



We have found the

Messiah

There are some things in life that we tend to take for granted. The obvious ones – like having enough food, water, clean air, clear skies and even good health. We know however, that there are many people in the world who do not have what we have, not even the basics to survive on. Another item that we tend to overlook is a belief in God.

I was visiting Thailand once when I was a bit lost and asked for directions from a lady. After a brief conversation when she realised that I was a Christian, she asked, “**Do you believe in God?**” What had struck me was her sincerity in asking that question. It was not that she was being difficult or cynical about my faith. I proceeded to explain to her, “Yes, I believe there is a God. This God has been made known to us by Jesus Christ who tells us that God loves us, and all that we have, all comes from God. God wants us to be happy with him.”

The reality is that there are many people who still do not believe in God and do not know God. Faith in God cannot be taken for granted. The Gospel for this week points to the story of the two disciples who recognised Jesus as the Lamb of God and Jesus who invited them to “come and see” when they asked him where he lived. It was Andrew who then announced to his brother, Simon, “**We have found the Messiah.**”

The natural response of anyone who has found something precious and good is to share it with others. Singaporeans are so well known for their culinary exploits and love for good food, that there is no shortage of people sharing with others where to get the best chicken rice, the best *char kway teow*, or the best laksa.

If we can share food that lasts a day, could we not share with others, that we have found the Messiah, the Christ who gives us the most precious food – the bread of eternal life that has come from Heaven!

This is the most meaningful thing that will make us happy and give us the joy of sharing the Gospel and following Jesus in his humility and humane spirit revealed at his baptism in last week’s readings. Pope Francis tells us: “**Baptism is the best gift we have received. Through it, we belong to God and we possess the joy of salvation.**” (Baptism of Our Lord, 13 January, 2019).

To have found the Messiah is to possess the joy of salvation. We must not be afraid to share it with others. Perhaps, this can be your goal or resolution for this New Year – to share the joy of salvation with those who have not yet found the Messiah. Have you found the Messiah? I hope you have, and the joy will be yours!

FR COLIN TAN, SJ

Fr Colin Tan, SJ Parish Priest ★ Fr Jerome Leon, SJ Assistant Parish Priest ★ Fr Ravi Michael Louis, SJ Assistant Parish Priest
Pauline Khoo Parish Administrator ★ Suzie Wee Parish Accountant ★ Gerard Robert Youth Coordinator ★ Natalie Ang Youth Coordinator ★ Susan Thian Catechetical Coordinator
David Saw Operations Manager ★ Steven Leong Facilities Manager ★ Therese Gian Sacristan ★ Chrestella Setiyadi Communications Manager

PARISH NEWS

JANUARY MASS BOOKINGS

Stage 3 of Mass bookings opens on **19 January, 3pm** via myCatholic.sg.

As there are five weekends in January, parishioners will have the opportunity to book up to **TWO weekend Masses** instead of the usual one weekend Mass and up to **FIVE weekday Masses**, subject to availability.

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7.00pm.
WEEKEND MASS: Saturday 4.30pm and 6.00pm
Sunday 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm, 4.30pm and 6.00pm.

Please note that the limited weekday Mass bookings system is currently only on trial in the Church of St Ignatius.

Parking is ONLY at the King's Road basement car park. Go to stignatius.org.sg and our church Telegram channel for updates, guidelines to the resumption of Masses.

COMPULSORY USE OF TRACETOGETHER

All parishioners attending Mass are to use the **TRACETOGETHER** app or token to perform SafeEntry check-ins.

All parishioners must download the **TraceTogether app** OR bring along your tokens for SafeEntry when you arrive for Mass. Please continue to bring your NRIC/Work Permit to verify your Mass booking before you can be admitted to the Church Hall.

Download the TraceTogether App: tracetogether.gov.sg
Collect TraceTogether Token: token.gowhere.gov.sg

WEEKLY SUNDAY REFLECTION with Fr Colin Tan, SJ.
Please go to stignatius.org.sg/home/

YOUNG ADULTS' FORMATION

Calling all young adults! Our new series, "The Joy of Discovery" explores our identity, and the discovery of our gifts and mission. The session dates are 20 January and 3 February, 8.30pm – 10.00pm via Zoom. Sign up at tinyurl.com/joyofdiscovery

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

Join us this Wednesday, 20 January, 8pm in Bible Sharing on Galatians 2:16-21. Together, let us continue to "be more like Christ" and strive to "Make Jesus the Centre of our Lives". Email us at: cpg.cosi@gmail.com for details.

VISITING THE COLUMBARIUM

Our Columbarium is open for visits on Sundays, 9.00am-9.45am, 11.00am-11.45am, and 1.00pm-1.45pm;

and Saturdays, 5.00pm-5.45pm.

For 2021 bookings, please book at bit.ly/stigscolumbarium2021



Only 30 visitors are allowed per session, so please do not visit unless your booking is confirmed by the parish through phone call or WhatsApp. If you need help in booking, please call the church office 6466 0625 (Pauline/Suzie). After office hours, WhatsApp/SMS 9675 6621.

PARISH DIAMOND JUBILEE

Support our 60th Anniversary celebration by buying a commemorative Jubilee t-shirt for yourself and your family. It's a double celebration as our 60th anniversary on 12 February 2021 falls on the first day of Chinese New Year. Be proud to celebrate as one parish by wearing the t-shirt this Jubilee year! The Jubilee t-shirts and umbrellas will be on sale in the confessional room at the Place of Gathering immediately after each weekend mass, or you may go to the church office at any time during office hours to make your purchases.



HOMEMAKERS

The Homemakers are currently **NOT** accepting any donations of second-hand goods during this Covid period. We seek your understanding and cooperation that parishioners do not leave any items at the Homemaker drop-off point outside the staircase at ground floor of Sacred Heart Hall until further notice.

KINGSMEAD CENTRE

Glory to God for 'Dappled Things': A New Year Reflection. As we leave the much-maligned 2020 behind and begin the year 2021 with hope, let us gather in prayer to hear the gentle stirrings from our Lord.

Date: Saturday, 23 January 2021
Venue: Hall of Pilgrim, Kingsmead Centre
Contribution: \$30 per person
Time: 9:30am - 12:30pm
Facilitator: Deacon Stanley Goh, SJ

Register at tinyurl.com/dappled21

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

CATHOLIC200SG: IGNITE AND SHINE WITH FAITH

All Catholics are invited to light a fire in our hearts and to charge up our faith lives as we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Catholic Church in Singapore. The year-long celebration, under the theme of "Ignite and Shine with Faith", invites us to deepen, discern, renew and celebrate our faith as evangelising disciples of Christ.

Come together and pray at the weekly Intercessory sessions every Tuesday at 8pm via Zoom. Register at catholic200.sg/spiritual/#intercession
Offer your prayer requests and pray for others too! catholic200.sg/spiritual/#prayingforeachother

For more information, go to catholic200.sg

CATHOLIC 200 SG PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Your Son commissioned His apostles to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Our founding missionaries left home and country so that we in Singapore may receive the Good News and Your loving salvation. Thank You for this gift of faith, and for all those who laboured to keep it alive and burning these two hundred years.

Lord Jesus, our faith is in danger of becoming irrelevant because of secularism, materialism, individualism and relativism. Grant our communities a renewed missionary zeal and courage to proclaim Your name and Lordship. Send forth Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew Your people with the conviction and courage of our early missionaries. Rekindle our faith so that we can be beacons of light in a world darkened by sin, hopelessness, and ignorance. Protect us from the snares of the evil one and grant us the grace to remain faithful to You.

May our families be models of love and unity; our workplaces be sanctuaries for justice and integrity; truth and charity be taught in our classrooms; parishes live out their mission in communion; the poor, sick, and abandoned see the face of God in us, and may peace and harmony reign among peoples of every race, language and religion in our land.

Blessed Mother, you were the first disciple and evangeliser to announce Jesus as Saviour to the world. Intercede and grant us your maternal guidance and protection as we navigate the uncertain future.

Father, may Your love and grace ignite our hearts and lead us to launch a new era of faith, so that we may once again be a more vibrant, evangelising and missionary Church. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.



ARCHDIOCESAN BIBLICAL APOSTOLATE

How and when was the Bible written, and by whom? What are the key themes of the Bible and how do the Old and New Testaments relate to each other? Why are there more books in the Catholic Bible than the bibles of other Christian communities? Given that the Bible was written thousands of years ago how can I read it to ensure the correct interpretation?

Join us for **Introduction to the Bible** – a two part lecture series via Zoom presented by Helen Chong with a Q&A session at the end of the second lecture hosted by Fr Ferdinand Purnomo, OCD.

Part 1: Friday Evening, 22 January, 8.15 - 9.45pm
Part 2: Saturday Morning, 23 January, 9.00-10.30am
Register at tinyurl.com/y6rhftnf

MY PERSONAL MORAL COMPASS 2021

My Personal Moral Compass (MPMC) is a year-long systematic course in Moral Theology by Rev Fr David Garcia, OP. This course is for people who are interested in formative foundation of Ethics and Moral Theology and is organised by Caritas Singapore.

For more information and registration, please email formation@caritas-singapore.org



MY PERSONAL MORAL COMPASS 2021

Module 1
Who decides what is right or wrong?

21 Jan – 11 Mar (Thursdays)

Sessions are conducted online
Email formation@caritas-singapore.org to sign up
Contribution: \$70.00