



A Heart For Giving

When Ferdinand Marcos fell from power during the People's Power Revolution in the Philippines in 1986, one of the most infamous finds when protestors entered Malacanang Palace, was a huge collection of shoes in Imelda's wardrobe. "I did not have three thousand pairs of shoes, I had one thousand and sixty." Imelda Marcos was reputed to have said. What a contrast when there were countless Filipino poor living in the streets with nothing to eat!

That bit of history came to mind when I think of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving in Lent: "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." (John 3:11)

Could one just pray and fast, and find oneself adequate in growing closer to God in Lent? Prayer and fasting could be directed towards the self, whereas almsgiving moves the person towards others, especially those with less.

We find in the Book of Leviticus stipulations on the duty towards the poor of the society: "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Lord your God." (Leviticus 19:9-10)

This duty to charity continued to be reiterated by prophets like Isaiah: "Feed the hungry! Help those in trouble! Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you

shall be as bright as day. And the Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy you with all good things, and keep you healthy too; and you will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring." (Isaiah 58:10-11)

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving call us to a movement of detachment from the things of this world towards the things that endure — things of God. Prayer is directed to God. Fasting draws a hunger that reminds us of God, and almsgiving allows us to emulate God in His providence.

St Ignatius of Loyola has a maxim: "Love is shown more in deed than in words." And Jesus says: "Come, follow me"... in my ways — an imperative for us Christians to have space

in our hearts for the poor as much as we exercise the disciplines of prayer and fasting during Lent. Practices instituted by Jesus himself (Matthew 6) with instructions not to parade these for praises.

This Lent, let us have a heart that gives.

Fr Matthew Tan, SJ

Parish Priest	Fr Colin Tan, 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

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REFLECTION

A Protective God

+ Why do we always find it so difficult to understand Jesus? His teaching takes route to nowhere, not even among his followers who do not understand his "authority".

Christ was kind to most people, often speaking to the poor and uneducated because leaders misused religion for wrong purposes. The gospel teaches us that God protects and always keeps us safe, even when we fail to live our faith as we should. He interferes in our belief, even if we do not know or appreciate it. We are called to be loving, kind and gentle, despite negative things affecting us.

Jesus' act of cleaning the temple reveals the fulfillment of his identity and mission. Two messages. One, the temple is his body. "Kill me and I will rise again." A new temple, and a new way of living. Two, God loves you. Simple, just love Him back. Let us recall the greatest and first commandment. That is love – a love that flows from God to you, from you to your neighbor, and not just to one but all, and from your neighbor back to God.

Fr Gerry Keane, SJ

PARISH NEWS

LENT BOARDS

Lent is a time for prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As a sign of your commitment, you may use the materials provided at the Place of Gathering to post your penitential intentions.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Church of St Ignatius: Monday 19 March, 8.00pm at the main Church. As this is a communal celebration, we invite all to remain for the closing prayer and blessing at 9.30pm.

LENTEN FISH FRY DINNER

All are welcome for food, fellowship and fun at our 7th annual Lenten Fish Fry Dinner on Friday, 23 March.

Time: 6.30 - 8pm

Place: Church of St. Ignatius, Sacred Heart Hall canteen. \$15 per ticket / \$12 for ages 9 and below. Due to limited seats, tickets must be pre-purchased.

Tickets at: **Parish Office** (6466 0625) weekdays from this Monday 26 February, **after Sunday Masses** on 11 and 18 March, and **after CCD classes** on Tuesday and Thursday 13 and 15 March.

Buffet dinner by Hoe Brothers Catering featuring fried and baked fish, french fries, mashed potatoes, salad, steamed broccoli, brownies, apple crumble and drinks.

SOLI DEO GLORIA (SDG) CHORALE is singing for the Easter Vigil mass on 31 March and are inviting parishioners to join them. Rehearsals are Sunday 11 March, 2.30pm to 5.30pm; and 4, 18 and 25 March, 2.30pm to 4pm. Sign up with Kelvin John Lim at 9029 4465 or email at kelvinjohnlim77@gmail.com

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

Liturgy of the Word for Children allows children to hear the Word of God in age-appropriately adapted Gospel readings. Each session requires 2 Proclaimers (to proclaim and share) and 4 to 6 Supporters (to assist and guide). We are calling all parents, grandparents and anyone who would like to share the Gospel with children aged 3 to 10. If you are interested in helping, please leave your contact at the Help Desk at the Place of Gathering.

WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Please note that there will be **NO CATECHETICAL SESSIONS** on the next two weekends (Saturday 10/Sunday 11 and Saturday 17/Sunday 18 March) due to the Term 1 break. Sessions will resume on Sat 24/Sun 25 March.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

All are welcome for an evening of intercessory prayer. Prayer is the most powerful weapon against trials, the most effective medicine against sickness, and the most valuable gift to someone. This Wednesday March 7, at St Ignatius Hall. Start at 7.30pm with Fellowship Dinner and end at 9.30pm.

CONNECTIONS! by Magis Family Ministry

All families are invited to spend a fun-filled Saturday morning with us at CONNECTIONS! Come to Play-and-Pray and share,

Lent/Easter 2018

THE RECONCILING COMMUNITY

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent from 23 February to 23 March. After 7.00am Mass and 30 minutes before 6.00pm Mass and the first Friday 8.00pm Mass

Eucharistic Adoration for Children

Friday, 16 March, 7.45pm

Fish Fry Friday

23 March, 6.15pm
Sacred Heart Hall canteen

Lenten Talks 7.45pm – 9.30pm

Thursday, 8 March

Speaker: Fr Colin Tan SJ

Topic: **The Wounded Self:** How God Heals and Transforms Us — From Fear to Faith!

Thursday, 15 March

Speaker: Jennifer Yeo

Topic: **Encountering God** in Suffering and Illness — A Personal Testimony

Thursday, 22 March

Speakers: Dr Colin Ong,

Dr Philip Yap and Dr James Low

Topic: **The Road We Travel:** Making Decisions at the End-of-Life in the Light of Faith

Penitential Service

Monday, 8.00pm, 19 March
Church of St Ignatius

HOLY WEEK MASSES

Palm Sunday of The Lord's Passion with the blessing of Palms on Saturday, 24 March, 6.00pm. Sunday, 25 March, 6.45am 8.15am (with Children's procession) 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

LENTEN TRIDUUM

PREPARATION FOR EASTER

Holy Thursday Mass of

The Lord's Supper

29 March, 7.30pm

Reposition and Adoration of

the Blessed Sacrament till midnight.

Pilgrimage of Light for Youth and Young Adults at 8.30pm

11.00pm – 12midnight

Tenebrae

The Hour of Holy Darkness

Good Friday of

The Lord's Passion

30 March (NO 7.00am and 6.00pm Masses)

7.00am – 8.00am

Prayers and Meditation

Theme: **A Bruised Reed**

Bending in the Wind

Stations of the Cross at 9.00am

Good Friday Liturgy 12noon, 3.00pm and 6.00pm

Holy Saturday

31 March (NO 7.00am and 6.00pm Masses)

7.00am – 8.00am

Prayers and Meditation

Theme: **The Tomb of**

Life and Hope

Easter Vigil with Mass and RCIA baptism at 8.00pm

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION

(NO Confessions) 1 April 6.45am, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

Novena to The Divine Mercy

Friday, 30 March at 10.15am,

Saturday, 31 March and

Sunday, 1 April at 3.00pm

at St Ignatius Hall

Monday, 2 April to Thursday,

5 April after 6.00pm Mass

Friday, 6 April at 7.15pm

Saturday, 7 April at 3.00pm

FEAST OF THE

DIVINE MERCY

Sunday, 8 April 12.15pm Mass

All petitions will be offered at this Mass.

All activities are at the main Church unless stated otherwise.

trust and connect with your loved ones in new ways. Be part of our first CONNECTIONS! event!

Date: 10 March 2018

Time: 9 am to 1 pm (lunch served after)

Registration: 8 am onwards together with potluck breakfast

Venue: St Ignatius Hall

Sign up quickly as spaces are limited to 40 families. Please register at the QR code or at <https://tinyurl.com/y96dnaz8>



OPEN

Hands & Hearts

Social Apostolate of St Ignatius launches Match-the-Needs

What is life like for the poor, living in 1-room rental HDB flats? Can they find hope in a helping hand? How can we help?

Starting this Lent, our parish's Social Apostolate Team has launched a Match-the-Needs List where donors go to the list to see what is needed and how they can help. Just go to https://form.jotform.co/SMT_StIg/match-the-needs and indicate what and how you can donate or contribute. A Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) member from our parish will then get in touch with you.

The beneficiaries are residents of 1-room flats in Red Hill. The aim of this initiative is to bring their simple needs to the awareness of our parish family and the wider community.

THE SOCIAL APOSTALATE TEAM

Mdm Oh, who suffers from ovarian cancer, is looking after her epileptic husband and two school-going grandchildren. Their adult son, the sole breadwinner, undergoes dialysis. Their family needs to replace soiled mattresses and beddings, and a used laptop for their 16-year-old granddaughter.

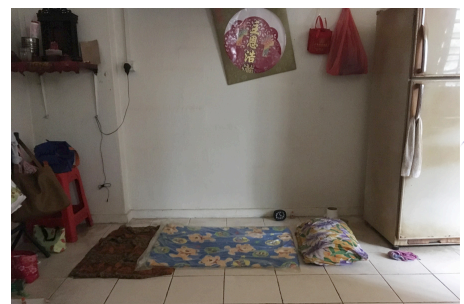


Mr Chan used to share a large fridge with his flatmate, who is currently imprisoned for drug possession. Mr Chan can no longer afford the high cost of running a large fridge and hopes for a small one.



A foldable bed, side cabinet and fan in the corner of a lift lobby has been home to Mdm P for the past 10 years. Her boyfriend's family lives down the hallway, but she is unable to tap into their electricity due to a strained relationship with his children. She needs a new bed frame to help her tide her through the night.

Mr See suffers from mental instability and his sister has been sleeping on the floor while he takes her bed. SSVP's Milk and Diapers Project provides adult diapers for Mr See.



PARISH NEWS

FILIPINO LEGION OF MARY BIBLE GROUP invites all Filipinos to join them on a journey to learn more about the "God of Freedom and Life", A new bible study course on the Book of Exodus. Every second Sunday of the month, from 11 March, 2.00pm. Contact Lily Caguig at 9680 8306.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Easter program April 4 to May 23
Jeff Cavins' "Wisdom: God's Vision for Life". 9.45am to 12noon. We are taking orders for the journals this week. SMS Viv @9785 2268 or Jo @8183 2273.

RIP NEWS- RISEN IN THE LORD
Palmira Augusta Alves Nabi- 99 years old
Date of death: 25 February 2018

NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

ZONE A DISTRICT 1
Wednesday 14 March, SH-02-E
Programme: "Who Am I to Judge? - by Edward Sri. Session 5 - Engaging Moral Relativism

ZONE A DISTRICT 3
Wednesday, 14 March, # 02-06

Programme : The Bible and the Virgin Mary - Lesson 4: The New Eve

ZONE B DISTRICT 1
Tuesday, 6 March, SH-E
Programme: Stations of the Cross/
Discussion/Fellowship

ZONE D DISTRICT 2
Wednesday 7 March, 7.30pm, #02-06
Programme: The Parables of Jesus

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD
Pope Francis has invited each diocese to dedicate "24 Hours for the Lord" where at least one church will be open for 24 hours, offering both Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Hourly reflections will guide you to encounter Jesus Christ.
Date & Time: From Friday 9 March, 6pm, until Saturday 10 March, 6pm
Venue: Cathedral of the Good Shepherd
The lights are kept on for you. Come home.

CRUCIS SINGAPURA ON 17 MARCH
Jesus Youth ("An International Catholic Lay Movement Approved by the Holy See"), invites you to Crucis Singapura - a unique Way of the Cross prayed while walking

barefoot across the island marking the sign of the Cross. Participants will walk across 8 pre-defined routes, the longest is 20km and shortest 3 km. Register to receive a confirmation email. Go to www.singapore.jesuyouth.org to register before 7 March or call Nobin Jose (9092 2091).

5 LOAVES + 2 FISH
Crossings Café invites you to participate in their 2018 Lenten Project - 5 Loaves + 2 Fish (5L2F). Visit Crossings for a meal, and donate \$5 towards the Catholic Welfare Services Night Missions. Crossings will also donate part of their Lenten takings, and together we will offer baskets full of loaves and fish to the homeless. Information: Crossings at 6338 2669.

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 elderly and homebound
Please contact the parish office
if help is needed for parishioners
hospitalised (regardless of hospital).
In emergencies, 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 Friday 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