



CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

Emmanuel, You are God in Me

Like King David, some of us feel that we are so much blessed by God. Indeed, God has taken care of our every single need, although sometimes He did not grant us the way we thought it should be. We are very grateful to God for His kindness and love for us. In our gratitude, we want to give God something in return. We plan to give God a big gift, just like David who thought of building a grand temple for God.

The annunciation by Angel Gabriel must have left Mary feeling honored and at the same time perplexed on why she was the chosen one. Life was as usual after the angel left her. The challenges came later, when her pregnancy became visible, the birth of Christ on her journey to Bethlehem, and the flight to Egypt. Being the mother of the Messiah did not mean she was safe from all life's inconveniences.

Christmas reminds us of God's greatest gift to us, His only begotten Son. Jesus has come not to enjoy earthly riches and popularity. He has come to assure us that God's love and salvation is always there for us. He loves us unto death, death on a cross. What can we do in return of such a great love for us?

Let us learn from Mary, who allowed

herself to become the temple of the coming Messiah. In our gratitude, instead of building a grand temple for God, we make ourselves a living temple of God. Let God's will be the only thing that we seek and make it the centre of our lives. Let our words and deeds reflect the unconditional love of God, so that we can say, "Emmanuel, you are God in me".

Fr Emanuel Lim, SJ



Sunday 24 December 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

The Nativity of Our Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

2nd Reading: Acts 13:16-17,22-25

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

Monday 25 December

Christmas Day

Tuesday 26 December

St Stephen

Wednesday 27 December

St John

Thursday 28 December

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Friday 29 December

Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas

Saturday 30 December

Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

Sunday 31 December

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



**The PPC Exco, the Parish Staff
and the Jesuit Community at
Kingsmead Hall wish
all Parishioners**

*A Joyous Christmas and
Peaceful New Year!*

In God's Presence

+ Celebration, homecoming, feasting and gifts, But how about the baby? A child not yet learned to be offensive, and totally innocent? The baby himself is mystery and unique. Every individual is, in himself, unique. Christ himself – he was brought forth by Mary. She herself, a mortal connected to the mystery of the living God.

How did Mary react to the Angel's announcement of a child? She was afraid and troubled, but her faith was greater. She believed, gave her heart, honour and blood, and all the wonderful strength of her love. Not only did she accept this, but she rejoiced in it as in the fulfillment of God's will.

The Christmas liturgy reminds us that we are special like Mary. God has given us an abundance of His grace. And He has sent us his message of love – He gave us His only Son. Let every heart rejoice in His love. This Christmas, do nothing but simply be in God's presence.

May the blessing of the Bethlehem baby be yours in abundance this Christmas and the year ahead.

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
Sacristan	Robert Ong
Operations Manager	David Saw
Facilities Manager	Steven Leong
Communications Manager	Therese Gian

PARISH NEWS

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish office will be closed on Christmas Day Monday 25 December. Christmas Day Masses: 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

WELCOME FR COLIN TAN SJ, NEW PARISH PRIEST

The Parish Family and the Jesuit Community welcome Fr Colin Tan SJ as the new Parish Priest of the Catholic Church of St Ignatius. Fr Colin Tan SJ takes over from Fr Leslie Raj SJ from 1 January 2018.

Our community takes this opportunity to thank Fr Leslie for his faithful service to our parish and parishioners. May God our Father bless both Fr Leslie and Fr Colin for their tireless work in ministering Christ to us all.

All are welcome as Fr Leslie celebrates his final mass as Parish Priest on Sunday 31 December at 6pm. Fr Colin will celebrate his first mass as Parish Priest on Monday 1 January at 10.15am.

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

Our Parish celebrates the 25th Anniversary of the Ordination to the Priesthood of Fr Leslie Raj on Saturday 13 January, 6pm. Concelebrated Mass presided by Archbishop William Goh, followed by a Reception at our Halls. All are welcome.

INFANT BAPTISMS Sunday 14 January, 3.00pm.

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.



Advent and Christmas 2017 THE ANTICIPATING COMMUNITY

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.

CONSIDERATE PARKING

Gentle reminder to please park only at designated lots in the basement carpark. Parking on ramps and driveways and other non-designated areas results in the car park capacity being exceeded and this poses a safety concern.

If the Church carparks are full, use nearby public carparks at Empress Market or Block 4. The traffic assistants wish you a Blessed Christmas and look forward to your fullest co-operation in showing consideration to other road users in a spirit of goodwill.

PREPARED FOR EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency evacuation, announcements will be made through church Public Address System.

- * Parishioners should proceed to leave the church premises quickly but in an orderly manner by using the nearest Emergency Exits.
- * Able bodied people are to help the aged and the handicapped.
- * Use only the stairs. Do Not use the Lifts.
- * Proceed orderly to the Emergency Assembly Areas (EEA) i.e. towards King's Road/Empress Road.
- * Follow the instruction of the evacuation wardens.
- * Car owners, DO NOT remove your car from the carparks.
- * Stay in the EAA until clearance is given to return to church.

REMEMBER YOUR SAFETY IS IMPORTANT TO US.

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.

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/1xXJF9L0CD9yYkGG2>

RIP NEWS – RISEN IN THE LORD

Thomas Lee Woon Chin – 85 years old
Date of death: 16 December 2017

Francis Joachim D'Costa – 84 years old
Date of death: 20 December 2017

NCC NEWS

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 C DISTRICT 1

Annual Christmas party is on Saturday, 30 December, 57 Kings Drive Janice's home at 11 am. Please come to enjoy the fellowship in the spirit of Christ. A definite answer is needed as we are catering food for lunch.

A Christmas Prayer for (nearly) Everyone

Dear God, I know that it is Christmas and I am supposed to be focused on the birth of Jesus, but once again Advent came and went and all I did was focus on so many other things.

So, this Christmas, please help me remember a few simple things, even if I am stressed from shopping and travel, lonely from a lack of friends and family, sick from a difficult illness or poor from the lack of work or a living wage.



special love for anyone who was poor, sick, lonely, misunderstood or marginalized in any way. Your entire life was poured out as one great offering of love.

You were love for me.

Help me remember that you offered yourself without counting the cost. You preached the good news to the poor, healed the sick and shared the coming of the reign of God with everyone. Not everyone wanted to hear your message,

but you kept proclaiming it until your death. You gave your whole self for humanity, even when we rejected you. You gave up even your body and spirit on the cross.

You were everything for me.

Help me remember that Christmas is only the beginning of the story. After your death, you returned as the Risen One, never again to die, offering hope in the face of despair, love in the face of hate and life in the face of death. Your rising on Easter Sunday revealed the same message that the angel told your mother when he announced the coming Christmas: Nothing is impossible with God!

You are life for me.

Dear God, I know that I don't always remember these things at Christmas. There are so many emotions swirling in my head this time of year. But I want to remember them. And I trust that the desire to remember them is itself a good thing and comes from you.

This Christmas, give me the gift of memory,
And I will remember that you became love for me,
So that I can become love for others.

Help me remember that when you became human, you came into the world in the most vulnerable way possible—as an infant. That meant that you were totally dependent on Mary and Joseph to care for you. And when you left this world, naked on a cross, you were vulnerable, too. That shows what you were willing to do just to love me.

You were vulnerable for me.

Help me remember that when you came into this world, it was not into some powerful clan in Galilee, not into some great ruling family of Judea and certainly not into a royal dynasty in Rome. You could have come in power and exercised that power as a scholar, a soldier, a king or an emperor. Instead, you came with no earthly power at all.

You were powerless for me.

Help me remember that you could have entered the world in a wealthy family. There was no need for you to be born to a young, probably illiterate woman who was married to a simple carpenter and who lived in a town so insignificant that one of your disciples would make a joke about it. But you chose not only to enter a poor family but to toil for many years as a laborer yourself.

You were poor for me.

Help me remember that you spent most of your life in obscurity in Nazareth, living an everyday life and working as a carpenter alongside Joseph. You were not well known. You did not set out to make a big name for yourself. In fact, the Gospels barely mention your hidden life in Nazareth, the place you spent your first 30 years. That is how simple, obscure and uneventful most of your life was.

You were unknown for me.

Help me remember that when you became human you took on a human body. That means that you experienced everything that anybody does. You had stomachaches and headaches, got colds and the flu, experienced hunger and thirst, and grew weary at the end of a long day. It also means that you experienced joy and sadness, frustration and anger, and all the emotions that any human being does, even in your divinity.

You were human for me.

Help me remember that your entire life, from your birth to your death on a cross, was spent in love. You loved Mary and Joseph and your whole extended family. Later, you loved your friends, disciples and followers. You loved even your enemies and persecutors. And you had a

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

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.**

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

LIVESTREAMING FROM THE CATHEDRAL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Christmas Mass
LIVE Stream
for the home-bound

24 Dec 2017, Sunday
10.30 pm CAROLLING
11.30 pm MASS

WWW.LIVE.CATHOLIC.SG

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

PIETA is a support group for bereaved
parents. We are reminded of Jesus'
humanity, his frailty and dependence
on those around him as we turn to God
for peace and hope amid the Christmas
celebrations. We come together as
bereaved parents – in prayer, in WORD
and in faith. Our monthly session is on
every 4th Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm
to 9.00pm at Agape Village, Toa Payoh
Lorong 8, and the next one would be held
on **Tuesday 26 December**. Email pieta.singapore@gmail.com or go to [https://
facebook.com/PietaSingapore](https://facebook.com/PietaSingapore)

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)