#### Vol 87 No 47

# CATHOLIC CHURCH of **St Ignatius**

# **Eye Has Not Seen**

Delebration? An invitation to everyone to be a part of the Kingdom of God.

Life is a party, not an endurance test. It is meant to be enjoyed, and crowded with presents and gifts. God gives everything but only some accept it. We refuse to be part of the banquet because we prefer our own ideas and longings. Our choices become wrong and our life often becomes a misery. Because of our selfishness through which we built our own misery that we missed the real beauty of life and its goodness.

Jesus taught us the message to shape the divine life. What he desires for us

#### is the supernatural life of the children of God. We think God will make us happy with things not of his choosing, but of our own. God speaks to every human being whether he listens or not. God's word is not something to be understood completely then acted upon, understanding and action go hand in hand.

Let us not forget the word of the gospel:

Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man. The things which God has prepared for those who love him.

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ



Sunday 15 October 2017 Twenty-Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10 2nd Reading: Philippians 4:12-14,19-20 Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

> Monday 16 October Liturgy of the day

**Tuesday 17 October** St Ignatius of Antioch

Wednesday 18 October

St Luke **Thursday 19 October** Sts John de Brébeuf and Issac Jogues and companions

> Friday 20 October Liturgy of the day

Saturday 21 October Liturgy of the day

**Sunday 22 October** Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time

#### REFLECTION

## See The Lord Everywhere

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 gusting. Or secretly asking at the side of my grandparent's coffin that they 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

# God is out in the open for all to see, just everyday opportunities to see the divine.

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 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

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

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

**COLLECTION FOR POOR** in the month of September amounted to \$24,622.16. Thank you for your generosity.

#### **OFFICE CLOSURE**

The parish office will be closed on Deepavali public holiday on Wednesday, 18 October.

#### **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.

**INFANT BAPTISMS** on Sunday, 12 November at 3.00pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing on Sunday, 5 November, 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Michelle (9633 8236) & Dennis Ng (9457 7772) or Bob (9767 3053) & Beth Bermundo (9648 5345).

#### **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR CHILDREN**

Sing hymns, offer Rosary and intercessory prayers, and spend an intimate hour with our Lord Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Friday, 20 October, 7.45pm-9pm at main Church.

#### 2018 LEADING LITTLE ONES TO GOD REGISTRATION

LLOTG K1 (children born in 2013) online registration begins from this Sunday 15 October until 15 November. Registration: https://goo.gl/ChpWbL (case-sensitive).

#### **CHILDREN'S DAY GIFT OF TOOTHPASTE**

ACTS Cambodia invites the children of St Ignatius to celebrate Children's Day 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 boxes at Place of Gathering, Catechetical office or parish office. Until 29 October.

#### WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

2018 Registration Exercise for Primary 1 and new registrants for other levels will be conducted from 1 November till 30 November 2017. More information will be posted in the bulletin/website then.

#### WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

**COLLECTIONS** from all masses on the weekend of 21/22 October will be for the spread of the Gospel.

NCCs, SCCs, ministries, groups and individuals are encouraged to use the *Mission Is Love* booklet with four reflection sessions. Also available online at https://drive. google.com/file/d/0B3P7zrCE2OIzaHFVaU5RWnZEN1E/view

## A CALL TO PRAYER FOR A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION TO MYANMAR'S HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Parishioners are called to unite in prayer for a successful and peaceful resolution to the humanitarian crisis in

Myanmar. A Prayer Awareness Display has been set up by the Jesuit Refugee Service at the Place of Gathering. Visit the Display to reflect on the scale of untold human pain and suffering – shattered lives increasingly hidden in obscurity and forgotten as media coverage eases up. Do pin your written prayers on the Display.

Parishioners are invited to join a special reflection by Divine Mercy prayer group and JRS after mass on Tuesday, 17 October, 6.40pm. Please come as a community to pray in solidarity with our marginalized sisters and brothers. Prayer session will end with Benediction. Please note there will be no Divine Mercy prayer on Wednesday 18 October.

#### **CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY**

"Even if you have only the strength to beg for food, it is the Blessing of the Lord." A sharing by 11 members on their encounters with God's people at the Love In Action School in Kkotongnae, South Korea. Come and be touched by the Lord's compassion and mercy for the poor, the sick, the vulnerable, and how God empowers His priests, nuns and lay people to serve them. All are welcome this Wednesday, October 18 at St Ignatius Hall. Start at 7.30pm with light dinner and end at 9.30pm.

#### JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS

Saturday18/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.

#### **RIP NEWS – RISEN IN THE LORD**

Roosnata Sumendap – 91 years old Date of death: 10 October 2017

Magdalene D'Souza – 86 years old Date of death: 10 October 2017

### NCC NEWS

**ZONE B DISTRICT 3** 

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.



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

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

Monday, 16 October, Loyola Room Programme : SYMBOLON session 2 – Divine Revelation

#### **ZONE D DISTRICT 1**

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

# The

tarting inconspicuously, а handful of Catholic Indonesian women, tired of constantly being invited by friends to join cell groups of other Christian denominations, decided to start their own community. And so the light ladies came into being in 2011.

"We refer to ourselves as the light, the little candle that brings gentle light to the people around us. No lofty goals. Just a gathering of friends to live and strengthen our Christian faith," said Lidia.

The journey began with bible study led by Sr. Marjorie FMM, as the light ladies were volunteers at Apex Elderly Care in Bukit Merah. Not content to stop there, they decided to support a charity in Indonesia. After much pondering, and with only one objective in mind - to help the least-favored and most vulnerable — they chose a foundation for HIV-children in Jakarta. Since 2013, the light ladies have been organizing a quarterly charity event to fund four caregivers for the HIV children.

"It's been five years since we adopted this charity. These children come from the poorest families, and most are orphans. The stigma that these children carry is heart-breaking. And sadly, the ones that passed away were usually not due to the HIV virus, but because their immune systems were so weak that they could not withstand the assault of other viruses, bacteria, or complications from other diseases," said Grace.

For a while, the corporal work of mercy was the group's main focus. Gradually, the light ladies met on alternate week for faith sharing. And eventually when they began to discover the beauty, breadth, and depth of the Catholic faith and teaching, they

decided to meet every week. This year, the group decided to form a Bible reading chat group to encourage each other to read one chapter a day, starting with the New Testament, and build a habit of reading the Scripture every day.

"Most of us are cradle Catholics who attend Sunday masses. We have lived in the faith but didn't really understand the faith. We didn't know the Salvation story as told in the Old Testament and New Testament. We didn't read the bible regularly. We knew the what of the Church teaching, but not the why and the how. It was becoming a challenge, as our children are very critical. If we are not equipped to handle their questions and objections, we will lose them. They will stop going to church. We knew we must deepen our understanding to be a credible witness at home, and we need to engage our children while young," said Maria.

#### The women started engaging their children in the rosary novena in the months of May and October, and the thanksgiving mass. And although getting husbands involved is more difficult due to their work and travel, some husbands have

Touch

joined in a few gatherings. "The group consists of the Marthas and the Marys, so that we are fed physically and spiritually in each gathering," said Inez. Most of the ladies were barely acquaintances in the beginning, and the regular interaction made the group grow stronger and closer bonds, while attracting newcomers along the way. What started with a handful of friends has turned into a group of 40 women; some from other parishes, some non-Catholic Christians, and a few no longer living in Singapore. Some still have children in primary schools, while a handful are already grandmothers.

"Everyone is welcome to join us! We are but a group of God-loving and fun-loving ladies," said Francisca.

A little candle needs gentle hands that help shield and nurture it. In the light, strangers become good friends, and a fellowship blossoms into a sisterhood. May this community continue to grow and bring gentle warmth to the people around it.



**ROSINA SIMON** 

### JESUIT NEWS

#### **SPIRITUAL BEINGS, HUMAN EXPERIENCE**

In the words of French philosopher and Jesuit Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience; we are spiritual beings having a human experience."

Date & Time: Thursday, 9 November 2017, 7.30pm - 9.30pm Facilitator: Sr Elizabeth Sim, FDCC Contribution: \$30 Register: http://tinyurl.com/spiritbeings

> **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, Fr Jerome Leon, SJ, Msgr Philip Heng, SJ, Fr Adrian Danker, SJ,

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

### ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

#### APPEAL FOR THE HUMANITARIAN AID FUND

CHARIS is making its annual appeal for the Humanitarian Aid Fund to support the Archdiocese's overseas humanitarian work and disaster response. Appeal flyers and envelopes are available at Place of Gathering. You can send a crossed cheque payable to "Humanitarian Aid Fund" with your name and contact information to: CHARIS, #07-02 Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187954. Contact Victoria Lim at 6337 4119 or info@charis-singapore.org for information.

#### **EVERYONE HAS ENOUGH**

Crossings Café in collaboration with the South Central Community Family Service Centre invites you to participate in "I Wish You Enough" movement that promotes neighbours sharing with neighbours who do not have enough, so that Everyone Has Enough. From Monday 16 October to Friday 3 November, make a difference in someone's life through the sharing of food. Pay it forward by buying an extra meal(s) at Crossings Café for someone who cannot afford it. Approach the staff for more information on how to be part of the movement. Tel. 6336 6203 or email manager@crossingscafe.com.sg

#### PIETA MEMORIAL MASS FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE DIED

Friday, 10 November at 7pm, Good Shepherd Place Chapel, Toa Payoh Lorong 8. 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 in this mass, REGISTER via email with your Name, Telephone and Email details by 15 October at pieta.Singapore@gmail.com

#### **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)