



CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

Thirst and Hunger for God

We have fundamental hungers, breathing, eating, sleeping, but as we get older they change. We forget to drink enough water, for example, because we experience our thirst as hunger.

As we go to school we can confuse what we hunger for as learning a trade or preparing for a career when what we truly seek is knowledge, an understanding of physical reality and what sort of reality can explain us and all our thirsts.

In the end, only one hunger, one thirst, really concerns us, and that is for God. We wish to find the ecstasy of being dissolved in Him, being possessed entirely by Him, finding in Him our completion, an end to our littleness and ineptitude, an end to our seeking, in all the wrong places, what is actually love.

At root what we want is that complete intimacy of being loved by the only one who can truly understand us and still love us, can care unutterably purely and generously about our well-being and

can do something real about it.

We mistake all the hungers and forms of human love, and I do mean right from the infant's fixation on his or her parents all the way up through puppy love into passion in all its physical forms right into that mature relationship of committed married love which shows, year by year, a deeper dependence of one partner on the other, a deeper understanding and hunger, a deeper and more constant awareness of the presence and needs of the other.

In Advent, we look at all our hungers, our yearnings, our incompleteness and loneliness, our silent cry in what seems to be God's abandonment of those who wish to be His people, and we begin to remember again all the steps of His courtship of us. We recall how He calls us and helps us to find a mature understanding of His love for us and how we can return



Sunday 3 December 2017

First Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Monday 4 December

St Francis Xavier, SJ

Tuesday 5 December

Liturgy of the day

Wednesday 6 December

Liturgy of the day

Thursday 7 December

St Ambrose

Friday 8 December

Immaculate Conception of
The Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday 9 December

Liturgy of the day

Sunday 10 December

Second Sunday of Advent

that love in our dependence on that most intimate Spirit as we seek to grow into the human and divine love that His Son, our LORD, showed and still shows us.

Chas Kestermeier, SJ

Jesuit Community, Creighton University

The Joy of His Coming

+ Advent season is a time of youth and excitement. We need to become born again to relish his many gifts. How do I enjoy the coming of Christ? Perhaps I could look at a child who has a belief in Santa Claus. A child capable of wonder and has much to rejoice if he is to welcome the Christmas babe.

Christ's coming is like preparing for a great event of your life. What do you feel if a friend is coming? Who is that friend to you? The time

of expectancy and hope. Being conscious of his presence in your heart day by day. We may not know when he is coming; he promises he will come. We do not know when will God give you his favours. The only way is to prepare, and be patient and reverent, calm, expectant, and with prayerful attention. It gives us the task of making every day a time of being ready to welcome and meet him.

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ

Parish Priest **Fr Leslie Raj, SJ**
 Assistant Parish Priests **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
 Robert Ong
 Sacristan **Robert Ong**
 Operations Manager **David Saw**
 Facilities Manager **Steven Leong**
 Communications Manager **Therese Gian**

PARISH NEWS

COLLECTION FOR POOR in the month of November amounted to \$24,483.35. Thank you for your generosity.

SSVP YEAR-END PARTY FOR FINS (FRIENDS-IN-NEED)
Society of St Vincent de Paul, St Ignatius Conference will host a Year-End Party for over 130 Friends-in-Need living in 1-room rental flats in Bukit Merah on Sunday 3 December 2017; 5pm to 8pm, St Ignatius Hall.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN PAGEANT & CAROLLING
Sunday 24 December, 5.30pm (before 6pm Mass)
Rehearsals for Children (6-10 years old) in the Christmas Eve Pageant will be held at Sacred Heart Canteen on Sunday, 10 and 17 December, 2pm - 3:30pm. Parents are



THE ANTICIPATING COMMUNITY Advent and Christmas 2017

First Friday Mass

Friday 1 December, 8.00pm

SSVP Year End Party

Sunday 3 December, 5.00pm – 8.00pm, St Ignatius Hall

Simbang Gabi

Sunday 17 December, 8.00pm

Penitential Service

Monday 18 December, 8.00pm

Christmas Eve Children's pageant followed by Mass

Sunday 24 December, 5.30pm

Reflection followed by Christmas Mass

Sunday 24 December, 11.00pm

Christmas Day Masses

Monday 25 December, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

Special Christmas Mass and Party for the aged, sick and housebound (PaCES Ministry)

Thursday, 28 December, 2.30pm

Carol Service

Friday 29 December, 7.30pm, Sacred Heart and St Ignatius Halls

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday 30 December, 6.00pm

Sunday 31 December, 6.45am, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MOTHER OF GOD

Monday 1 January, 8.15am, 10.15am and 6.00pm

All events at main church except Carol Service and SSVP Year End party.

needed to help monitor and support their children during rehearsals and performance. Bring along Nativity costumes, if you have them. Email Chantal Wong/Dorothy Kay at stiggy.nativity2017@gmail.com

SALE OF CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS made with love by members and volunteers of **ST IGNATIUS D' FELLOWSHIP**. This Sunday 3 December at all morning Masses. Donations in aid of the Parish Social Mission fund.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OF FR LESLIE RAJ SJ

All Parishioners are invited to the concelebrated Mass presided by His Grace Archbishop William Goh. Saturday, 13 January 2018, 6pm. Reception to follow at Sacred Heart and St Ignatius Halls.

2018 LEADING LITTLE ONES TO GOD REGISTRATION

LLOTG K2 (children born in 2012) online registration is now open until 10 December. Registration: <https://goo.gl/FbN3vN> (case-sensitive).

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN will take a break from Sunday 24 December and will resume on Sunday 25 February 2018.

WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

New Registrations for 2018 are now CLOSED. Please contact us at: stignatius.wecat@gmail.com if you have missed the registration or if you have any queries

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

All are welcome to CRC Community's Year-end Christmas and Thanksgiving party this Wednesday, 6 December at St Ignatius Hall. Lots of singing, Zumba, food, fellowship and FUN! Start at 7pm and end at 9.30pm.

NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

All NCC members, family and parishioners are invited to the NCC Thanksgiving Mass. Saturday, 9 December, 9.30am at St Ignatius Hall, followed by Fellowship brunch.

ZONE B DISTRICT 1

Tuesday, 5 December, SH-E

Programme: Recitation of Rosary/Christmas gathering with Christmas carolling/gift exchange and fellowship

ZONE B DISTRICT 3

Thursday 21 December, #01-04

Programme : 1) Gospel Sharing - Daily Word of God
2) History of Christianity

GREENLEAF/SIXTH AVE GROUP

Our December program is attendance at the NCC Thanksgiving Mass on Saturday 9 December 2017, at 9.30 am at St Ignatius Hall.

Falling in Love with God



On November 18, some of the Leading Little Ones to God (LLOTG) K1 and K2 catechists and parents gathered together during a retreat entitled "To Teach as Jesus Taught" led by Sister Mel Benedictos of the Cenacle Sisters Singapore.

As a catechist, I am grateful for the opportunity to experience the very first LLOTG retreat. Everyone recalled the moment they started serving in this ministry. It was moving to hear how every person responded to God's call despite the many challenges. Although each of us has unique reasons of joining, we are all called to serve and journey with the children as they start to fall in love with God.

We pondered on the various images of God from the beginning of our faith journey and as we continue to deepen our relationship with Him. Likewise, we examined the condition of our hearts and pondered on 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 "Love is patient and kind; love is never jealous; love is not boastful or conceited, it is never rude and never seeks its own advantage..." Replacing Love with God in these verses is undeniably true but substituting with our own name sounds very challenging and seems to be far from reality. However, God is not expecting us to be perfect in order to serve Him; He is simply inviting us to love and to serve; and He will definitely renew our hearts in the process.

I first joined the LLOTG ministry in 2014, a God-prompted response to

my strong desire to serve the children. Prior to joining, I was actively serving in an adult ministry in Singapore and in a humanitarian organization which is mainly based in the Philippines. I was able to serve in various missions within Asia. God used my past experiences to strengthen my faith and to prepare me for my new vocation as a catechist.

Like a roller coaster ride, I left the ministry in mid 2015 when I went to Germany for a personal journey. I came back to Singapore in early 2016 but I was hesitant to join the ministry again because I was not sure if I was staying or leaving. However, when I saw the church announcement in October 2016 that there will be no 2017 K1 class due to lack of catechists, I felt that God was telling me that it's the right time to serve His little ones again. Despite the uncertainties and challenges, I immediately said yes to God on the same day that I saw the announcement. Sometimes God disturbs us and calls us when it is not comfortable for us to serve.

I am truly blessed and grateful to be able to experience the joy of being with the children during their foundation year. It's always amazing to hear the innocent words of the children during thanksgiving prayer; thanking Jesus for their parents, friends or simply

for their toys, even for the sun and rain. It's also great to see their excitement during story telling time or watching a short video clip. It is amazing to see the many talents that God has given the children which are evident during the activities like arts and crafts.

One year has passed since I joined the ministry for the second time. I am still at a crossroads, still facing the same uncertainties that I also have in the past but I can say that those things are irrelevant when it comes to serving our loving God. It is definitely not too late to start all over again. I just started learning about the catechetical pedagogy and methods. Learning all of these is an essential part in the formation of being a catechist, but the greater part lies on our personal relationship with God, experiencing the joy of knowing Him more and constantly falling in love with Him. Like a child, I also rest at Jesus' feet, waiting to be carried at times and always seeking and learning from Jesus, the one and only Teacher.

The growth of the LLOTG ministry is certainly a manifestation of God's promise that He will uphold the mission. It is great to witness that some of the parent volunteers are stepping up to be future catechists. Moving forward, we encourage more parishioners to join the LLOTG ministry and journey with the little ones. It is true that God sustains the called. Give your Yes to God! Take the first step, email at lлотг@stignatius.com.

ignatius@gmail.com.

JACQUELINE BERANIA
LLOTG Catechist



JESUIT NEWS

CRAFT OF RELATIONSHIP: CONNECTING IN LOVE

Learn about the 5 Love Languages (Gary Chapman), the Stages of Love (Pat Love), and Emotional Connection/ Disconnections (Sue Johnson).

Date & Time: Thursday, 14 December 2017, 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Facilitators: Francis See & Aileen Yap

Contribution: \$30

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

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

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION is renewing its annual appeal for the GIFT (Giving in Faith & Thankfulness) campaign. GIFT invites every Catholic to make a regular pledge to support the operational and building needs of the archdiocese. More information can be found in the GIFT pamphlets that will be distributed during Mass, and at gift.catholicfoundation.sg.

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

President of International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS) Jim Murphy will be in Singapore at the ISAO Healing Rally, Leaders' Forum and two SACCRE rallies.

ISAO Healing Rally 2017

Sunday, 10 December, 1.30pm to 6.45pm, Holy Innocents' High School Hall

SACCRE Rally

Deepening Intimacy with God (Jer 29:13)
Tuesday, 12 December, 7.30pm to 10pm,

Church of Our Lady of Lourdes
Stirring Up Spiritual Gifts (2 Tim1:6)
Wednesday, 13 December, 7.30pm to 10pm, Church of the Holy Cross

AMPLIFY COMMUNITY at the Catholic Spirituality Centre invites young adults (18 to 25 years) to the annual AWAKEN conversion experience retreat. Come experience the unconditional love of God, 14 to 17 December. Details at <http://www.csctr.net/awaken>

CATHOLIC LAWYERS GUILD (CLG)

Pro Bono Mediation – You can resolve disputes without going to Court. An accredited Mediator can assist disputants to enter into a legally enforceable Settlement Agreement, which provides a win-win situation for both sides. The service is free, for eligible applicants. Please email the CLG at admin@clgsingapore.com, or call the Pro Bono hotline at 65164279 or our CLG administrator at 68017494.

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; 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)