CATHOLIC CHURCH of **St Ignatius**

Who is my Neighbour?

ne of our parish priorities is "communion". It emphasizes the importance of developing and sustaining community and building relationships. After all, the Church is a community made up of followers of Jesus, sharing in the same journey, mission and destiny. In alignment with this priority, our new parish priest, Fr Colin, with the assistance of many dedicated parishioners are already organizing events and activities to make our community more welcoming, and with the hope of fostering a greater sense of belonging among members of our church. The larger church community is also founded on the strengths of her smaller communities, such as the different ministries and faith-sharing groups, forming the "building blocks" of the parish.

I have the privilege of being the spiritual guide to a collection of these smaller groups in St Ignatius, the Neighbourhood Christian Communities (NCCs). Each NCC is a "small but inclusive group of Christian disciples sharing faith and life, and belonging to a particular neighbourhood". Members generally meet once a month for some form of activity geared towards the enrichment of their faith lives, such as prayer, bible study or spiritual formation. Over the past months, I have been visiting these localized communities, breaking bread with them, sharing their company and listening to their joys, hopes and the challenges. The seven NCCs I have visited so far show great resil-

Parish Priest Assistant Parish Priests	Fr Colin Tan, SJ Fr Matthew Tan, SJ
	Fr Jerome Leon, SJ
Parish Administrator	Angela Kurnadi
Parish Accountant	
Catechetical Director	
Youth Coordinator	
	Cheryl Lek
	Robert Ong
Operations Manager	
Facilities Manager	
Communications Manager	Therese Gian

ience. Members remain committed to regular gatherings. Although they are associated with St Ignatius parish, these groups exhibit a certain degree of autonomy in taking initiatives in carrying out their mission as NCCs.

But what make these NCCs and other small communities and ministries stable and strong? Perhaps a general answer to this question is that it has to be rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ. More specifically, members from strong communities know that they are not merely "doing" Christianity, but are called to be disciples of Christ. The extreme secular mindset has instilled in many of us that life is but a series of tasks to perform. That same mindset has also convinced us that success and failure are measured in numbers – the more we have and do, the more successful we are!

However, the life of any faith group cannot merely be task-oriented and focused on achieving numbers. The strength of a NCC or similar small community is not measured by the size of its membership, or the intensity of its meetings and sessions. In my opinion, the health of a Christian community is reflected in the concern and care members show one another. I learned from one group that members took it upon themselves to bring Holy Communion to people who are ill and cannot attend masses. Another group shared that members would organize meetings at the residences of the homebound so that they could be included. Others would offer comforting words and helping hands to those grieving the loss of loved ones.

The strength of NCCs and other Christian communities does not come merely from activities, but is realized in how members live out their fundamental Christian calling – loving God and loving others. Thus, a viable Neighbourhood Christian Community and similar groups are not founded upon an understanding of neighbours as people who live within the same vicinity, but on the scriptural definition



Sunday 4 February 2018 Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7 2nd Reading: 1Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

> Monday 5 February 2018 St Agatha

Tuesday 6 February St Paul Miki SJ and Companions, Martyrs of Japan

> Wednesday 7 February Liturgy of the Day

Thursday 8 February Liturgy of the Day

Friday 9 February Liturgy of the Day

Saturday 10 February St Scholastica

Sunday 11 February Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

of being neighbours. In the *Parable of the Good Samaritan* (Luke 10:25-37), Jesus intimated that a neighbour is one who shows kindness and mercy even to strangers. Then how much more care and love would a person with the same disposition show to members of his or her community?

Pope Francis, in *Evangelii Gaudium*, has reiterated the importance of "basic and small communities," such as NCCs, for they are not only a "source of enrichment and renewal for the Church", but also "bring a new evangelizing fervour and a new capacity for dialogue with the world." Indeed, the way we live as community, expressing our love for one another, whether within our small groups or our larger parish family, is an authentic way of bearing witness to Christ's Gospel. So be good neighbours to each other!

Please contact me if you belong to a NCC that I have yet to visit. I want to get to know you! If you are thinking of starting a NCC or a small community, please contact me. I like to hear from you.

Fr Jerome Leon, SJ

PARISH NEWS

THEMATIC MASSES

Starting February 2018, every first Sunday of each month; 8.15am – Children's Mass

12.15pm – Youth Mass

6.00pm – Family Mass

So as to encourage greater participation of the children, the youth and the families in our Liturgy so that they can take ownership of the mass and make themselves and all others feel at home in St Ignatius Church.

GLUTEN FREE

The parish is looking into ways to accommodate people with gluten intolerance who cannot receive wheatbased communion wafers. To help us with planning, we invite parishioners who are gluten intolerant to leave their contact details at the help desk or parish office.

SUNDAY CANTEEN is open this Sunday from 9am to 12noon. All are welcome.

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.

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

DISPENSATION FROM FAST & ABSTINENCE

Due to the Lunar New Year festivities on Friday 16 February, you will not need to fast and abstain from eating meat. However, fasting and abstinence will be observed as usual on Ash Wednesday 14 February.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR CHILDREN

Friday, 9 February, 7:45–9 pm

Calling children, parents and grandparents! Come as family to adore Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Sing hymns, pray the Rosary, offer intercessory prayers, and spend an intimate hour with Our Lord.

COMMUNITY FAIR of the German Speaking Catholic Community St Elizabeth is next Saturday 10 February, from 3.00pm to 8.00pm, at GESS Junior School Campus, 300 Jurong Kechil, Singapore 598668.

LLOTG 2018 PROGRAM FOR K1 AND K2 begins from Saturday 24 February. K1 4.00pm to 5.30pm and K2 1.30pm to 3.00pm

WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Parents, youths and children are reminded that 2018 catechetical sessions begin this weekend, Saturday 3/ Sunday 4, February.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

A Eucharistic Celebration of our community's 39th Anniversary, with Fr Colin Tan SJ as celebrant. In Thanksgiving of God's many blessings and gift of His CURRENT OF GRACE to all of us. All are welcome this Wednesday, 7 February at St Ignatius Hall. Start at 7.30pm with Praise & Worship, Mass at 7.50pm, followed by fellowship until 9.30pm.

BIBLE STUDY ON ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Conducted by Msgr Ambrose Vaz Come, enjoy the Living Word of God. 22 February to 31 May, every Thursday from 8.00pm to 10.00pm at the Church of St Ignatius, Annexe Hall, level 2. No preregistration, all are welcome. For more information, email: henrythwu@gmail.com

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 as soon as possible for information required.

CALL FOR AV TECHS

Help provide a beautiful and meaningful Mass experience for all at the main Church Hall, with sound system and Live feed at the Place of Gathering and occasionally at La Storta room. Our Communications Ministry needs volunteers aged 16 and above for the role of Audio-Visual Technicians for Saturday 6pm Sunset Mass, and Sunday masses at 8.15am, 10.15am and 6pm. Volunteers should have a strong interest in AV media, experience in a school's AV Club, or tertiary studies in Mass Communications. Sign up at the AV console with David Saw or Andrew Lee, after each Mass. Training and equipment familiarisation will be provided. The benefits you gain:

- 1. A deeper knowledge of Ordinary Sunday Masses and the different Mass Order Settings like, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday, Christmas, and Masses lead by His Grace, the Archbishop.
- 2. Learn workings and connections with IT, Sound Board, Switch Board and Recording systems, which can also be used at your workplace, school and home.

RIP NEWS- RISEN IN THE LORD

May Chan Ying Leng – 91 years old Date of death: 28 January 2018

NCC NEWS

ZONE B DISTRICT 1

Tuesday, 6 February, 8.00pm, SH-E Programme: Prayer The Rosary and DVD screening of The Bible Timelines & Fellowship

ZONE D DISTRICT 2

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





T was naked and you clothed me

hen the appeal for men's clothes for migrant workers went out, the response by our parishioners was immediate and generous. Bags upon bags, and even boxes, started showing up in the donation boxes outside the SSVP Room at the Annex Building.

SSVP members started sorting the donated clothes so that by Friday, 26 January, members and volunteers could load them into a few cars to be transported to Dunlop Street, Little India, for the monthly distribution of fresh fruits, toiletries and foodstuff. It was pouring rain when the cars were loaded at 5pm, and we prayed, and the Lord blessed us with clear sky when the distribution at Little India started at 6.30pm.

The beneficiaries include SP (Special Pass) migrant workers, foreign workers who are injured and/or jobless, and foreign workers whose claims of nonpayment, workplace injuries or exploitative agents are under investigation by the Singapore authorities.

Despite their difficult situation, they came, queued orderly, and waited patiently for their turn to select the donated clothes, and taking only what they could wear. We could sense their joy and gratitude in receiving the gift of clothes and shoes.

One face encapsulated that gratitude and joy. A pair of shoes that fitted to the T.

One team member shared, "I feel that the time spent by us in collecting clothes for donation is a time when we are saying 'yes' to God that we want to follow Him."

There is so much all of us can do, when parishioners rally so promptly and generously to the needs of the Poor and foreigner among us. Thank you all in our parish family for your goodwill.

If you're interested in this outreach to Migrant Workers — sorting and packing the donated items or the distribution and interaction with migrant workers, contact Magdalene at 9152 8227. The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God. (LEVITICUS 19:34)



Thank you parishioners, your generous gift of men's clothes is much appreciated.



• JESUIT NEWS

HOMECOMING – 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 and 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

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

OFFICIAL MESSAGING APP CHANNEL FOR CATHOLICS IN SG BODY

Catholics can now receive direct information from the Church on Security and safety notices, advisory on dubious and fake news, days of obligation, and Important Church content. Go to www. telegram.catholic.sg for information. To install the app search for "CatholicSG" in the TELEGRAM App.

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; Tel. 6565 2895; 9722 3148; online registration: www.cenaclemission.com

A LOVE LIKE THIS—An Acoustic Journey

To What Love Really Means Saturday, 10 February, 6.30pm-9.30pm Venue: Crossings Cafe, The Catholic Centre Tickets: \$20 with buffet dinner Enquiries: cfcyfcsingapore.wixsite.com/ alovelikethis RSVP: www.facebook.com/events/ 540195666341547

ONE DAY

Saturday, 10 February, 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

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, 8.00pm (No 6.00pm Mass) Followed by Eucharistic Adoration by Generation CHRIST!

Children Eucharistic Adoration Every 3rd Friday, 7.45pm

Memorial Mass Every 4th Friday, 6.00pm, followed by prayers in Columbarium