



# CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

## The Power of One

**W**e grow up with many dreams. Some are big and unattainable, some small and attainable. In the eighties, I met a friend who told me in a casual conversation, “I want to be a millionaire by the time I reach 30.” We were both in our 20s. I was certainly very impressed by his ambitious goal. He may have reached his goal, and I am still as poor as a church mouse, but rich in faith and joy in the Lord.

Interestingly, I have never dreamt of being wealthy. In primary school, my PE teacher told me: “Health is wealth.” It made sense to me so it became a guiding wisdom in my life. Instinctively, I did not think much about making money. I was more philosophical. I was thinking that I would

love to change the world and make it better by just helping people who are poor, encouraging those who are struggling not to give up. Or I could just be nice to all and smile to cheer them up when they are sad.

It is amazing how I am now doing what I love – helping people and being there for them, especially when I go on home visits to those who are sick, lonely, house-bound or in hospitals. Indeed, I am happy to be able to help just one person. It is good enough for me.

Saint Mother Theresa’s attitude of focusing on “one” has inspired me tremendously. **“If you can’t feed a hundred people, then feed just one.”** Just help one person. Just *bring one person* to Christ. Just give your time to one person who is lonely. That is good enough.

So, what is the one thing that you can do to make a difference? Jesus knew the power of one. He has authority to cast out devils and help one person at a time. Jesus taught *as one with authority*... (Mk 1:21). He goes after the one lost sheep, leaving the ninety-nine. His love, power and authority to save makes all the difference to us. While Jesus was explaining the parable of the lost sheep, He said in Luke 15:7: “Likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.” To be accepted by God as a child, you have to come to Jesus in humility to know we are sinners, but redeemed by his love and mercy. Even today, that one sinner does more to gladden the heart of the Father in Heaven than the 99 just persons. That’s the *power of one*, and Jesus knows it. Do I?

The evil spirit wanted to intimidate Jesus: **“I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”** Jesus rebuked him and said, **“Quiet! Come out of him!”** Real authority is always quiet and efficacious that carries an aura of obedience and power to effect change in others. His influence is beyond

## Strength of Christ

**+** What do I tell myself everyday? That I should never feel helpless because Jesus is within me. A person of strength and of promise. Jesus tells us, “I am in control.” He is command – give all your problems to him.

How much do we believe and trust every word that comes from him?

Jesus is not authoritarian like us humans. He does not bully. He uses his strength and power to drive out our fear. He is there to serve, not to be served. That alone is amazing.

With a word of faith and confidence in the strength of Christ, we can command all the negative things. Patience in waiting for an answer, hope of relief from discomfort, courage and energy to face whatever has beaten you down.

Today’s gospel teaches us about Jesus’ authority to love and to lead. In Jesus you are strong and all your sinful habits are insignificant. He brings us true freedom from all evil things as goodness is stronger than evil.

**Fr Gerry Keane, SJ**



**Sunday 28 January 2018**

**Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

**Monday 29 January 2018**

Liturgy of the Day

**Tuesday 30 January**

Liturgy of the Day

**Wednesday 31 January**

St John Bosco

**Thursday 1 January**

Liturgy of the Day

**Friday 2 January**

The Presentation of the Lord

**Saturday 3 January**

St Blaise

Liturgy of the Day

**Sunday 4 January**

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

this world —the invisible realm, which is more significant than the visible one.

So, as you chart your steps with the goals you have set for yourself, I ask you: “What is **one thing** you like to do to make a difference in the parish of St Ignatius?” Perhaps say hello to someone new, to make them feel at home here. **Make one new friend** or bring one friend to church next Sunday. You have the power to change lives.

Are you wailing that you are the only one in your family who follows Jesus? Are you the only one at your workplace who wants to be a follower of Christ? Are you the only one in your trade who settles for reasonable profit because of your status as a redeemed child of God? Don’t worry for when you are with Jesus, you are in a majority. “If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31).

**Fr Colin Tan, SJ**

## PARISH NEWS

### SPECIAL MASS FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE SICK

with the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is on Saturday, 10 February at 2.30pm. Confessions from 2.00pm. Registration forms at the Place of Gathering.

### FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Friday 2 February. Candles will be blessed at the 7.00am Mass and at the First Friday, 8.00pm Mass. Please place your labelled candles on the table at the Place of Gathering, and remember to collect them after Mass.

### FIRST FRIDAY- SACRED HEART OF JESUS MASS

Friday 2 February, 8.00pm  
Please note that there will be NO 6.00pm Mass. Come with family and friends to renew your consecration to the Heart of Jesus. All are welcome.

### FEAST OF ST BLAISE

Saturday, 3 February. Blessing of the throat at 7.00am Mass.

You can drop last year's **PALM LEAVES** in the basket near the Vestry. Last day of collection is on Sunday 11 February.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR COLUMBARIUM NICHE APPLICANTS

Parishioners who have booked:

\* family niche number: PM 0510, PM 0517, AB 0356 and JB 0252

\* community niche number: PM0145

\* memorial plaque number: AB 0746

Please contact Angela at church office 6466 0625 or email [administrator@stignatius.org.sg](mailto:administrator@stignatius.org.sg) as soon as possible for information required.

### SECURITY AND SAFETY

As the church is packed beyond capacity at all weekend Masses, it is important to keep ALL EXITS clear to facilitate evacuation in an emergency. We seek your cooperation to not block exits and to heed the greeters' instructions for the sake of everyone's safety.

### WANTED: MEN'S CLOTHES

Our parish's Society of St Vincent De Paul is asking for donations of men's clothes for migrant workers at Little India. Shirts/T-shirts: Asian Sizes S, M and L; Pants waist sizes 27-36 inches. Place donations in boxes outside Room 01-13 (beside St Ignatius Hall, Annex Building). Enquiries: Magdalene at 9152 8227.

### INFANT BAPTISMS

on Sunday, 11 February at 3.00pm. Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing on Sunday, 4 February, 3pm at La Storta Room.

Registration forms at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child. Contact Anthony (9815 9889) & Mariana Heng (9270 8213) or Christie (9682 7999) & Maria Rozario (9009 6036).

### WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Catechetical sessions for 2018 begin next weekend, Saturday 3/Sunday 4, February.

### WEDNESDAY WONDERERS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

previews part 2 of Jeff Cavins' "Wisdom: God's Vision for Life" on January 31. Also begins new WordOnFire study with Bishop Barron on "David the King" from February 7. 9.45 am to 12.00 noon, Room SH-F. SMS Vivienne @9785 2268 or Josephine @8183 2273.

### LISTENING TO GOD BIBLE STUDY GROUP

resumes on Saturday, 3 February, from 1.30 – 3.00 pm. Come join us for Jeff Cavins' The Bible Timeline which takes us on an adventure through the Old and New Testaments bringing alive the many familiar people, places and events in salvation history. Contact: Elaine (9679 2876) or Juliana (9739 7088).

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

All are welcome as we sing songs of Praise and Worship to our Lord, God and Saviour. Followed by Intercessory Prayers, with our CRC community interceding for the needs of our loved ones, our Parish, the greater community of God's people, and the world. This Wednesday 31 January, at St Ignatius Hall. Start at 7.30pm with fellowship dinner and end at 9.30pm.

### RIP NEWS- RISEN IN THE LORD

Susann Ang Beng Suan – 72 years old  
Date of death: 20 January 2018

Paul Leung Hun Ping – 91 years old

Date of death: 25 January 2018

## NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

### ZONE A DISTRICT 1 & 3

Saturday 3 February, 7.00pm, Beverly Hill Condo Clubhouse  
Programme: CNY 'Lo Hei' Fellowship

### ZONE B DISTRICT 3

Friday 23 February, Temasek Club, Grand Dragon  
Phoenix Restaurant  
Programme: CNY Celebration/Fellowship Dinner

### ZONE D DISTRICT 2

Wednesday 7 February, 7.30pm, #02-06  
Programme: The Parables of Jesus

Fr Colin Tan, 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

# God

**The other day**, out of the blue, a particular episode from my teenage years surfaced in my mind, almost in HD quality. I was 14, maybe 15. I noticed that as soon as class had ended, the prettiest girl in my catechism year was walking straight in my direction.

I started to feel nervous – my hands were fidgety and my throat was slowly drying up.

“Keith, can I talk to you for a while? There’s something very important I need to tell you.”

Without saying a word, I nodded. Quite profusely. I followed her lead to an empty room nearby, away from the shocked gang of smarty-pants I normally sat with.

If my nerves were slowly turning to excitement at the unknown, they soon turned to disappointment and sadness. “Keith, I know why you don’t have a girlfriend.” That certainly wasn’t what I was expecting. “It’s because ... your voice gets very high-pitched when you’re excited. You almost sound like a girl. It’s not very macho, you know?”

Dumbfounded and at a loss for words, I nodded some more, this time much slower. “Also, you’re too skinny. You need to bulk up. Girls don’t like skinny guys. Just thought I should tell you that.”

For the few days that followed, I replayed that encounter over and over again in my head. I analysed each and every word, time and again, to ensure I got what she truly meant. I wrestled with myself as I discerned whether she was right or not.

Thankfully, I didn’t embark on some transformation to become a more macho version of myself, the version perhaps she preferred. You see, a conversation was happening within me. A conversation with myself, and also a conversation with God. I

asked God if He thought the same way about me. That I’m not likeable because my voice gets high-pitched every now and then, or because I’m skinny. I didn’t know it then, but I was listening intently to what God had to say. The sense I got was that He liked me as I am. With the voice and body He gave me. And that some people will like me as I am, while others won’t. But what matters is that He likes me as I am.

I share this story because I realise that this episode might be one of the earliest times I sensed God speaking to me. It wasn’t in a big or dramatic way, or with a loud, booming voice. It wasn’t even external.

As a result of consulting God for His opinion and being satisfied with His soft, gentle response that welled up from within, I started to converse with Him more. It began with important concerns to a teenager, like identity or whether I was likeable. Many years on, I’m glad Jesus is still very much accessible within. I’m glad I can converse and confide in Him in every matter, life-changing or seemingly trivial, too. It certainly helps that every word that has come from Him has been a word of life. Words genuinely for my greater good. The occasional chuckle and laugh we share too are extremely enjoyable.

In an era where fake news is so prevalent, I feel immensely consoled at this Good News – that God is truly with me, and within me. And that He loves me as I am.

All this said, I think the above is a good illustration in showing how God can transform anything to good, even hurtful or negative experiences. He is in them as much as the loving or positive experiences, we just need to find Him in them.

Oh, and God was very much right. As my recent history has shown, some do like skinny guys, and the ability to speak in a high-pitch makes for a more versatile, entertaining actor and comic. For God’s greater glory, no less.

**KEITH NEUBRONNER**

## JESUIT NEWS

### HOME COMING – A LENTEN SOJOURN

In the words of Pope Francis, Lent "is a beneficial time of pruning from falsity, worldliness, indifference. It's a time to rediscover one's Christian identity." This Lent, Jesus wants to invite you on a journey home to God's love. Jesus is knocking... will you open your door? Dates & Times: Friday, 2 March (7.30pm) - Sunday, 4 March 2018 (4pm)  
Facilitators: Fr Greg Tan, SJ & Lance Ng

Contribution: \$260 (non-AC), \$300 (AC)  
Register: <http://tinyurl.com/hals2018>

### 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 Jerome Leon, 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 Leslie Raj, 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

### WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE

All are invited to celebrate and pray for people of the consecrated life on the World Day of Consecrated Life. Mass at 6.30pm, Friday 2 February at St Alphonsus (Novena) Church. There will be a tour before and dinner reception after mass.

### A LOVE LIKE THIS—*An Acoustic Journey To What Love Really Means*

Date: Saturday, 10 February

Time: 6.30pm-9.30pm

Venue: Crossings Cafe, The Catholic Centre (#01-01, 55 Waterloo Street, S187954)

Tickets: \$20 with buffet dinner

Enquiries: [cfcfcsingapore.wixsite.com/alovelikethis](http://cfcfcsingapore.wixsite.com/alovelikethis)

RSVP: [www.facebook.com/events/540195666341547](http://www.facebook.com/events/540195666341547)

### ONE DAY

Date: Saturday, 10 February,

Time: 1.30pm-4pm

Venue: Catholic Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland Road, S549102  
ONE Day introduces the work of ONE (Office of New Evangelisation) to potential collaborators to explore how YOU can contribute to the work of New Evangelisation. Visit: [www.one.org.sg/events](http://www.one.org.sg/events)

### UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS

9-11 February

Weekend retreat to help you understand the different aspects of human sexuality from a developmental perspective, and how sexuality helps us grow in self-intimacy, intimacy with others, God and creation. Open to all and highly recommended for young dating couples. Facilitated by Sr Linda Lizada, rc;

Venue: Choice Retreat House, 47 Jurong West Street 42, S649368

Contact: [cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com](mailto:cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com); Tel. 6565 2895; 9722 3148; online registration: [www.cenaclemission.com](http://www.cenaclemission.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,  
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  
**Eucharistic Adoration  
by Generation CHRIST!**

#### Children Eucharistic Adoration

Every 3rd Friday, 7.45pm

#### Memorial Mass

Every 4th Friday, 6.00pm