



## The Parish Priest Writes...

**Advent** is both a *beginning* and an *ending*. It embraces the end of the secular calendar and the beginning of the Church's sacred cycle. The Advent season celebrates the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem in the *past*, His ongoing Spirit coming in our *present* and His glorious return at the *end of time*.

It would be good to allow *the graces* of the Advent season to draw us into a *mood of reflection* on our past, the affirmation of our present and the longing for the hope of the Coming of Christ into our lives.

**How has this year been to you?** What are your joys, happiness and moments of deep love for God and the people who mean much to you in your life? Ponder too on the trials and pains that pepper these significant moments. Pray for the graces of peace and hope of the Advent season.



How has this year been to you?



How's your present life?

**How is your present life?** Pause . . . ponder . . . sense . . . affirm the presence of God within you . . . in all that is happening daily . . .

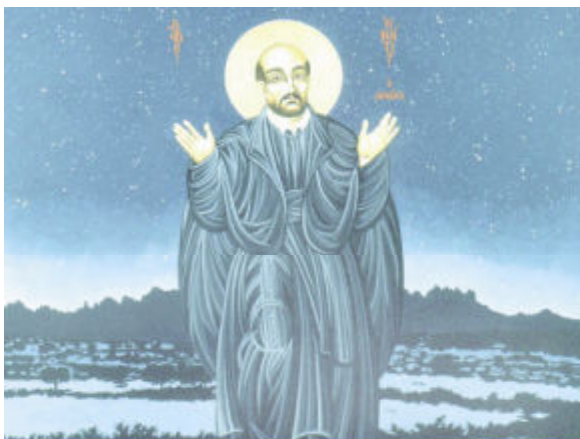
**How would your future be?** Our future is a mystery that God will unfold to us gradually . . . we are called to be at peace in surrendering what is beyond our control to God whom we can trust . . . allow God's peace to permeate your heart and home . . .

**The real hope of Advent** comes when we allow God's peace to take root within us.

*Fr Philip Heng S.J.*



How would your future be?



Parish Priest	:	<b>Fr. Philip Heng, SJ (ext. 12)</b>
Assistant Parish Priest	:	<b>Fr. James Tan, SJ (ext. 18)</b>
Secretary	:	<b>Ms. Rosalind Lee (ext. 10)</b> (Mon – Sat; 9:00AM – 1PM)
Administrator	:	<b>Mr. Chester Sahetapy (ext. 15) *</b>
Pastoral Coordinator	:	<b>Ms. Ellen Tan (ext. 14)</b>
Youth Coordinator	:	<b>Ms. Audrey Seah (ext. 19)</b>

\* Mon – Thurs 9:30AM-5:30PM • Fri 12:00-8:00PM • Sat 8:00AM-12noon



## What's coming up?

### AT THE PLACE OF GATHERING

*Sunday 6 December, 8 am - 1.30 pm:* Sale of handmade gifts - An advent project by the Divine Mercy Prayer Ministry. All proceeds will go to the poor and needy.

*Saturday 12/Sunday 13 December, all Masses:* Christmas sale of beadwork, bookmarks and key rings. All proceeds for the very poor in Kenya, Africa.

### INFANT BAPTISM

on *Sunday 13 December, 4 pm.* Compulsory briefing for parents and Godparents on *6 December, 4 pm.* Registration form at church office or website. Inquiries contact: Chris 9111-1934 and Su-Ann Easton 9690-2495 or Damien 9689-4704 and Corinne Low 9739-8911.

### Generation CHRIST!

ADVENT Special - Eucharistic Adoration for Young Adults, St Francis Xavier Chapel (Kingsmead Hall).

### "LIVING A HOLYSTIC LIFE" on

*Saturday 5 December*

"Christ@Work 2009

is an engaging full-day conference for working adults to be held at Catholic Junior College featuring an overseas keynote speaker Michael Walsh. Visit [www.christatworkconference.com](http://www.christatworkconference.com) for more details."

## Parish News

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL AND PRAYER GROUP

*Wednesday 2 December, 8 pm*

Sharing by Dr Aloysius Soh at St Ignatius Hall, bible sharing on John 18:33-37. Christ the King is Almighty and He is King of the World not over us but for us and with us. All are welcome to come and find out more.

### WEEKEND CATECHISM

CATECHISTS/ASSISTANT CATECHISTS STILL NEEDED

We still short of catechism teachers for weekend classes for 2010. As part of living our Parish Goal, please join the catechetical ministry. We also need around 20 Young adults to serve as facilitators for our Secondary 3 Confirmation Programme.

Please contact :

Lesley Devaser: email [lessgd@yahoo.com.sg](mailto:lessgd@yahoo.com.sg) for a form or information.

## Jesuit news

### SALE OF ANTIQUE FURNITURE AND OTHER VALUABLES

*Saturday 28 November & Sunday 29 November, 10 am-7 pm*

This is fund raising project for the formation of Jesuits and other expenditures.

At the Jesuit Novitiate (Kingsmead Hall).

Please come to the sale this weekend.

### ADVENT VESPERS

#### CELEBRATING THE EVENING PRAYER

*Thursdays 3, 10, 17 December 5.15 – 5.45 pm*

Conducted by Fr Leslie Raj, SJ at Kingsmead Hall.

All are welcome.

### PREPARING FOR THE COMING OF CHRIST

#### ADVENT ONE DAY SILENT RETREAT

*Sunday 13 December; 9 am - 5 pm*

(Closing date: 3 December)

Retreat Director: Fr Ponnudurai, SJ. Contribution: \$30.00

Registration: Centre for Ignatian Spirituality and Counselling – tel: 6467-6072; fax: 6468-7584; email: [cisc2664@gmail.com](mailto:cisc2664@gmail.com) or website: <http://www.catholic.org.sg/cisc>

Have you registered yourself in our Parish Website

@ *stignatius*

...be more connected through our parish website: [www.stignatius.org.sg](http://www.stignatius.org.sg)

## DO YOU KNOW...?

### About our Catholic Faith

#### ADVENT – Its Meaning

The word "**advent**," from the Latin *adventus* (Greek *parousia*), means "coming" or "arrival." The season of Advent is focused on the "**coming**" of **Jesus as Messiah** (Christ or King). Our worship, scripture readings, and prayers not only **prepare us** spiritually for Christmas (his **first coming**), but also for his eventual **second coming**.



The Catholic Catechism describes the worship during Advent succinctly as:

“When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she **makes present** this **ancient expectancy of the Messiah**, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful **renew** their ardent desire for **his second coming**. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease" (524).

The liturgical color for Advent is **violet** (except for the Third Week of Advent, often called *Gaudete Sunday*, in which rose may be used), and the season is somewhat penitential, similar to Lent, although not so explicit and emphatic. The character of worship during Advent is **more solemn, quiet, and less festive** than during other times of the year. In the Catholic Church, for example, the *Gloria in Excelsis* is not used. The use of violet reflects the general themes of **Advent: penitence** (generally expressed more in terms of expectant hope) and **royalty**. Some prominent feasts fall within the Season of Advent, including the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Christmas is not meant to be an isolated day. Christmas is only properly understood after having the preparation provided by Advent. In the midst of the secular excesses leading up to Christmas, Advent provides a welcome solace and an opportunity to continually **re-orient** ourselves to God's will as we expectantly wait with patriarchs, prophets, and kings for the **true meaning of Christmas: the Incarnation of God the Son**.

(re: [adapted from - Church Year.net](#))



#### Something Ignatian to share....

##### Sunday Reflection by Fr. Gerry Keane, SJ

For the greater glory of God, so reads the motto and indeed, the primary purpose of St Ignatius of Loyola and his fellow Jesuits. But what does giving glory to God mean? Does God not enjoy all the glory there is? His it was to confer on Mount Tabor on His beloved son, Lifting Him above our usual perception of him as "only Jesus". How can I possibly achieve such a transformation?

This is where Saint Irenaeus comes to my aid with the statement that "the glory of God is man fully alive", and how we yearn to achieve this state. God will be seen at his best in me if I am fully human. But we have a huge reluctance to acknowledge the fact that we among God's creatures are the only ones to refuse to be what we should be.

We deny and postpone our need to "get real" and linger in pretence and posturing, telling ourselves that we are ok, that the rest are the ones at fault. We have made a life of sleep and escape. Afraid to tackle our real selves, while we see the while we long to become our true selves.

Every Advent calls for a true assessment of myself. Personally I have lived through four score and more such seasons. And I am still the same. But as long as we breathe, God can be born in us anew. Perhaps this Advent is what we have been waiting for.



### Weekly Prayers & Devotions

#### **Intercessory Prayers**

Tuesdays, 2.30 pm at  
St Francis Xavier Chapel (Kingsmead Hall)

#### **Gentle Light**

Tuesdays, 10 am – 12 noon at  
St Francis Xavier Chapel (Kingsmead Hall)  
Thursdays, 10 am – 12 noon at  
Loyola Room (Attic Level, Church)

#### **Charismatic Renewal & Prayer Group Meetings**

Wednesdays, 8 pm at St Ignatius Hall

#### **Christian Meditation**

Fridays, 2.30 pm at St Francis Xavier  
Chapel (Kingsmead Hall)

#### **Divine Mercy Devotion**

Fridays, 6.30 pm in Church after the 6  
pm Mass

#### **Daily Rosary in Church**

After 7am Mass  
5.25 pm - 5.45 pm before 6 pm Mass

**Sunday Masses** Sat : 6pm  
Sun: 7am, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12noon  
& 6pm

**Weekday Masses** Mon - Fri: 7am & 6pm; Sat: 7am

**Confessions** Every Friday and Saturday at 5.40pm  
Every Sunday Mass - 20mins before  
Mass begin

**Infant Baptisms** On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month  
at 4pm. Registration forms from the  
Church office

**Weddings** Couples must make yourselves  
known to the priest 6 months ahead  
before booking the church

**Church Office** At the Attic, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor (at the back of  
the church building)

**Entrance via,  
8 Victoria Park  
Road** Kingsmead Hall (Priests' Residence),  
St Ignatius Hall, Sacred Heart Hall,  
Jesuit Novitiate,  
Centre for Ignatian Spirituality &  
Counselling

**Columbarium  
Opening Hours** Monday to Sunday: 7 am – 7 pm;  
Public Holiday: Closed

**Inigo Bookstore  
King's Rd  
Entrance** Monday to Friday: 8.30am to 1.30pm  
Sat: 8:30am-9:30am; 4pm-6pm  
Sun: 8:30am-1:30pm; 5.30-6pm;  
7-7:20pm



## **PARISH GOAL**

*"Finding God in Myself,  
Others and All Situations for  
God's Greater Glory"*

Living the Goal through  
Ignatian Spirituality –  
4 Dimensions:

#### **1. Personal:**

Developing a Personal  
Relationship with the Lord  
through a meaningful  
Prayer Life.

#### **2. A Vocation – God's Call to Holiness:**

Growing in God's gift of  
the lay, priesthood and  
religious vocation.

#### **3. Communitarian (7 "larger families"):**

Building and bonding as a  
community that is Christ-  
centered and Christ-like. We  
do this by participating in our  
Parish activities actively,  
especially in the celebration  
of the Eucharist and by  
building greater harmony  
with one another and with  
our Christian friends and  
those of other beliefs.

#### **4. Social Mission:**

Committing ourselves to  
the justice and care of  
the poor and needy of  
our society, and the  
world around us.

#### **Main Structure of Parish**

The Parish Priest, Assisting  
Priests, Jesuits and Staff  
serve the needs of the  
Parish through close  
collaboration with all PPC  
and all Church members.  
Every person in the Parish  
strives to live out the Goal  
of the Parish in and  
through their particular  
vocation, together with  
the Parish Priest, who is  
primarily responsible to  
the Archbishop of  
Singapore and his  
Jesuit Religious Superiors.

## **LITURGICAL CALENDAR**

29 Sun	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent		
30 Mon	Feast of St Andrew, Apostle		
1 Tue	Memorial of Sts Edmund Campion, SJ and Robert Southwell, SJ priests and comps, martyrs		
2 Wed	1 <sup>st</sup> week of Advent		
3 Thu	Feast of St Francis Xavier, SJ, priest		
4 Fri	Memorial of St John Damascene, Priest and Doctor		
5 Sat	1 <sup>st</sup> week of Advent		
6 Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent		
	Bar 5:1-91	Phil 1:4-6, 8-11	Lk 3:1-6

### **Jesuit Community at Kingsmead Hall Tel: 6466 3225**

Fr Gerard Keane, SJ, Fr Gerald Tseng, SJ, Fr Leslie Raj, SJ, Sch Gregory Tan, SJ  
Fr Paul Goh, SJ **Tel: 6464 9866** Fr Anthony Ponnudurai, SJ **Tel: 6464 9652**  
Fr Colin Tan, SJ **Tel: 6469 7356**, Loyola Novitiate **Tel: 6467 2790**  
Ignatian Spirituality Centre **Tel: 6467 6072**  
Jesuit Refugee Service **Tel: 6463 6022**