



**Disciples  
Making Disciples**



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**Christ: The  
"New Centre"**

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
18 Nov 2018

**Dan 12:1-3**  
**Hebr 10:11-14, 18**  
**Mk 13:24-32**

Despair, fear and helplessness – these emotions arise when we observe yet another onslaught of flooding, fire, earthquake or tsunami. The frequency of such natural disasters and the increasing uncertainties politically and socially has led many to wonder if indeed the chaotic "time of distress" Jesus speaks of in today's gospel is here (Mk 13:24). We may be sky-gazing to see if "the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness..." – the "signs" of the "end-times" as a quick reading of today's gospel seem to convey.

However, Jesus is not acting as a "seer" nor speaking of "the end of the world" says Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Rather, the sun, moon, stars, heaven and earth are Old Testament apocalyptic or end-time images which now have "a new centre" in Jesus himself - in "the mystery of his Person and of his death and Resurrection" (Angelus, 18 Nov 2012).

Pope Emeritus says that the cosmos, by having the finitude of the created order, will also pass away but the Word himself (through whom the whole of creation has come about – Gn 1) and his words to humanity, will never pass away (cf Mk. 13:31). In centering the true cosmic sign now on the glorious "Son of Man" figure who will emerge from the fading created cosmos, Jesus is in fact speaking

of himself and "wishes to prevent his disciples in every epoch from being curious about dates and predictions; he wants instead to provide them... the right way on which to walk, today and in the future, to enter eternal life" (Angelus, 18 Nov 2012).

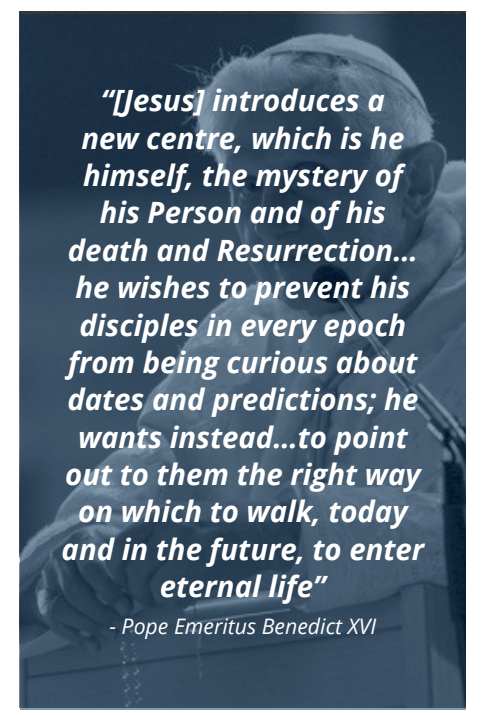
We receive insights and encouragement to walk this "right way" to eternal life at every Mass through the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Every Sunday, the Church invites us to fix our gaze on this "new centre" – this radiant "Son of Man" coming in glory and power in the clouds is Jesus whom we affirm in the Creed, "...will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead". In Holy Communion, we participate in Jesus' resurrected radiance and glory, "...our participation in the Eucharist already gives us a foretaste of Christ's transfiguration of our bodies... our bodies which partake of the Eucharist are no longer corruptible, but possess the hope of the resurrection" (CCC 1000, St. Irenaeus).

Today's Second Reading from Hebrews reminds us that the Eucharist we receive comes from Christ's great gift of love for man by his self-offering on the cross. It is his "one single sacrifice for sins" – our sins which he took upon himself. In his Resurrection and Ascension, he has now "taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God" but has not distanced himself from us for we meet him most intimately at every Mass. Holy Mass is the place for "the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying" – we are the undeserving beneficiaries of Jesus' sacrifice (Hebr 10:11-14).

Let us today recognise ever more deeply that by our baptism and through Holy Communion, Christ is now our strength

and power to become the "learned" and virtuous who will be gathered up and saved (Dan 12:3). Being "learned" here refers to having the wisdom and knowledge of God's saving help gained from the prayerful reading of God's Word. St. Isidore of Seville said that when we pray, we talk to God but when we read, God talks to us. Moved by God's love and mercy, may we grow in virtue and charity and inspire others to also turn their gaze to Jesus. Our transformed lives can therefore "[instruct] many in virtue" (Dan 12:3).

"...there is no lack of natural disasters nor, unfortunately, of war and violence" says Pope Emeritus. We can however transform the chaos and distress with our generous offerings and prayers just as Jesus is transforming us and granting us peace. Let us not despair and fear but restore and raise up broken lives – doing this every day until the "Son of Man" comes to gather us and bring us home.



## Announcements

For announcements in the bulletin, send your requests to [mmm@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg) by the MONDAY before the weekend, 2359hrs

### CANTEEN

Infant Baptism will be running the canteen this weekend. All proceeds will go directly to the SFX Renovation Fund. So come support them, fill your tummies and enjoy the fellowship!

### GIVING IN FAITH & THANKFULNESS (GIFT)

This weekend, there will be a second collection for the GIFT campaign. GIRO forms, cheques or cash can be sealed into GIFT envelopes and dropped into the collection bags that will go around. Spare GIFT envelopes are available at the church pews, and at the Parish Office. Please give generously to support the vision of the Archdiocese. More info is available at [gift.catholicfoundation.sg](http://gift.catholicfoundation.sg).

### LAST DAY OF CATECHISM

The last catechetical session for the year will be on **Sun 25 Nov**, the Feast of Christ the King - and this marks the end of the Liturgical Year. Catechism sessions for next year will resume on **Sun 20 Jan 2019**. For all new registrations/queries for our catechetical programme, please email [catechism@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:catechism@sfxchurch.sg). Have a blessed Advent and happy holidays!

### SALE OF PARISH TEE SHIRTS

New parish tee shirts will be on sale after all weekend masses outside the bookshop, so do check out the new parish tee shirt design and get yours quick! All proceeds will go to the SFX Renovation Fund.



— TRIDUUM & FEAST DAY 2018 —  
**THANKSGIVING**  
REMEMBERING OUR BLESSINGS

**25 NOV (SUN)**

**MASS FOR THE ELDERLY & SICK WITH ANOINTING**  
*Confession 1.15PM, Mass and Anointing 2PM*  
*Forms available at Parish Office. Registration closes 11 Nov*

*Celebrant: Fr Romeo Villavicencio (Philippines)*

<b>29 NOV (THU)</b> <b>RECALL</b> <i>our God moments</i> TRIDUUM MASS 8PM	<b>30 NOV (FRI)</b> <b>REFLECT</b> <i>on God's faithfulness</i> TRIDUUM MASS 8PM	<b>1 DEC (SAT)</b> <b>RECHARGE</b> <i>with a Mission</i> TRIDUUM MASS 5.30PM
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**2 DEC (SUN) FEAST DAY**

<b>RENEW</b> <i>in discipleship</i>	5PM* FEAST DAY MASS, with His Grace Archbishop William Goh 7, 9, 11AM SUNDAY MASS + CELEBRATORY MEALS* <small>*Blessing of PPC/NCC/SCC Leaders at 5pm Mass    *after Morning Masses only</small>
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**FEAST DAY DINNER** **Serangoon Garden Country Club**  
7PM, Tickets at \$45 per person

We would like to humbly appeal for your generosity for **donations and/or sponsorship of prizes** for our Feast Day lucky draw! Please do contact Patrick at 9616 6663 if you would like to lend us your support.

### CATECHISM 2019 REGISTRATION

#### Registration for Nursery Level

(children aged 4 in 2019)

**18 Nov (Sun): 9.30am - 11.00am**

Forms are available from the Catechist Room (ground floor of Parish Centre, next to the kindergarten) or may be downloaded via the church website [www.sfxchurch.sg](http://www.sfxchurch.sg). Please submit the completed forms together with a copy of your child's baptism certificate at the Catechist Room during these dates/times. Soft copies can also be sent to [catechism@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:catechism@sfxchurch.sg).

Please take note that due to renovations next year, the venue for catechism will be at **CHIJ (Our Lady of Good Counsel)** on **Sundays** and timings will be as follows:

**Nursery to L4 (Pri 4): 1.30pm - 3pm**

**L5 (Pri 5) to L10 (Sec 4): 3.15pm - 5pm**

For any enquiries, please email [catechism@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:catechism@sfxchurch.sg).

### SILENT AUCTION OF DECOUPAGE PRINTS

As part of the reno fundraising efforts, a silent auction will be held on **Sun 18 Nov**, outside the parish office. Framed decoupage pieces of specially curated Christian prints from around the world will be on auction. For more details, please refer to the Silent Auction poster that is up on the notice boards.





## URGENT VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED

Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) urgently needs pro bono tuition teachers immediately and into 2019 for two Sec 4 students in Maths, Science and Chinese subjects. Please contact Anne Veloo at 8608 7857 if you wish to provide this free service to our friends-in-need even if only for Nov & Dec so that these students can catch up when school re-opens.

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Thinking of starting your Christmas shopping early? Look no further! Drop by the Christmas Bazaar held outside our Parish Office. On **Sun 18 Nov**, unique decorative items like air plants, candles, jewellery are up for grabs! There will also be special knife sharpening services and a pre-order of Chinese New Year lanterns at the Bazaar.

If you're more of a foodie, do remember to check out our food-themed Christmas Bazaar on **Sun 25 Nov**. Delicious food items such as apple pies, brownies, cookies, cakes and more will be on sale - these mouthwatering goodies are all homemade and baked with love!

There's definitely something for everyone, so do drop by and we will see you there! All proceeds will go to the SFX Renovation Fund.



## CHRISTMAS ICED COOKIE DECORATION

This Yuletide season, surprise and delight your loved ones and friends with the gift of iced cookies! Learn the art of making beautifully iced cookies to present as a dessert or snack or even as personalised gifts. Create your own patterns, messages and customise your creations! In this 2-hour session on **Sat 8 Dec, 10am - 12noon**, you will learn how to make icing with the correct consistency, how to add colour and be equipped with some basic piping skills.

Take home a cookie recipe and a set of 4 cookies that you have personally piped in the session! *As there will not be baking on site, please note that cookies will be pre-baked and pre-cut but the demonstration will be done and recipe shared.* The cost for this session is **\$80**, do register and make payment at the Parish Office during office hours. Registration closes on **Sun 2 Dec**, or when all slots are taken up, so do sign up soon! All proceeds will go to the SFX Renovation Fund.

## LIVELOUD CONCERT

Get ready to sing your praises, dance for joy and intimately encounter God through the gift of worship at the LIVELOUD Concert! Held on **Sat 24 Nov** at ZEPP@Big Box, gather your friends, families and communities and join in this celebration of our faith. Come experience the Lord's love for us and glorify him through the songs of our prayers! Tickets are on sale now at \$20. For ticketing details and event information, visit [www.liveloudsg.com](http://www.liveloudsg.com).

## SCHOOL OF WITNESS 2019

Do you believe that Jesus can bring new hope and new life to areas of your life that are wilting and feeling dry? Whatever season of life you are experiencing, hope is something that Jesus offers you! He calls you to remain in Him, for cut off from Him you can do nothing (John 15:5).

If so, the School of Witness 2019 conducted by the Office for Young People is for you! This a live-in discipleship school for all young people aged between 18 to 30 years and runs from **6 Jan to 2 Mar** (with a short Chinese New Year break). For more details, contact OYP 6285 2571 or visit [www.oyp.org.sg](http://www.oyp.org.sg).





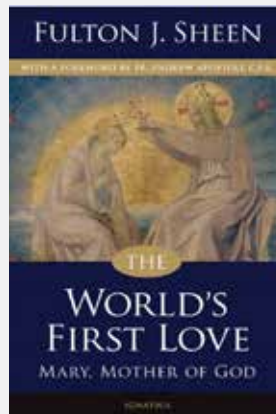
Looking for more Information?  
visit [www.sfxchurch.sg](http://www.sfxchurch.sg)!

## FEATURED ON FORMED

### STUDY: The World's First Love

With his characteristic eloquence and brilliance, Fulton Sheen presents a moving portrayal of the Blessed Virgin Mary that combines deep spirituality with history, philosophy, and theology. Mary's whole life is lovingly portrayed in this word portrait that is a never failing source of information, consolation, and inspiration.

While considering the different phases of Mary's life, Bishop Sheen discusses various problems common to mankind of every age and reveals clearly that every problem can be resolved. He emphasizes the unique dignity, strength, and gifts of women and their ability to help heal the world's problems. Sheen stresses mankind's need of the Mother of God and her burning love for all her children. The great resurgence of devotion to Mary is God's way of emphasizing the worth and dignity of every person against the false doctrines that have confused the modern world.



### WATCH: Mary of Nazareth

Mary of Nazareth is an epic motion picture on the life of Mary, Mother of Christ, from her childhood through the Resurrection of Jesus. Shot in high definition, it was filmed in Europe with outstanding cinematography, a strong cast, and a majestic music score. Actress

Alissa Jung gives a beautiful, compelling, and inspiring portrayal of Mary.

The film vividly captures the essence of Mary's profound faith and trust in God amidst the great mysteries that she lived with as the Mother of the Messiah, as well as her compassionate humanity and concern for others, and the deep love that she and Jesus shared for one another. The movie underscores her special role in God's plan for our redemption, her unique relationship with Christ, and the tremendous suffering that she endured in union with his Passion and Death, as well as her serene joy at his Resurrection.

### FOR CHILDREN

#### Brother Francis: The Saints Our Heavenly Friends

Join Brother Francis as he introduces children to their heavenly friends, the saints! Learn about the wonderful comfort, encouragement, and help given through those who serve God in His Heavenly Kingdom.



## Free FORMED Access for SFX Parishioners

**✉ If you forgot your password**  
Click LOGIN, followed by your email. Then *Forgot your password*. A temporary password will be sent to your email.

**📱 Getting FORMED on your mobile**  
(Scan with your camera/reader app)

**iPhone users:**



**Android users:**



**🖥 New Viewers**  
Go to <https://sfxchurch.formed.org/>. Fill out the registration form. A verification eMail will be sent to you.

**🖥 Existing Viewers**  
if you forgot how to log in, go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org), look at the top right and click the LOGIN button. Use your own login email and password.

### Mass Timings

#### WEEKEND MASSES

**Sat Sunset:**  
5.30pm (Novena at 4.45pm)  
**Sun:** 7am, 9am, 11am & 5.30pm  
*Confession 15 mins before Sunday Mass*

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Mon - Fri:**  
6.30am & 6.30pm  
**Sat:** 6.30am

#### MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

8.30am *only*

#### HOLY HOUR

8.30pm, every first Thurs of the month

### Opening Hours

#### PARISH OFFICE

**Mon - Fri:**  
9am - 9pm  
**Sat:** 9am - 7pm  
**Sun:** 8am - 1pm

#### ADORATION ROOM

**Daily:** 5.30am - 11pm

#### LIBRARY

**Sun:** Reopen in Dec 2019

#### COLUMBARIUM

**Daily:** 7am - 9pm

#### CANTEEN

**Sun:** 7am - 12pm

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK



The sacrament can be administered to any Catholic awaiting serious surgery, suffers from serious illness or is weakened by old age. Anointing may be before getting admitted for the anticipated medical procedure. Contact the Parish Office to request for a priest. In emergencies, priests of the church nearest to the hospital can be contacted.

### INFANT BAPTISM



Baptism of Infants is held every 2nd Sunday of the odd month at 4pm in the main church. Preparation session for both parents and godparents is held the Sunday before at 3.30pm in the SFX room. For more information please contact [infbaptism@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:infbaptism@sfxchurch.sg).

### FUNERAL



Please check with the Parish Office for priest availability and Mass timing before confirming the timing at the crematorium. For prayers at the wake, please contact St. Pio prayer group via the Parish Office.

### MARRIAGE



Contact the Parish Office 12 months before your intended date to book the church premises and ensure that your presiding priest is able to make that date. Church unavailable from 1 Nov 2018 due to renovations.

### MASS OFFERING



Mass offering envelopes are available outside the Parish Office. Submit your envelopes at least two weeks in advance of your intended date. Please write the names clearly, and in block letters.

### VOLUNTEER & SHARE YOUR GIFTS!

If you're interested in content curation and design layout, contact [mmm@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg)