



# CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

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**M**any years ago as a Jesuit scholastic in Dublin, Ireland, I had to write a final term paper for a Scripture course, based on the actual words recorded in one of the four gospels. I took on the gospel of Mark which is one of the shorter gospel, recorded all the spoken words of Jesus, and later wrote my reflection on them. If you were to ask me what I had written for that term paper, I have to say, "I cannot remember any of it"! However, the experience of noting and writing down the exact spoken words of Jesus was memorable for me, or what I would call a "Kairos" moment. In Greek "Kairos" means "*the right, critical, or opportune moment*".

Today as we celebrate **Sunday of the Word of God**, we have three readings related to the word "Kairos", where in the 1st reading from the Book of Jonah, the people of Ninevah were called at the *critical moment* to repent from their sinful ways, and they did just that in the nick of time before the imminent disaster. In the 2nd reading from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians, like them, we too are *rightly* reminded that the present world as we know it is fast passing away. Thus, we should focus or set our sight on things that truly matter in life, that is, our faith and trust in Jesus Christ. And in today's gospel, we have the call narrative of the early disciples, which was an *opportune moment* for them to respond to the invitation of God in Jesus. They were called to be the

## Kairos

### The Time has Come

first disciples, to help build up the infant Church, as well as to preach the Good News to all people, based on their personal encounter with the person of Jesus Christ. In short, to share their faith journey and experience of Jesus.

What has this "Kairos", this right, critical or opportune moment have to do with us today as disciples of Jesus Christ? For a start, you may want to select a passage from any of the four gospels, or if you are more ambitious, to take the whole gospel and write down all the spoken words of Jesus. What you need to do next is to reflect on them in the days and weeks ahead, taking a word, phrase or sentence, and allowing those words of Jesus himself to speak directly to you and your heart, as "heart speaks to heart".

Gradually, as you allow the words of Jesus to speak and touch you during your quiet reflection, it will become a "Kairos" moment for you. You will begin to see things differently, not only from your own perspective, but with the eyes of faith and the perspective of Jesus Christ. Knowing what is truly important or essential in your lives, as in the words of the famous French writer and aviator,

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry in his book *The Little Prince*, "What is essential is invisible to the eyes", like love, faith, hope, and charity.

Let me conclude by quoting these words of Jesus found in Mark's gospel today, "**The time has come**", "**and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News**". "**Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men**".

Indeed, the time has come, our "Kairos" moment is here! We are called to live our lives worthy of our Christian vocation. The right, critical and opportune moment has arrived for us to actively participate in the life and mission of Jesus Christ as we begin this New Year 2021, trusting and hoping in the love and providence of God to enable us to be who God wants us to be, beloved children of God, and heralds of the Good News of Jesus Christ, both in words and deeds.

Mindful too that "**The Spirit continues to guide us in our translating the Good News into different contexts, so that the words of Jesus continue to resound in the hearts of men and women in every age.**" (Pope Francis, "Let us Dream", p.45)

FR CHARLES SIM, SJ

## PARISH NEWS

### FEBRUARY MASS BOOKINGS

Mass bookings for February opens on **26 January, 3pm** via [myCatholic.sg](http://myCatholic.sg). Parishioners will be able to book **ONE weekend Mass** and up to **FIVE weekday Masses** at each stage.

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

**Parishioners will be able to book their Chinese New Year and/or Ash Wednesday Mass at this stage and they will count as weekday Mass bookings.** 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](http://stignatius.org.sg) and our church Telegram channel for updates, guidelines to the resumption of Masses.

### CHINESE NEW YEAR MASS TIMINGS

Friday, 12 February: 8.15am\*, 10.15am\*, 7pm.  
\*There will be distribution and blessing of oranges during these Masses.

We'll also be commemorating the dedication of our Church at the 8.15am Mass as part of our Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

### ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMINGS

Wednesday, 17 February: 7.30am, 12.15pm, 7pm.

You can drop off your **OLD PALMS** in the basket outside the vestry room. The last day of collection is Sunday, 14 February.

### FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

There will be **BLESSING OF CANDLES** during the upcoming weekend Masses (30/31 January) and during the weekday Masses of 1, 3, 5 February. Parishioners are to bring their own candles and hold them up for the celebrant to bless during Mass.

### 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: [tracetogogether.gov.sg](http://tracetogogether.gov.sg)  
Collect TraceTogether Token: [token.gowhere.gov.sg](http://token.gowhere.gov.sg)

**WEEKLY SUNDAY REFLECTION** with Fr Colin Tan, SJ. Please go to [stignatius.org.sg/home/](http://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/yafstignatius](http://tinyurl.com/yafstignatius)

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

Join us this Wednesday, 27 January for a sharing on Prophetic Intercession, praying with the Lord's heart, and according to His will and not our own. We start at 8pm. Email us at: [cpg.cosi@gmail.com](mailto:cpg.cosi@gmail.com) for details.

### ROAD TO EMMAUS 2021

Journey on the Road to Emmaus and let the Word of God burn within your hearts (Luke 24:32). This parish-wide Bible program is designed to help us "Break the Word" of the weekend Liturgies to enable us to apply its truth and meaning more deeply in our daily lives. Commencing Monday 25 January, 7.45pm via Zoom and every Monday night thereafter (except during school and public holidays).

Young adults and newcomers are most welcome. Register with The RTE team via email at [road.to.emmaus.st.ignatius@gmail.com](mailto:road.to.emmaus.st.ignatius@gmail.com)

### 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 January bookings, please book at [bit.ly/stigscolumbariumJan2021](http://bit.ly/stigscolumbariumJan2021)  
For February bookings, please book at [bit.ly/stigscolumbariumFeb2021](http://bit.ly/stigscolumbariumFeb2021)  
For February 12 booking, please book at [bit.ly/stigscolumbariumFeb12CNY](http://bit.ly/stigscolumbariumFeb12CNY)

Only 30 visitors are allowed per session. If you need help in booking, please call the church office 6466 0625 (Pauline/Suzie). After office hours, WhatsApp/Telegram/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 in ensuring that parishioners do not leave any item at the Homemaker drop-off point outside the staircase at ground floor of Sacred Heart Hall until further notice.

## JESUIT NEWS



### ORDINATION OF DEACON STANLEY GOH, SJ

Deacon Stanley Goh will be called to the Order of Presbyterate on **Thursday, 28 January 2021, 4pm** by His Grace, Archbishop William Goh.

Join us for the livestream where Deacon Stanley will be ordained into the Priesthood. Let us keep him in prayer, that he may be consecrated and become a true priest, as a living sacrifice to imitate Jesus in His Passion, Death and Resurrection.

Read about Deacon Stanley's vocation story here: <https://stories.catholic.sg/vocation-stories/grace-and-struggle/>

Watch at [tv.catholic.sg](http://tv.catholic.sg) or listen on [radio.catholic.sg](http://radio.catholic.sg)

## 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](http://catholic200.sg/spiritual/#intercession)

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

## CATHOLIC200SG 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.



Offer your prayer requests and pray for others too!  
[catholic200.sg/spiritual/#prayingforeachother](http://catholic200.sg/spiritual/#prayingforeachother)

For more information, go to [catholic200.sg](http://catholic200.sg)

**CBN CAREER COUNSELLING SERVICE** is now available on Zoom. You can have discussions with a trained counsellor on Career exploration, Career planning, Career transitions, Workplace challenges, job search strategies, etc. Call 9111 7325 or email [admin@cbn.sg](mailto:admin@cbn.sg) to register. There will be a nominal charge of \$10 to cover administrative costs.

# Sunday of the Word of God



## What is Sunday of the Word of God?

Sunday of the Word of God was formerly known as Bible Sunday, traditionally celebrated in July every year.

## Does it replace Bible Sunday in July?

Yes, it does. In his Apostolic Letter *Motu Proprio Aperuit Illis* issued in September 2019, Pope Francis establishes the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as Sunday of the Word of God in the Catholic Church.

## What is *Aperuit Illis* about?

As one of the final acts of our risen Lord Jesus Christ before his Ascension to heaven, we are told in Luke 24:45 that "He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures". He then promised to send the Holy

Spirit, who would give strength to the apostles to be witnesses of his saving mystery (C.f. Luke 24:49).

Our Holy Father Pope Francis wants to remind us that the relationship between our Lord Jesus Christ, his Church and sacred scripture is essential to our identity as Christians. We are thus asked to ponder "if the Word of God takes flesh in our heart and in our life?"

## How should we celebrate Sunday of the Word of God?

As a community, we are encouraged to specifically enthrone the sacred text during Mass on this day, to celebrate the Rite of Installation of Lectors or commissioning of Readers, who proclaim the Word of God on this day. We are also encouraged to present the Bible

to the entire assembly as a way of showing the importance of learning how to read, appreciate and pray daily with sacred scripture.

## How can I personally celebrate Sunday of the Word of God?

On a personal level, there are many things that we can do to celebrate this day:

- We can commit to take up the study of the bible by joining one of many bible study programs conducted in our parishes or within the Archdiocese.
- We can make a conscientious commitment to read the Bible or one of the many scriptural based prayer booklets and to reflect upon the word of God.
- We can commit to share our love of the Word of God with others in our community.

For further information please visit; <https://biblicalapostolate.wordpress.com/> or search Singapore Bible Apostolate via Google

