



# CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

## Beating the Flu

**A** theology professor of mine once told me that we Christians sometimes get the “gnostic flu”, alluding to an ancient Gnosticism that asserts that spirit and matter oppose each other. We succumb when we believe that all things spiritual are good, and material things, bad.

Taken to its extreme, “gnostic flu” causes the affected to repudiate the material world entirely. In less serious cases, this might lead a person to a “schizophrenic” existence. Accepting that it is impossible to live a purely “spiritual” existence, the person’s life consists of two distinct halves: a “spiritual life” and life in the world. The afflicted may consider whatever within the walls of the Church as holy, and whatever beyond, profane. Religiosity and piety demonstrated by his or her

reception of the sacraments, worship and devotions, are not translated into concrete expression in daily living beyond the Church.

A view that pits matter against spirit certainly disagrees with Christianity, particularly in the mystery of the Incarnation, which is an essential element of our faith. Every time we recite the Creed, we affirm our belief that in order to save us, Jesus Christ became human. Our conviction that the Word of God became flesh and lived among humanity (John 1:14) attests to the fact that material things are important to God’s redemptive plan. Since God is the creator of all things, how can the Lord not love and value them (Genesis 1:31)? Indeed, “God loves the world so much that he sent Jesus Christ into the world, not to condemn

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

## Always Ready for God

**+** Is my life one of expectancy of something new? What do we expect from God and when? Do I look forward to God’s coming?

Christian faith involves waiting with confidence. It means to live a life of optimism. Being faithful to God is readiness for his coming. Faith is not easy in our daily life. We must see God, and his activity and his presence. We are all impatient and want things in a hurry. Not realizing what we are getting every moment.

Today’s gospel teaches us to be prepared for God’s coming. Welcoming him by observing his commandments, which is not only doing what is right, but

loving God and our fellow men. Despite our differences and sinfulness, we learn to forgive one another. To recognize the presence of God in every moment of our life. Living in faith, working in faith, practicing faith, that is what counts. Enter into faith and you shall see clearly what you are expecting. Protection, grace and love.

Keep our desire to love with heart and soul for the coming of God into our lives. Genuine readiness already contains the seed of faith. Continue to wait with joy and anticipation of his coming.

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ



**Sunday 12 November 2017**

**Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

**Monday 13 November**

St Stanislaus Kostka, SJ

**Tuesday 14 November**

St Joseph Pignatelli, SJ

**Wednesday 15 November**

Liturgy of the day

**Thursday 16 November**

Sts Roch Gonzalez, SJ, Alphonsus Rodriguez, SJ  
and John del Castillo, SJ

**Friday 17 November**

St Elizabeth of Hungary

**Saturday 18 November**

Liturgy of the day

**Sunday 19 November**

Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

it, but to save it (John 3:16-17).”

Our discipleship in Christ demands that we do not escape the world, but celebrate its goodness. We are called to share in Jesus’ mission to sanctify, redeem and care for the world. A Christian is called to go forth and live his or her faith in the world.

The challenge of Christian discipleship is not in choosing between sacred and secular, but making good life decisions so that we continue to glorify the Lord. While prayers, devotions, worship and church ministries are important aspects of our faith life, we should also strive to be better witnesses by becoming more righteous and prudent stewards of the many resources that Lord has gifted us, and becoming more loving and considerate neighbors to all.

So allow Jesus’ love for the world to infect us and keep us warm, and keep the “gnostic flu” at bay!

Fr Jerome Leon, SJ

## PARISH NEWS

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

### LOST AND FOUND

Please claim your lost **PERSONAL EFFECTS** found in the church. Check with Angela at the church office, Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm. Or Email: [administrator@stignatius.org.sg](mailto:administrator@stignatius.org.sg), Tel: 6466 0625. Unclaimed items will be donated to Social Mission fund after 6 months.

### NOVEMBER — MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE DEAD

In the month of November, you can submit names of deceased relatives and friends in the box provided at the Place of Gathering. These names will be offered during weekend Masses in November.

### JUMBLE SALE BY HOMEMAKERS

All are welcome to the Jumble sale on Saturday, 18 November, 9.30am to 1.00pm and Sunday 19 November,



### GIFT TO JESUS

The DVC Youth Choir warmly invites all youth and young adults to join us in celebrating the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, at the Christmas Midnight Mass. Please contact [Nicholas@82018078](mailto:Nicholas@82018078) for more details.

### CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S PAGEANT AND MASS

The 8.15 Family Choir invites all to join us for 5.30pm Christmas Eve Children's Pageant & Mass, or 8.15am Christmas Day Mass. Practices are every Thursday (8-10pm) starting 16 November. If you are interested, please say hi to us after the 8.15am Sunday mass, or contact Mike ([mikevinlim@gmail.com](mailto:mikevinlim@gmail.com)/ 9151 5267).

*Salve Regina Orchestra will be accompanying both masses. String/woodwind musicians (approximately Grade 5 ability) are invited to join us. Rehearsals: Sundays, 10am-1pm, from 19 November. For information, contact [ooi.claire@gmail.com](mailto:ooi.claire@gmail.com) by Friday 10 November.*

### CAROL SERVICE

Family Choir Carols is on Saturday, 30 December, 6.00pm to 11.00pm at Scared Heart Hall and St Ignatius Hall.

### ADVENT WREATH MAKING

Gather friends and family for the Welcoming Ministry's annual Advent Wreath making. Saturday, 2 December 3-5pm. \$50 per wreath with net proceeds to social mission fund. Contact Lynette at [Lynette@stignatius.org.sg](mailto:Lynette@stignatius.org.sg). Places run out fast. Please leave payment at church office with contact details by Monday 13 November.

8.30am to 12.30pm at St Ignatius Hall. In aid of Parish Social Mission Fund.

### WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER (WOGP) COMES TO ST IGNATIUS

Sunday 26 November to Saturday 2 December Sojourners' Companions invites all to WOGP to learn how to pray with Scripture and develop a closer relationship with the Lord. \$30/participant. Register: [www.sojourners.sg/about\\_WoGP.html](http://www.sojourners.sg/about_WoGP.html) Enquires: [wogp@sojourners.sg](mailto:wogp@sojourners.sg) or call Suzanne Leong at 9697 7800

### 2018 LEADING LITTLE ONES TO GOD REGISTRATION

LLOTG K1 (children born in 2013) online registration is open until 15 November. Registration: <https://goo.gl/ChpWbL> (case-sensitive).

### WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Primary 1 registration is now open. Limited spaces may be available for NEW registrations for other levels – subject to the existing enrolment and other conditions. Children already in our programme need not register again. All registrations will close on 30 November and done strictly through our website at: <http://stignatius.org.sg/home/ministries/faith-formation/catechetical-ministry/weekend/registration>. Email [stignatius.wecat@gmail.com](mailto:stignatius.wecat@gmail.com) if you have any queries.

Catechetical sessions for 2017 end this weekend. Look out for notices regarding the start of 2018 sessions at the beginning of the new year. We wish all our children, youth and families a blessed holiday and thank all for your support and prayers this year.

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

"Evening of Praise & Worship and Opening Ourselves to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit", with reflection, sharing of testimonies, moments of stillness to listen out for the Lord's promptings, prophecy, speaking and singing in tongues, intercessory prayers and healing. All are welcome this Wednesday, 15 November, at St Ignatius Hall. Start at 7.30pm with fellowship dinner and end at 9.30pm.

**CCTV:** Surveillance recordings show indiscriminate parking and unauthorised removal of Church property.

### RIP NEWS – RISEN IN THE LORD

Oon Beng Choo – 91 years old  
Date of death: 7 November 2017

## NCC NEWS

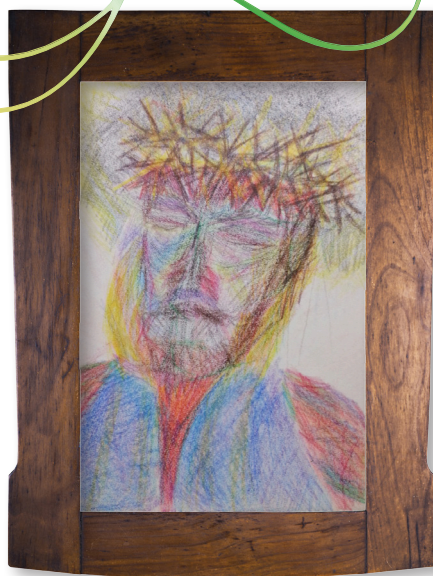
### NCC YEAR-END THANKSGIVING MASS

All NCC members and parishioners are invited to thanksgiving and fellowship. Mass to thank the Lord for His blessings over the past year will be celebrated. Saturday, 9 December, 9:30am at Annex Hall followed by a lunch fellowship. Contact church office for details.

### ZONE D DISTRICT 1

Friday, 17 November, SH-E, 8.00pm  
Programme: Video – Bishop Barron – The Saints.

# BEARING *God's Grace*



**P**ope Francis' recent Pope Video (<https://aleteia.org/2017/08/04/pope-francis-challenges-artists-to-bring-joy-to-a-gloomy-world/>) was very encouraging to me. I dabble where I can, and it's been helpful for me in my prayers. While some who have seen what I've done have been very generous with their comments, accolades are not the top of my list. More importantly, I can't help but add that being creative (be it through art or writing) is not only a bellwether about my own spiritual life, but also a means to access my relationship with God.

The drawing, titled Puffer-Dragon, is not much larger than my hand, but completing it was much "harder" than most works of art that I had done (except for a mask I did for a competition). To be honest, painting or drawing for prayer means that an artwork is complete in an hour or so in order for me to continue to pray and contemplate. Pieces which take more than an hour become a discussion, which is more than just that occasion to prayer itself. Puffer-Dragon is one such.

Years prior, I was very comfortable using paints, crayons, and oil pastels. I start my artwork from two premises: an inspiration, or searching for inspiration. Puffer-Dragon was created during a search for inspiration, using colour pens, a relatively new medium and

evolving style for me. About a month or so after, sometime in June 2017, I was stuck. Large patches were empty, and "unsatisfying" – a shorthand to myself that signals the artwork is not complete.

The frustration and difficulty in completing Puffer-Dragon mirrored my apostolate and personal life. The foundation for all my difficulties and setbacks had most of their roots or solutions in my spiritual life. It was only during my recent annual retreat that I was able to find freedom, along with peace, to finally complete it. In doing so, I felt more peace, and more optimism looking forward to my coming theology studies in Boston, and beyond.

On the other hand, I've done artwork based on inspiration, or asking for graces. During my recent annual retreat, while settling into the retreat, I was trying to get some good sleep. One of the passages or ideas that caught my imagination was the Passion of Christ, or rather, towards the end of His Passion and before His Resurrection. That twilight moment, where things quieten down, long drawn breaths and grieving happen freely, after the height of His Passion. Hence I came up with Sleeping.

Though never in the forefront of my prayers and contemplations until recently, Mary had a very dramatic role to play in Sleeping. It's a coming

to terms with grief and death, enough so as to let Jesus rest in peace. A sleep befitting Him – a quality of rest that I was asking for myself, which I did receive that night. Sleeping took slightly more than an hour to complete, using a set of crayons which I'd never used before. But it conveyed what I wanted to capture, offer, ask, and receive. Not so much about the artwork, but about my relationship with God.

In many situations, in retreats or daily life, I am glad that I have an access to the ideas and feelings that run deep within me. As a bearer of God's graces, I hope that these graces be shared and be a grace to others too. Which was the challenge that a friend threw at me recently, in asking me to promote Ignatian spirituality through them. There's a thought to consider, but I often find myself not so conceited as to work on my artwork for its own sake. In plain words, a good cause – but I somewhat can't find (or feel) the avenue or time to carry it out. But in the meantime, like a pilgrim who appreciates and gives thanks for the road and its blessings and difficulties, I will continue to be inspired, seek inspiration, and hopefully, pass on God's graces to all I meet.

## JESUIT NEWS

### HEROIC/ SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP IN PASTORAL MINISTRY

In this day of conversation, reflection and sharing, learn about how self-awareness, ingenuity, love, and heroism form a unique formula that has moulded Jesuit leaders for more than 450 years.

Date: Sunday, 19 November 2017

Time: 10am - 5pm

Facilitator: Chris Lowney

Contribution: \$50

Register: <http://tinyurl.com/ChrisL17>

### 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

### VILLAGEFEST 2017

Gather as a family to develop healthy family relations, spiritual inputs, prayers and the consecration of families to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Date: Saturday, 18 November

Time: 930am - 4pm

Venue: St Joseph's Institution Junior.

Organised by Office for the New Evangelisation and Archdiocesan Commission for the Family.

Free. For information and registration:

Visit [www.one.org.sg/events](http://www.one.org.sg/events)

### CLARITY'S MATERNAL HEALTH AWARENESS TALK

Expectant mothers and mothers experience significant physiological, hormonal and life-style changes that are uniquely part of motherhood. Learn more about maternal health from our speaker and panel of mothers who will share their postnatal experiences. Bring your spouses,

parents, in-laws and friends. Goodie bags and light refreshments provided.

Date: Saturday, 18 November 2017

Time: 10.00am to 12.00pm

Fees: \$20

Venue: Agape Village. 7A Lor 8 Toa Payoh S(319264). Level 3 Multi-purpose rooms

To register: <https://tinyurl.com/ybcc3u47>

### YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT OF DISCUSSION

#### Creed On The Street (COTS)

Topic: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me (Matthew 25:35)" – Do we have a

responsibility towards migrants?

Inviting young adults to join in a conversation with each other, to lend perspective of their faith on social issues.

20 November (Monday), 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

Level 2, Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187954. For information and

registration: [www.caritas-singapore-org](http://www.caritas-singapore-org) or email [youngadults@caritas-singapore.org](mailto:youngadults@caritas-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,  
except first and last Fridays of the month

#### Intercessory Prayers

Tuesday, 2.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall  
Adoration Room, Level 2

Catholic content online, login:

[www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org); parish code: 4904ed

#### 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.

#### Christian Meditation

Friday, 2.30pm in St Francis Xavier

Prayer Room (Kingsmead)

### 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)