



CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

Living in Rejoicing

Today's Gospel teaches us that John the Baptist is the greatest man born of a woman. Why is John greater than anyone else? We must not be distracted by the person of John. He doesn't want to be mistaken for Christ.

His whole life is lived in a growing fulfillment for others not for himself. John's mission, and greatness, is to proclaim the advent of the kingdom. His presence is to introduce someone far greater than himself – to direct others and to welcome the Messiah.

His vocation is to lead the way to the promise that our salvation is near.

To rejoice is to rest happily in the presence of Christ. Happiness is the belief that Christ is coming. That it is the matter of the heart, not of the head. Without salvation, there is no world. We must have courage and ability to rejoice as we wait. A reminder that advent is the season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ

Rejoice in the Lord

*Gaudete in Domino semper:
iterum dico, gaudete.*

Rejoice in the Lord always,
again I say rejoice. (Phil 4:4)

✝ I love rosy Sundays. The pink (more accurately, rose) vestments worn by the priests on *Gaudete* and *Laetare* Sundays (third Sunday of Advent and fourth Sunday of Lent, respectively) have always fascinated me, not just because of the oddly calming rosy aspect that they lend to the liturgy. As my kindergarten-equivalent knowledge of Latin tells me, *gaudete* means “rejoice, all of you”, an imperative verb that calls us to celebrate and delight in the Lord. It's comforting to be reminded to rejoice, especially in a world that's growing increasingly pessimistic. One almost feels like the Lord sees us in our slide towards sadness and picks us up with this reminder: *Gaudete in Domino!*

Rejoicing is not just about singing songs of praise to the Lord – these are great and essential ways of rejoicing, but that's only part of it. Joy, and the

expression of it through our rejoicing, comes from the depths of our being that recognise how we have been loved and are being loved by God always. It is the response of joy in Mary's Magnificat (Luke 1:47) that came from the initial loving call to rejoice by God's messenger Gabriel (Luke 1:28). We rejoice because that's our most natural way of responding to God's love.

The other part of joy is the response with our lives, shown also by how Mary's entire life was a living response to the initial joy of the Annunciation. That's not to say that the initial joy will remain forever as for every Annunciation or Nativity will be followed by Calvary of some sort. Pope Francis writes that



Sunday 17 December 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28

Monday 18 December

Liturgy of the day

Tuesday 19 December

Liturgy of the day

Wednesday 20 December

Liturgy of the day

Thursday 21 December

St Peter Canisius SJ

Friday 22 December

Liturgy of the day

Saturday 23 December

Liturgy of the day

Sunday 24 December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

“Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved” (*Evangelii Gaudium* 6). *Gaudete* Sunday reminds us of this by celebrating the joy that's inherent in our lives as we expectantly await the birth of our Saviour during this time of Advent.

And this rejoicing in our lives leads us not just to God, but to others as well. “Goodness always tends to spread ... As it expands, goodness takes root and develops. If we wish to lead a dignified and fulfilling life, we have to reach out to others and seek their good” (*Evangelii Gaudium* 9). The goodness that comes from our response in joy should not stay on our lips, but should be expressed in our lives with others. Rejoicing always also means seeking to spread this joy and goodness through our actions to everyone around.

Stanley Goh, SJ

PARISH NEWS

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Church of St Ignatius: Monday, 18 December, 8.00pm
As this is a communal celebration, we invite all to remain for the closing prayer and blessing at 9.30pm

MEMORIAL MASS for deceased is on Friday, 22 December at 8pm at the main Church. Please note that there will be NO 6pm mass. All are welcome.

THANK YOU

Jumble Sale for Social Mission Fund raised \$15,056.32. Homemakers thank all volunteers and donors. No more collections until further notice.

INFANT BAPTISMS on Sunday, 14 January at 3.00 pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing on Sunday, 7 January, 3pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Valeria (9026 6170) & BC Chong, or Lea (9173 8717) & Wahjudi Gunawan.

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



Advent and Christmas 2017 THE ANTICIPATING COMMUNITY

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

An Evening of Carols, Food and Fellowship

Saturday 30 December, 7.30pm, St Ignatius Hall

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

Unless otherwise stated all events at main church.

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

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

DVD Previews:

January 10 – David the King

January 17 – Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

January 24 – Wisdom: God's Vision for Life

Wednesdays, 9.45am to 12noon at Room 02-02. Whatsapp

Viv @9785 2268 or Jo @8183 2273

A SHARING OF JOY

All are invited to spread joy at the **Special Christmas Mass and Party for the aged, sick and house bound by the PaCES Ministry**. Thursday 28 December. Sign up forms at Place of Gathering.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S PAGEANT & 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). If you are interested, contact Mike (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. For information, contact ooi.claire@gmail.com.

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@8201 8078 for more details.

COMFORT & JOY

An Evening of Carols, Food and Fellowship
Come celebrate the joy of Christmas with an Evening of Carols, Food (Potluck optional), Song and Fellowship. Saturday 30 December, 7.30pm at Ignatius Hall. For information contact stiggies.comfortandjoy@gmail.com or sign up @ <https://goo.gl/forms/1xXJF9L0CD9YkGG2>

NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.



ZONE A DISTRICT 3

Wednesday 17 January 2018, #02-06

Programme : 1) The Bible and the Virgin Mary – Lesson 3
The Wedding at Cana/The Garden in Eden

ZONE B DISTRICT 3

Thursday 21 December, #01-04

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

Brotherhood means not loneliness

Brothers for Life!!!

Communities @ St Ignatius

A community we can be friends with one another

Brothers in Service

Brotherhood was the theme of this year's annual overnight camp for the Altar Servers Ministry of St Ignatius. Held on 24 and 25 November, the Altar Servers had a meaningful time learning about the importance of Brotherhood and what this means for our Ministry.

Through activities and games, we explored how we can show this spirit to each other, and to the people around us as well. Much fun was had by all, and many of us are already looking forward to more fun-filled activities for our Ministry next year!

It is a bond between others like a family, but not related by blood

Brotherhood is working together as one.



Brotherhood is working together as a team.

JESUIT NEWS

'O GOD, IT'S A NEW YEAR!' DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Rejuvenate spiritually and renew commitment to grow your relationship with God. Spend time in silence contemplating Scriptures and be engaged in guided activities based on Ignatian themes. Includes guided meditation, labyrinth walk and writing exercises.

Date: Saturday, 6 January
Time: 9.30am – 5.00pm

Facilitators: Diana Tan & Roselie Chia
Contribution: \$60
Register: <http://tinyurl.com/ogod2018>

BECOME A JESUIT

If you are considering a vocation as a Jesuit priest or brother, go to www.mas-jesuits.org and 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

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

PERSONAL MORAL COMPASS COURSE 2018

By Rev Fr David Garcia, OP.

Inviting all Catholics and people of goodwill interested in formation in the foundations of Ethics and Moral Theology. A year-long systematic course in Moral Theology consisting of 6 individual modules, organized by Caritas Singapore. Every Thursday, from 4 January, 7:30pm to 9:30pm, Agape Village, 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh. Information and registration at www.caritas-singapore.org or email formation@caritas-singapore.org

STORIES AND SONGS AROUND THE CRIB

CANA invites all to an evening of stories, songs and fun for the family.
Date & Time: Friday 22 December, 6.30 pm
Venue: Crossings Café, 55 Waterloo Street
Contribution: \$25 for adults, \$15 for

children (includes dinner)
Booking: canatheplacetobe2013@gmail.com or call 63384080

ARCHDIOCESAN BIBLICAL APOSTOLATE SINGAPORE

Introduction to the Bible
Date: 16 & 23 January (Tuesdays)
Time: 9.30am – 11.30am
Cost: \$20

Book of Jeremiah
Date: 30 January – 22 May
15 Sessions: Tuesdays (Except 13 March and 1 May)
Time: 9.30am – 11.30am
Cost: \$120

Venue: Catholic Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland Road, Singapore 549102
For more information/registration:
Email: aba_secretariat@catholic.org.sg
Tel: 62800354 (9.00am to 1.00pm)

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)