



20th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Lay Apostolate Sunday)

16 Aug 2009

Vol 66 No 11

The Parish Priest Writes...

This space is for me to connect with you as Parish Priest. Here, I will try to update you on what is happening in our Parish, share with you my personal experiences and reflections on aspects of the faith and the like, which I hope you will find helpful.

Two months ago, our Parish experienced, with the approval of our PPC exco and Jesuit Parish team, a radical challenge of the launch of the **Parish Goal**. Each parishioner and ministry were confronted with the basic question, **“How can I live a more active and meaningful life as a Catholic Christian of our parish?”** This seemed to have generated excitement and renewed hopes for many in the parish, and cautious acceptance and hesitation in some.

In the past two weeks, we celebrated our Parish Feast Day Triduum followed by a two day family-fun Bazaar. However, we were dismayed and deeply saddened by the sudden demise of our dear Fr Tom O’Neill. We mourned the loss of a dear friend and a dedicated priest who showed us how to live for others and love in Christ-like ways. We experienced more “togetherness” as a Parish community than in normal situations. The Bazaar too brought us together as a community, in a Christian spirit of contributing to the poor and needy.

Today, we officially launch our new Parish Website and a new Parish Bulletin on the Feast of the Assumption of our Lady. Thus, being more “connected” I hope our Parish will become a vibrant community/family in the Lord.

I pray that the coming months of the painstaking “implementation” of our Parish Goal will be experiences of positive “discerning” steps and collaborative efforts from everyone toward the “bigger picture” of the Parish for God’s Greater Glory. The more discerning we are, the more Christ-like we will become . . .

Fr Philip Heng S.J.

1st Reading Prv 9:1-6: 2nd Reading: Eph 5:15-20
Gospel: Jn 6:51-58

Sunday Reflection by Fr. Gerry Keane, SJ

Today we learn about Wisdom and Folly both characters portrayed surprisingly by women. The one peddling the Truth, the other offering nonsense and the unreal. Why women? Wisdom is usually personified in bald and bearded old men, while folly is more associated with the fickleness of the female. The shallow advertising of life is usually aimed at the female. See the front page of your daily newspaper with half of it occupied with something to attract a lady and bound to offer what it can never give.

The truth won't sell. Books on health, style, esoteric spirituality and how to invest your money will sell like hot cakes. The news that “I am the truth and the life” is hardly likely to impress. We escape the truth and the real selves in what St Paul calls “drunkenness”. Today he could add a variety of pills, computers and telephones. We run from the truth.

The gospel today tells us where it is to be found – only in a Creator who alone knows how to reveal and handle true life, which lies behind the surface of what the senses find. Faith penetrates beyond the light of what we see. The appearances of the body and blood of Christ become true reality. We find the inner person in ourselves, in God and in others. This, Paul tells us, should make us sing, dance and rejoice. Can we make this our lived conviction not only in mind but in heart also?

Women would appear to grasp better than men the mystery of life. Perhaps that’s what makes them the choice of wisdom.



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

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



What's on this week?

Parish Website Launch:

- » find out about the latest events in the parish
- » sign up to Parish mailing list to be connected and be informed of parish matters
- » more.....

Archdiocesan News

ALPHA IN THE WORKPLACE

A 15 weekly session practical introduction to the Christian faith starts on Monday 17 August, 7 - 9.30 pm at The Book Cafe (20 Martin Road #01-02 Seng Kee Building).

Registration: contact Marie at marieboon@yahoo.com or sms 9231-3803.

THE ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL FOR INTER-RELIGIOUS AND ECUMENICAL DIALOGUE (IRED)

invites you to a visit and talk at the Ba'alwi Mosque, Lewis Road

Thursday 20 August, 7.30 pm.

This is part of IRED's Continuing Formation Programme on Inter-Religious Dialogue. Registration call 9756-0239.

AN EVENING OF CONTEMPLATIVE REFLECTIONS, PRAYER AND TAIZE

Fridays 21 August and 18 September, 7.30pm at Saints Peter and St Paul Adoration Room.

Details at <http://c2040.ocdcarmelites.org>

COUPLE EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (CEP) 2009

8 Friday evenings
30 August to 25 October

this programme is based on Catholic Church Teachings on marriage for young couples married between 1 to 10 years. Child minding available. At Church of St Vincent de Paul, 301 Yio Chu Kang Road.

Registration and enquiries: Victor or Annabelle at 9105-9921 or <http://catholic-cep.webs.com/>

Parish News

THE WEDNESDAY BIBLE GROUP

on alternate Wednesdays, meets again this coming Wednesday 19 August ▫ 10 am ▫ Conference Room, Sacred Heart Building. The topic is "The Theological Significance of Jesus' Exorcism and Healing, in chapter 5 of Mark's Gospel".

NAMLY AVENUE/CRESCENT/GROVE/RISE NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS AUGUST PRAYER MEETING

continues reflections with Fr Michael J Himes in Scripture from Scratch "The Mystery of Faith". On Thursday 20 August, 8 pm at the home of Julie and William Chee, 112 Namly Avenue (6469-2126)

INTRODUCTORY TALK ON FIDES ET RATIO (FAITH AND REASON)

An introduction to the encyclical - *Faith and Reason*

Thursday 27 August, 8 pm by Arthur Goh, Director of Singapore Pastoral Institute, in the double classroom (catechism office area).

For registration: sms Josephine at 8183-2273 or email Lesley at lessgd@yahoo.com.sg soonest possible.

CCD

(CATECHISM FOR STUDENTS OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS)

• CATECHISTS ARE NEEDED!

Sharing your time and talents as a catechist, assistant, or a substitute. Classes are held on either Tuesdays or Thursdays and time commitment is from 3.30 to 5 pm. If you feel called to this ministry, please contact Chantal Wong at chantalwong88@hotmail.com

• REGISTRATION FOR 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration for kindergarten (age 5 - 6) to Grade 7 (age 12) classes on either Tuesday 1 OR Thursday 3 September ; 3.30 to 5 pm at St Ignatius Hall (behind the Church of St Ignatius) entrance at 8 Victoria Park Road.

Registration for Confirmation Class (age 13 - 14) will be held after a Parents' Meeting on Monday 14 September, 8 pm at St Ignatius Hall. Attendance is mandatory before Confirmation registration.

For more details, refer to the green flyers at the Place of Gathering.

WEEKEND CATECHISM

- *Social Mission Conference* (22 Aug)/ *West District Rally* (29 Aug)
Our Sec 3 confirmands will be supporting these two events. Please pray for a meaningful and inspiring session for our youth.
- *Sale of First Communion Clothing* - will be held on Sat 29 Aug and Sun 30 Aug at the catechism area during catechism time.

FARRER COURT NEIGHBOURHOOD RE-UNION POTLUCK

on *Saturday 12 September, 7.30 pm* at St Ignatius Hall. All Farrer Court neighbours are invited to come along and pass the word round.

RSVP to Lesley: lessgd@yahoo.com.sg or 8133-9422(hp) by 8 September

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

for the Sec 3 youth in the Weekend Catechism programme on *Sunday 20 September at 3 pm*. Any unconfirmed adults wishing to be confirmed at this time, please register at the church office by *31 August*.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL AND PRAYER GROUP - LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Fourth talk in this series, "Receiving God's Gift - Forgiveness" by Fr Philip Heng on Wednesday 19 August, 7.45 pm (fellowship with food starts at 7.15 pm) at St Ignatius Hall. Confessions will be heard after his talk.



DO YOU KNOW...?

About our Catholic Faith

Kneeling – St Paul knelt to pray (Act 20:36) with the Christians. Kneeling was later introduced into liturgy as a sign of penance, supplication and adoration. In the growing emphasis of the divinity of Christ, kneeling was an expression of our human unworthiness in His presence. In 813 CE (Synod of Tours), kneeling was considered the ordinary posture of people during Mass. An exception was made during the proclamation of the Gospel, when the more ancient and traditional position of standing continued.

Today, kneeling symbolises our humble adoration before God's presence especially during the Eucharistic Prayer i.e. from the Holy, Holy until after singing of the Great "Amen." (General Instruction of Roman Missal no.42).

Reflection Question: In Asian culture, "Do we not kneel as a form of respect to our parents and elders during the "Tea ceremony" of our weddings? When we kneel in prayer, be more aware of the presence of God's infinite power and our "nothingness" as finite creatures. Yet, the mystery of God's personal and unconditional love for us!

About our Parish - Ministries

CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Introduction and Overview – Part 1

Our parish catechetical programme aims to help each young person to come to know, love and serve God in a healthy relationship, as integrated human persons in mind and heart. This aim is very much in line with our Parish Goal of strengthening the spiritual dimension and social mission of our Christian lives. As such, we teach the children to understand the basic beliefs of our Catholic Christian faith, as well as impart a Spirituality that encourages them to reflect on and sense the presence of God in the people and situations of their daily living. We thus nurture a faith that goes beyond the self; a faith that reaches out to others as fellow children of God, especially the needy. In this regard, we would like to introduce more days of recollection and retreats, as well as exposure visits to various social apostolate and charities as part of the catechetical programme.



Something Ignatian to share....

Living a more Discerning Life – Self Awareness (1)

As Christians, we are each challenged to live a more discerning life; a more **Christ-like life**. Many people drift with the masses in the secular world and imbibe outlooks on life that are **materialistic** and **self-centred**. An "un-discerned life" is a superficial life that is often controlled by emotions. How true is this of your daily living?

To live a more **discerning life**, we could begin with challenging ourselves to be more fully aware of our "**inner feelings**." Not every "inner feelings" we experience are the same. We each have distinct physical, emotional and spiritual "inner feelings." Try to be more fully aware of such distinct feelings during the day. To be in touch with our "inner feelings" is the first step towards living a more discerning life.



Weekly Prayers & Devotions

Intercessory Prayers

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

Gentle Light

Tuesdays, 10 am – 12 noon 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

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 nd Sunday of each month at 4pm Registration forms from the Church office
Weddings	Couples must make yourselves known the priest 6 months ahead before booking the church
Church Office	At the Attic, 3 rd floor (at the back of the church building)
Entrance via, 8 Victoria Park Road	Kingsmead Hall (Priests' Residence), Ignatius Hall, Sacred Heart Hall, Jesuit Novitiate, Centre for Ignatian Spirituality & Counselling



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

16 Sun	20 th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Lay Apostolate Sunday)
17 Mon	20th week in Ordinary Time
18 Tue	Memorial of Bl Albert Hurtado Cruchaga, SJ, Priest
19 Wed	Memorial of St Eudes, Priest
20 Thu	Memorial of St Bernard, Abbot and Doctor
21 Fri	Memorial of St Pius X, Pope
22 Sat	Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
23 Sun	21 st Sunday of Ordinary Time
	Jos 24:1-2a Eph 5:21-32 Jn 6:60-69

Jesuit news

THE GROTTO OF OUR LADY AND CHILD has been improved for your devotional needs. Kindly refrain from feeding the fish, and tossing coins or releasing fish into the pond. Fr Leslie Raj, SJ will lead a Blessing of the Grotto and a Rosary for the Year of Priests on *Tuesday 8 September, 8.30-9.15 pm* (Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary) at the Grotto.

All are welcome. Enquiries: Centre for Ignatian Spirituality and Counselling.

FINDING GOD IN YOUR WRITING - A full-day writing workshop to gain a deeper understanding of self and your relationship with others and with God. No prior writing experience is required. Facilitators: Diana Tan and Roselie Chia (Trained writing group leaders) on *Saturday 29 August, 9 am -5 pm*.

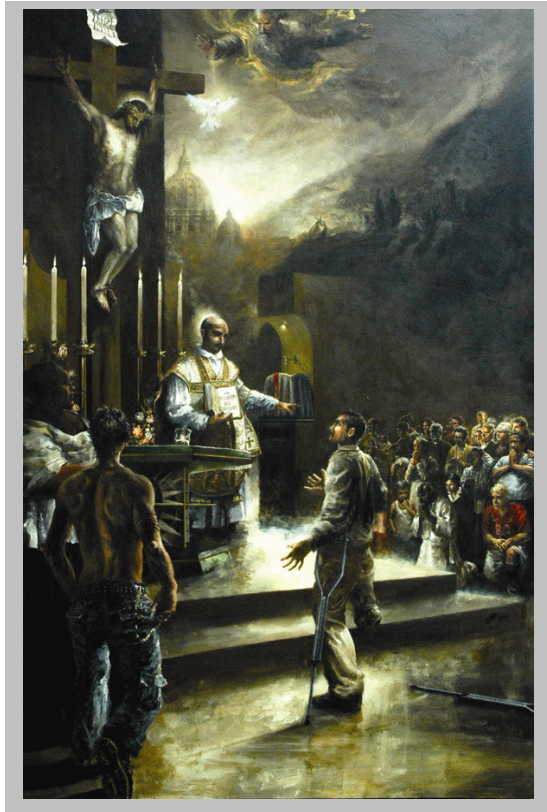
Contribution: \$80.00 (including lunch and refreshments) Closing Date: 19 August. Centre for Ignatian Spirituality and Counselling (8 Victoria Park Road, behind the Church of St Ignatius). Enquiries call 6467-6072; fax: 6468-7584 email: cisc2664@gmail.com or website: <http://www.jesuit.org.sg/cisc>

Jesuit Community at Kingsmead Hall Tel: 6466 3225

Fr Gerard Keane, SJ, Fr Gerald Tseng, SJ, Fr Leslie Raj, SJ, Fr Paul Goh, SJ, Sch Gregory Tan, 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**



PARISH OF St. IGNATIUS FEAST DAY CELEBRATION 2009



Portrait of St Ignatius of Loyola - “Sinners, yet called to Serve”

This portrait was commissioned to try to capture for us in the Parish the spirituality and vision of how our Parish is run. The details of the meaning of the portrait painted by *Alvin Ong* is found in the card distributed and also in our Parish website.

Guided Contemplation



This year's celebrations focused on two main dimensions of our **Parish Goal**, the Spiritual and the Social. The **Spiritual dimension** was celebrated with a Triduum, beginning with Penitential Service to renew our union with the Lord through the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the first Day. This was followed by a reflection on the life of St Ignatius of Loyola, our Parish Patron Saint, and a Guided contemplation on the Gospel of Christ, over the next two days respectively. Hopefully, we will be able to offer, in view of our limited parish Jesuit team resources, a series of more parish-wide spiritual formation sessions on Ignatian Spirituality, which began earlier during Holy Week Gospel Contemplation this year.



Feast Day Mass





Parish Feast Day Bazaar 8-9 August 2009

The Social dimension of our Parish celebration was experienced through our Parish Bazaar project to raise funds for the poor and needy. Many parishioners participated in different ways: through selling coupons, their generous donations of sale items and cash, buying coupons, cooking/donating food for sale, selling potted plants, minding of stalls and counters, providing many varied services, too many to name, including health-therapy, painting and magnetic buttons, traffic control and clearing of the balance of bazaar items from St Ignatius hall etc. Many who volunteered their services are parishioners who are not in ministries and I am sure they were enriched by their contribution to our parish's on-going Social Mission Goal.



Children enjoyed themselves!



Preparing the auction section....

It is impossible to mention and thank every group and person who contributed to the Bazaar project, but special thanks must be accorded to the main committee members viz. the Bazaar Planning/Task Force Team and the Bazaar Finance Committee. They laboured selflessly (often behind the scenes), for 6-7 weeks . . . some of them with very little sleep during the last days before the Bazaar, thereby ensuring that all logistical needs were attended to. My deep gratitude to them.

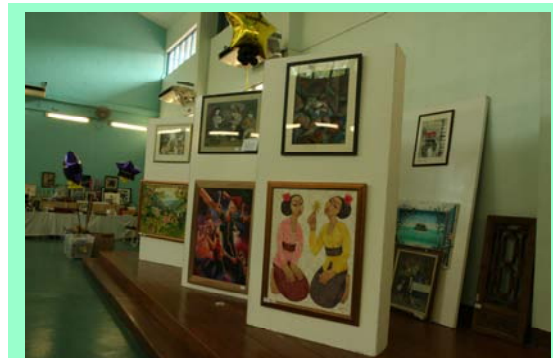
While we congratulate everyone who contributed towards a very successful Bazaar . . . we have to keep in mind that the Bazaar firstly fostered a better community spirit in our Parish; secondly, all our labour is truly worthwhile because the money raised will make so much difference to the poor and needy . . . many of them would benefit in terms of basic needs, of food, shelter, water, education, medical treatment, and the like. **A Parish Social Committee** will be set up to manage all the funds raised and you will be informed of the amount. In addition, full documentation will be kept of all projects supported by our Social Mission funds



The crowd before the bazaar started



Families enjoyed home cooked food after Mass



Beautiful paintings....