



**Disciples  
Making Disciples**



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## God - Good Samaritan & Physician of Souls

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
14 Jul 2019

**Deut 30:10-14**  
**Col 1:15-20**  
**Lk 10:25-37**

Reflecting on the parable of the Good Samaritan, Origen of Alexandria noted that the man going down from Jerusalem to Jericho can be likened to Adam; Jerusalem representing paradise and Jericho the world. Through his disobedience, Adam opened himself to attack by the brigands and thus his wounds represent the stain of original sin; his departure from Jerusalem the loss of paradise. The brigands were hence enemy powers, the Samaritan - God himself - who comes to heal and give rest.

Moved by compassion for our woundedness, God the Good Samaritan comes to heal our wounds with his own oil and wine (Sacraments of Grace). Such is his love that he even places us on his own "animal". Christ, represented by this animal, is made to carry the weight of our transgressions that we may be healed (Col 1:20). The inn, therefore, represents the Church, its keeper the Magisterium who continues God's healing (or redemptive) work on earth until the promised "return" of the Good Samaritan in the second coming.

Bearing in mind this exegesis, let us reflect on our relationship with God

and his Church. How do we view the commandments and statutes of the Lord? Do we perceive them as restrictive or do we see them as protective and healing as the Good Samaritan was?

In a modernist world which erroneously privileges unyielding personal autonomy and individual freedom, the very idea of laws being valuable seems downright contradictory, even foreign. This individualistic culture has led many outside and even within the Church to call for God's commandments and Church dogmas to be changed so as to suit the relative and subjectively defined needs of the times (Pope St Pius X, *Pascendi Dominici Gregis* 10,13,38).

Responding to such criticism, we can apply Moses' reminder to the Israelites that the commandments and statutes of God are *always* "near to us and in our hearts" for they come from he who is preeminent (Deut 30:14, Col 1:18, CCC 205). We might be different in many ways from our ancestors but our need for redemption remains unchanged. Our proclivity to disobey God likewise exposes us to brigands who "prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls" (Pope Leo XIII, Prayer to St Michael). God has therefore planted his laws in our hearts out of love and to protect us from the wiles of this "prowler".

God's eternal and redemptive commandments also have a anagogical ("leading") significance, healing our wounded souls and guiding us back to our true homeland: the heavenly Jerusalem (CCC 117). When sickness befalls us, we follow the advice of our physician. As stiff

as the cast on our broken leg may be or as bitter as the cough syrup might taste, we dare not avoid them lest we fall further into illness.

Whilst sickness of the flesh requires physical remedies, sin, as the sickness of the soul, also necessitates healing. God who is both the physician of our souls (CCC 1421) and the Good Samaritan not only comes to rescue us as we lie beaten and bruised on the side of the road, but also takes us to be healed in the inn (his Church). Who are we then, as mere pilgrims in need of help, to dictate the terms of our rescue? So let us swallow our pride, remembering that we are always in need of rescue and healing, we who would otherwise be left along the road to die. Submitting to the wisdom of God and his Church, let us also resolve now and always to turn away from Jericho and return to Jerusalem.



***"God's eternal and redemptive commandments also have a anagogical significance, healing our wounded souls and guiding us back to our true homeland: the heavenly Jerusalem (CCC 117)."***

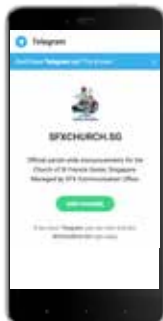
## Announcements

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

### SFX TELEGRAM - T.ME/SFXCHURCH

Receive the latest church bulletin, through our official TELEGRAM channel!

You will receive **official announcements** directly on Parish-wide events/ initiatives, reminders and mass timings on your phone. Managed by the Parish Communications office, Telegram is a free app! Information will remain available on the SFX website, Facebook, Instagram, Whatsapp groups and our bulletin 'The Manna'.



### CPS 2019 LUNCHTIME TALK: WHAT IS ENOUGH

What is enough to be a Catholic to please God our Father? The talk by Msgr Ambrose Vaz will explore living the truth of the sacraments as Catholics and growing deeper in our relationship with God our Father.

**Dates:** 15 Jul, 22 Jul, 29 Jul, 5 Aug and 19 Aug

**Time:** 12.30pm - 1.15pm

**Venue:** TPI Building (62 Cecil Street, 6th Floor)

**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/CPSWhatIsEnough>

### CENACLE SISTERS: QUIETING THE SOUL CHIANGMAI 2019

A silent 8 or 5 day retreat set in the beautiful environment of the Seven Fountains Retreat Center in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

**Choice of dates (includes travel time):**

1) 8 days: 29 Nov - 8 Dec

2) 5 days: 2 Dec - 8 Dec

3) 5 days: 8 Feb - 14 Feb 2020

**Closing registration Date:** 31 Aug

**Contact:** 9298 5808 / 6565 2895 or email to [cenaclesingapore@gmail.com](mailto:cenaclesingapore@gmail.com)

### SAVE THE DATE: SFX CONVERSION EXPERIENCE RETREAT!

Have you wondered what it means to have a personal encounter with the Lord? Are you desiring healing in a certain area of your life? Do you desire for more? SFX will be having our very own stay-in conversion experience retreat (CER) from **6 - 10 Nov**, conducted by Archbishop William Goh at the Catholic Spirituality Centre! Retreat cost: \$250 per person. Successful registration for CER will be determined by balloting. **Applicants must be 1st time retreatant; and 21 years and above. Keep a look out for the application form which will be released at a later date.**

#### Ballot Registration Day:

**Date:** Sat 31 Aug (Registration - 9am)

**Time:** 10am - 12pm (Registration close at 10am for balloting)

**Venue:** Catholic Spirituality Centre (St Peter Hall, Level 1)

### PARISH FORMATION PROGRAMME 2019: THRESHOLDS OF CONVERSION

In evangelisation, we recognise that everyone is at a different level of openness towards the faith. We therefore need to employ different approaches to help get them to the next stage. Come and learn about the five thresholds of conversion leading up to intentional discipleship, how to recognise the different stages and how to help them grow to the next. Dynamic speaker Ann Yeong will share her experience and expertise with us on **Mon 22 Jul, 8pm to 10pm**, at the **Main Church**. All are welcome! Sign up now at <https://tinyurl.com/SFXModule3!>

### OFFICE FOR THE NEW EVANGELISATION AND GLORIA PATRI MINISTRIES: COMBINED MINISTRIES RETREAT

This retreat is open to all EMHC, Choirs, Lectors, Wardens, and SCC/NCC in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Singapore. Are you ready to open the door as soon as the Master comes and knocks? Come and encounter the Lord as one community! You are highly encouraged to register as a community.

**Date:** 9 & 10 Aug 2019

**Time:** 9.30am - 4.30pm for both days

**Venue:** SJI Junior (3 Essex Rd, S309331)

**Register:** [bit.ly/onecmr2019](http://bit.ly/onecmr2019)

### ACCS: TEACH IN A CATHOLIC SCHOOL/P1 ENROLMENT INTO A CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The Archdiocesan Commission for Catholic Schools (ACCS) regularly provides updates on Catholic education which include school events and celebrations, compilation of vacant teaching positions in our Catholic Schools, and Catholic perspectives on education matters. The ACCS hope to interest and inspire Catholic educators to serve in our Catholic schools, and to journey together with all Catholic educators in the fraternity.

**So calling all MOE educators!** If you are interested to heed the call to teach in a Catholic School, or if you want to receive news and resources about Catholic education, do join their mailing list by filling up the form accessible via the QR code. In line with the MOE Open Posting Exercise, the ACCS has compiled a list of vacancies in our Catholic schools in 2020. Once you are on the mailing list, ACCS will email you the instructions to access this list from **1 Jul** onwards. Do note that this list will be updated with new consequential vacancies on **17 Jul** to facilitate your application via the MOE HRMS between **1 Jul - 23 Jul**.



For Primary 1 Registration under Phase 2B (**22 and 23 Jul**), if you would like to register your child in a Catholic school under Phase 2B Primary 1 admission, do note that the parent's baptism certificate is required at the point of registration. If the baptism certificate is not in English, the Church and the school may request for a baptism certificate that is translated into English, and certified by your parish priest in Singapore or a notary public.



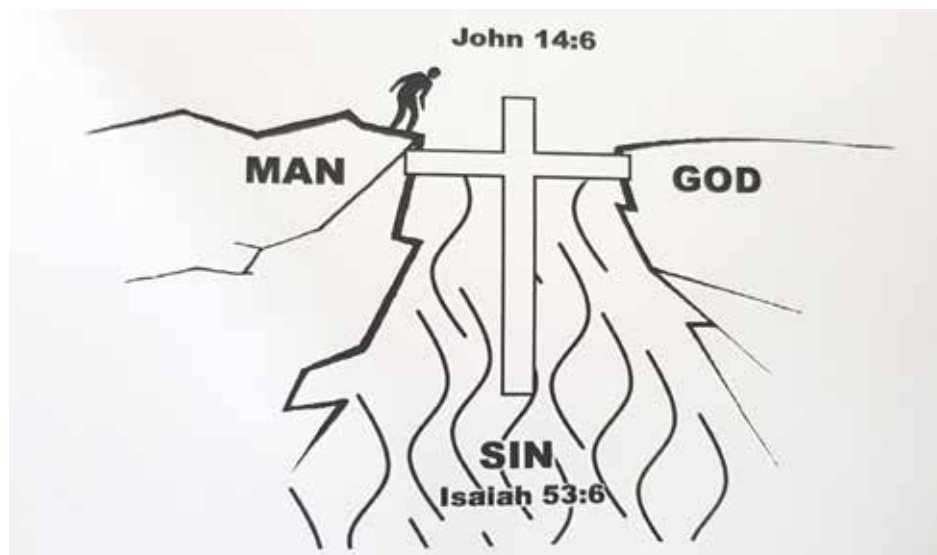
# Parish Formation Programme: Kerygma



Heard about Kerygma? Some of the attendees of the Parish Formation Programme on Monday night's session on 8 July, might have heard this term before but may not be sure what it really meant until Edwyn De souza, a fervent follower of our Lord Jesus Christ and a parishioner of SFX, shared with great conviction that Kerygma is the proclamation of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour.

The session was indeed very informative and enlightening as Edwyn shared his personal experience of Kerygma. Attendees were given time to engage with one another and share their thoughts so they could dwell on their own experiences and realise that the Lord Jesus Christ has been journeying with them all this time. One of the main takeaways from the session is that, one should not keep personal experiences of Kerygma to himself or herself. As a true believer of Jesus, we should be ardent in sharing these experiences as a way of evangelising others to help them to continuously realise that Jesus is always with them in their lives.

Kerygma is indeed something that should never end and must be shared again and again in various ways, not just by our words but also through our way of life. The session ended with Edwyn sharing the "Cross Bridge", an illustration of salvation by St. Catherine of Siena which is a simple yet powerful illustration that will help one to realise that Jesus is our only way to God and our salvation.



## SHARE YOUR FAITH STORY

*"Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses." - Pope Paul VI*

Have you ever felt a desire or stirring to share your faith story? Come share your stories with us and proclaim how the Lord has worked through you to keep the faith alive! All faith stories will be published on SFX social media platforms (Bulletin, social media and other collateral).

If you are interested, please drop us an email at [mmm@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg) to find out more about the submission process.





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



## Kenneth Ngo Concert

Kenneth Ngo brought the house down with his delightful repertoire of familiar hymns as well as his very own original songs. Held on 6 July in SFX's Main Church, more than 500 guests turned up, all ready to join in the singing. Titled "A Prayer Concert: Kenny Ngo - The Lord Deserves All Praise", Kenneth shared with us his wonderful gift of music as well as his faith journey and personal struggles along the way. It was indeed inspiring and moving!



### 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

Temporarily closed

#### LIBRARY

Temporarily closed

#### COLUMBARIUM

Temporarily closed

#### CANTEEN

Temporarily closed

### ANOIDTING OF THE SICK



The sacrament can be administered to any Catholic awaiting serious surgery, suffering from serious illness or weakened by old age. Anointing may be given before admission 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 check with the Parish Office.

### 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)