere? Our love even? Because you

pray and you believe. It is from God that we receive what we promise to act.

To do things you cannot understand, you need faith – only from the depths of a great faith is it possible to obey.

We cannot act correctly with a fallen nature. Anger, jealousy, envy and hate prevent us from doing what is right. The ultimate value of doing something good means bringing out the best quality, the good bears its sense within it.

*Fr Gerry Keane, SJ*

## “Bring Your Failures To Me”

**+** The morning started differently. A tram and bus ride into town found me looking at newspapers lining a park bench, someone’s bed for a drizzly night. An old person tried to speak Mandarin to me. Persons getting on the bus and saying, “I’ve no money,” or using whatever change they have, and being allowed onboard. A very tired, worn, homeless person looking for shelter, asking for a prayer. Another person looking longingly at a basketball game they would probably love to be playing. And it isn’t even winter yet.

Going to a brief workshop organised by A Faith That Does Justice (<http://www.faith-justice.org/>) on the Spiritual Exercises of

St Ignatius of Loyola, seemingly included a God-sized welcoming party.

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Parish Priest            | Fr Leslie Raj, SJ                        |
| Assistant Parish Priests | Fr Matthew Tan, SJ<br>Fr Jerome Leon, SJ |
| Parish Administrator     | Angela Kurnadi                           |
| Parish Accountant        | Joyce Setiawan                           |
| Catechetical Director    | Jeremy Aloysius                          |
| Youth Coordinator        | Gerard Robert<br>Cheryl Lek              |
| Sacristan                | Robert Ong                               |
| Operations Manager       | David Saw                                |
| Facilities Manager       | Steven Leong                             |
| Communications Manager   | Therese Gian                             |

Surprises surfaced, including getting lost, yet getting to know other people of goodwill, of old souls and big love. Of speaking truth to power, and of speaking to be less lonely and build community – two unnecessarily different activities that morning.

Despite all these different tangents, a reality that is Reality itself pulls us together, poorly and difficult as we make ourselves to be. Come to the world as Jesus Christ, and revealed, in a way, through scripture and church teachings. Living and breathing today through us, through people of goodwill.

We are not always good at being good to ourselves – how can we be good



**Sunday 1 October 2017**

**Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

**Monday 2 October**

The Holy Guardian Angels

**Tuesday 3 October**

St Francis Borgia, SJ

**Wednesday 4 October**

St Francis of Assisi

**Thursday 5 October**

Liturgy of the day

**Friday 6 October**

Liturgy of the day

**Saturday 7 October**

Our Lady of the Rosary

**Sunday 8 October**

Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

for others? By being as good as we can, and not as we cannot. Like the person who gave up salt, pepper and butter 20 years ago, and is working on giving up hard drinking (but loves milk a lot). Like the apostles who all ran when things got difficult. What unfolded later, with or without reflection and prayer – or even God’s intervention – was still up to them.

It is human to think of survival. Divinity becomes apparent when we reach out, and does not stop until we reach our (intentioned) final destination with God. Bring our weary selves to God, who allows whatever we think we ought to do, repeatedly.

Take some time. Rest and reflect. A little reflection helps, because our intentions do not limit our horizons, an easy and frequent misunderstanding. Try, for we can and should ask that of ourselves, and be generous with our failures and ourselves as God was, and even then, always be ready to try again.

*Michael Phung, SJ*



**BY BEING AS GOOD AS WE CAN, AND NOT AS WE CANNOT.**

## PARISH NEWS

### FIRST FRIDAY – SACRED HEART OF JESUS MASS

This Friday, 6 October, 8.00pm. There will be NO 6.00pm Mass. Come with family and friends to renew your consecration to the Heart of Jesus. All are welcome.

In commemoration of **CHILDREN'S DAY**, all children are encouraged to come to the 8:15am Mass on Sunday, 8 October. All are welcome!

### CHILDREN'S DAY GIFT OF TOOTHPASTE

ACTS Cambodia invites the children of St Ignatius to celebrate Children's Day 2017 by sharing a tube of toothpaste with a child in Cambodia. Toothpaste will be given to 2,500 children in Battambang Province and 3,000 children in Phnom Penh. Any brand of 150g-175g toothpaste that contains fluoride.

Hand your gift to your Catechist during Weekend Catechism, CCD, Children's Liturgy, Leading Little Ones or CGS session or leave in the boxes provide at Place of Gathering, Catechetical office or parish office from next weekend till 29 October.

### PRAYER AWARENESS FOR THE ROHINGYA REFUGEES

The Parish is calling all parishioners to be united in prayer for the thousands of Rohingya refugees. A Prayer Awareness Display will be at the Place of Gathering from 7-8 Oct to 21-22 Oct 2017.

Please do drop by the Prayer Awareness Display next week onwards and pray for a successful and peaceful resolution of the refugee crisis in Myanmar. For queries, please contact Anita (Tel: 9759 0 925)

### OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE ROSARY

Recitations of the Rosary in the month of the Rosary in October. Weekdays, 7.35am and 5.25pm. Saturday, 5.15pm to 5.45pm.

This weekend only, we are giving away limited blessed pictures of Our Lady of Fatima at all Masses at the Place of Gathering. One per family, first come first served.



### PARISH ASSEMBLY 2017

Sunday, 1 October, 2.30pm to 5.00pm at the main Church. Registration starts at 2.00pm. Come pray, reflect and discern in fellowship with other parishioners at this year's Parish Assembly! Pray the Mission Prayer and discern with help from our DVC facilitators what the Lord is calling you to do. Learn about our Parish Priorities and hear a presentation by Bishop Emeritus Paul Tan S.J. on "Jesus Christ in Inter-religious dialogue". Reflect and share how we can relate to people of different faiths and cultures and be effective evangelists.

Bishop Emeritus Paul Tan S.J. was Bishop of the Melaka-Johor diocese from 2003 to 2015 and the President of

Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei from 2008 to 2011. He was the first Major Superior of the Jesuit Region of Malaysia-Singapore.

### JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS

Saturday 18/Sunday 19 November, 9.30am to 1.00pm at St Ignatius hall. Proceeds from the sale will go to the Parish Social Mission Fund. We welcome donations of Christmas decorations, handbags, toiletries, clothes, books (but not textbooks), toys, household and electrical appliances, artificial flowers, curtains, bed linen. All in good, clean and working condition. NO bulky items – furniture, fax machines, TV, printers, video players. Place your donations by 5 November at the drop-off point outside the Sacred Heart Hall canteen.

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

A Sharing on "Healing Relationships in Families". Jesus calls us to be one in families, living a life in the power of the Holy Spirit, and making Jesus our role model and the source for healing. All are welcome this Wednesday, October 4 at St Ignatius Hall. Start at 7.30pm with light dinner and end at 9.30pm.

### RIP NEWS – RISEN IN THE LORD

Peter Keh – 85 years old  
Date of death: 28 September 2017

## NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.



### ZONE A DISTRICT 1

Wednesday, 11 October, #SH-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 B DISTRICT 1

Tuesday, 3 October, SH-E  
Programme: Reciting of Rosary/Reflection on previous week's Gospel readings /Discussion of year-end visit to a charity Home/Fellowship

### ZONE B DISTRICT 3

Thursday, 19 October, #01-04  
Programme : 1) Gospel Sharing – Daily Word of God  
2) History of Christianity

### ZONE D DISTRICT 1

Friday, 20 October, SH-E  
Programme: Scriptural Rosary

### ZONE D DISTRICT 2

Wednesday, 4 October, #02-06  
Programme: Understanding Church History – from the Early Church Fathers, the Crusades to Vatican II





# On Being Inadequate

It feels good to be back in Singapore. As much as I miss Boston, I also realize that it is about time to move onto something new. Just as the Book of Ecclesiastes asserts, “There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under heaven” (3:1). I know that it is the right time for me to return to Singapore.

It is good to be back at St. Ignatius’ Church. Even though I only stepped into St. Ignatius for the first time in 2004, it feels as if I have known the parish for most of my life. I am very thankful to renew the friendships with many parishioners whom I have known ever since my early days in the novitiate (aka “Jesuit boot camp”). I am also grateful to the warm welcome offered to me by new friends I have only recently met in the parish.

Getting ordained and starting my ministry feels like being in the novitiate all over again. First, there is “freshness” to the experience. My entrance into the novitiate marked the moment when I moved from my life as an engineer to life as a religious. Similarly, I feel that my priestly ordination and assignment as the assistant parish priest also mark a new chapter in my life. There is a sense of adventure because many things and experiences are new to me. Even though I have ministered as a seminarian and deacon at the St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena parish in Boston, the situation is very different now. St. Ignatius’ is a larger and more diverse parish. Moreover, I am no longer a “trainee” but working in full-time ministry.

A few days ago, I shared with the Jesuit community that my first couple of weeks working in the parish felt like a novitiate experiment. As part of their formation, Jesuit novices are placed in unfamiliar

situations for periods ranging from a few weeks to months, with very little material resources and support, in order to test their vocation to the Society of Jesus. They are literally “thrown in at the deep end”. I used this comparison partly to elicit a laugh from my fellow Jesuits, but I also think that it truly reflected how I felt during the first few weeks of my tenure as the assistant parish priest. I spent at least a week in crafting a homily when I was serving as a deacon in Boston. So I certainly found the pace overwhelming when I had to write a homily a day for the first three weeks of working in the parish. Other than the daily and weekend masses, and the regularly scheduled sacrament of baptism and reconciliation, there are also “pastoral surprises” like requests for anointing at hospitals.

I found the sheer volume of work overwhelming. I found the speed at which work needs to be done overwhelming. There were times when I felt that I was struggling to “keep my head above water” and poorly prepared for the various demands of parish work. I felt inadequate. Yet, somehow, things worked out.

The feeling of inadequacy has plagued me over the past 10 years as a Jesuit, a sinking feeling that I am not up to whatever task I am given. I come from a family of converts, I became Catholic only when I was in my 30s. I did not grow up immersed in the greater Catholic culture and I am very “un-churched” in many ways. I had to learn even the simplest things, like saying prayers, from scratch. More often than not, I feel that I am always struggling to keep up. I feel inadequate.

In the homily given at my ordination, Archbishop William Goh noticed that the

readings I chose were all associated with inadequacy. Perhaps I subconsciously selected them to reflect my insecurity. But the archbishop reminded me that the acceptance of one’s inadequacy is also a source of strength and encouragement because it is through this that one acknowledges one’s need and dependence on God. In his second epistle to the Corinthians, St. Paul wrote: “We are only the earthenware jars that hold this treasure, to make it clear that such an overwhelming power comes from God and not from us.”(4:7) His words remind me that it is not my work that I do, but God’s work; it is not my ministry but Jesus who ministers through me. Things do work themselves out, over and over again. They work themselves out not because of my effort but by God’s grace. And it is by accepting and holding onto my inadequacy that God’s grace works through me. My struggle and sense of deficiency keeps my feet firmly planted on the ground. And it is from the ground that I can look up and experience the power of God’s loving graces and share in the joy of people whom the Lord has touched through these graces.

It has been a very busy first month working in St. Ignatius. It has also been rewarding. At the very least, I have managed to live up to the pastoral and sacramental demands expected of an assistant parish priest without too many hiccups – masses are celebrated, homilies are prepared, sacraments are ministered and the RCIA sessions are conducted. But the most consoling aspect of parish work is in experiencing the presence of the Holy Spirit in the various works and ministries, and knowing that people’s lives are changed for the better because of these encounters. I celebrated a memorial mass recently. After the mass, the family of the deceased complimented me for my homily. I have never been good with words, and sometimes I struggle to find suitable words to say for a given occasion. However, that family found much hope and solace in the homily I delivered. My immediate response to their compliment was to acknowledge that those were not my words, but words of the Spirit. Moments like these are indeed moments of grace, because despite the imperfections of the human elements, God’s presence is revealed and brings comfort to people. And these are the moments I find most consoling and rewarding in my first month as a priest.

## JESUIT NEWS

### A FATHER'S MISSION

Calling fathers to reclaim their mission as fathers as God intended – to be the link between heaven and earth, between God and his children.

Date: Thursday, 12 October

Time: 7.30pm to 9.30pm

Facilitator: Clement Ong

Contribution: \$30

Register: <http://tinyurl.com/dadmission>

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

### PIETA MEMORIAL MASS FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE DIED

Friday, 10 November 2017 at 7pm (venue tba)

[www.facebook.com/pg/PietaSingapore/events](http://www.facebook.com/pg/PietaSingapore/events)

The child bereavement support group PIETA is organising a Memorial Mass for children who have died (including unborn and adult children). Parents, families and friends are welcome to celebrate the gift of their children. If you wish to name your child during this mass, REGISTER via email with your Name, Telephone and Email details before 15 October at [pieta.Singapore@gmail.com](mailto:pieta.Singapore@gmail.com).

### MASS WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Date: Saturday, 7 October

Venue: Church of Sts. Peter and Paul.

Time: 2.00pm Praise and Worship

2.25pm to 4.00pm – Mass celebrated by Fr Thomas Curran, followed by prayers for healing.

For enquiries, email [praiseatworksg@yahoo.com](mailto:praiseatworksg@yahoo.com) or call 9747 2467.

Organised by SACCRE and Praise@Work

### CLARITY'S MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH TALK

For expectant mothers on mood swings during pregnancy and postnatal period.

Conducted by Ong Li Lian, Senior Case Manager, KKH. 18 November, 10am – 12pm at 7A Toa Payoh Lorong 8, Level 3. Fees: \$15 (early bird registration before 11 October) and \$20.

Closing date: 11 November. To register: <http://tinyurl.com/ybcc3u47>. Enquires: 68017467/6 or [registration@clarity-singapore.org](mailto:registration@clarity-singapore.org)

### 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](http://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)