



Disciples Making Disciples



Parish Office:
6280 6076(phone), secretariat@sfxchurch.sg



Parish Priest:
Rev Fr Benedict Chng
6288 0484, FrBenChng@sfxchurch.sg



St Francis Xavier Kindergarten:
6280 8929, sfx_kindergarten@sfxchurch.sg

Assistant Priest:
Rev Fr Jude David
6280 8331, Frjude@sfxchurch.sg

Priest in Residence:
Rev Fr Brian D'Souza
6282 3151, FrBrian@sfxchurch.sg

The Lord's Prayer

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
28 Jul 2019

Gen 18:20-32
Col 2:12-24
Lk 11:1-13

This article is based largely on material taken from Mass Communication: Discovering the Beauty of the Catholic Mass.

Jesus himself teaches us to pray in this Sunday's gospel. St Thomas Aquinas calls the Lord's Prayer the "most perfect of prayers"; CCC 2761 states that it is "truly the summary of the whole gospel." There are two reasons for this.

First, the prayer structure teaches us the order in which we should pray for what we desire. Beginning with God's primacy, the prayer then shows us the way towards being human. This parallels the sequence in the Ten Commandments, which elaborate on the two parts of the great commandment to love God and our neighbour.

Second, Jesus involves us in his own prayer in the Our Father. In the gospel, it is the sight of Jesus praying that awakens the disciples' desire to learn how to pray. The Our Father thus originates from Jesus' own praying and draws us into the "Son's dialogue with the Father," configuring us to the image of the Son, as Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI puts it in *Jesus of Nazareth: From the Baptism in the Jordan to the Transfiguration*.

The prayer itself comprises an initial salutation and seven petitions, of which three are "thou-petitions" and four are "we-petitions". Pope Emeritus

Benedict XVI writes, "The first three petitions concern the cause of God himself in this world; the four following petitions concern our hopes, needs, and hardships."

Brief descriptions of each part of the Lord's Prayer are as follows.

"Our Father who art in heaven..."

While the ancient Jews viewed God as father of Israel but not as *Abba*, Christians claim Christ as our brother. Hence, only through communion with Christ can we then call God "our Father".

"... hallowed be Thy name."

A name creates the possibility of address or invocation; it establishes relationship.

"Thy kingdom come..."

With this petition, we acknowledge the primacy of God. And since the kingdom of God means Christ himself, we are in essence praying for communion with Jesus.

"... Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Where God's will is done, there heaven is. Jesus, in his perfect obedience to the

Father, is the deepest and truest sense of heaven. We are thus again praying to draw closer to Jesus.

"Give us this day our daily bread..."

In this fourth petition, we pray for our earthly needs. But beyond that, this is also a Eucharistic petition. Taken literally, "our daily bread" refers to the Bread of Life, which is Jesus.

"... and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us."

CCC 2838 calls this petition "astonishing", for our petition for forgiveness will not be heard unless we have first forgiven those who have offended us. In refusing to forgive, our hearts are hardened against the Father's merciful love.

"And lead us not into temptation..."

As per CCC 2846, the Greek verb of "lead" means both "do not allow us to enter into temptation" and "do not let us yield to temptation".

"... but deliver us from evil."

The last petition captures our faith's central hope — we ask our Father to rescue, to redeem, and to free us.



*"The Lord's Prayer is truly the summary of the whole gospel."
— CCC 2761*

Announcements

For announcements in the bulletin, send your requests to mmm@sfxchurch.sg by the MONDAY before the weekend, 2359hrs

HOLY HOUR

Come spend time with our Lord at Holy Hour on **Thu 1 Aug, 8.30pm** in the main church.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY MASS ON FRI 9 AUG & MON 12 AUG

There will only be **one mass** on public holiday at **8.30am** and no evening mass.

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - DAY OF OBLIGATION



Mass on **Tue 14 Aug**
8pm (there will be no 6.30pm Mass)

Masses on **Wed 15 Aug**
6.30am, 6.30pm and 8.30pm

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

A total of 55 children from our L3 catechism cohort will be receiving their sacrament of Holy Communion this **Sun 28 Jul** at the **5.30pm** mass. Please do pray for them as they receive this important sacrament and as they take the Body and Blood of our Lord, may he continue to abide in all of them, sustain them on their journey and strengthen their faith as he pulls back the veil and help them to see him with eyes of faith.

PARISH FORMATION PROGRAMME 2019: CALLED TO LEAD

Through our baptism, we were all anointed like Jesus as priest, prophet and king, but do you really know what that means? Find out how we can participate in Jesus' mission and how we are called to lead in our family, at work and in the Church. All are welcome! Sign up now at <https://tinyurl.com/SFXModule4>

Date: Mon 29 Jul
Time: 8pm - 10pm
Venue: SFX Main Church

SAVE THE DATE: SFX CONVERSION EXPERIENCE RETREAT!

SFX will be having our own stay-in conversion experience retreat (CER) from **6 - 10 Nov**, conducted by Archbishop William Goh at the Catholic Spirituality Center! Successful registration for CER will be determined by balloting. Applicants must be a 1st time retreatant and aged 21 years and above. **Important ballot guidelines and forms are now available at parish office and main church, you can also download the form via www.sfxchurch.sg/forms-and-admin.**

Ballot Registration Day at CSC:

Date: Sat 31 Aug (Registration - 9am)

Time: 9am - 1pm (Registration closes at 10am for balloting)

Venue: Catholic Spirituality Center (St Peter's Hall, Level 1)

JOIN THE ST JEROME LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

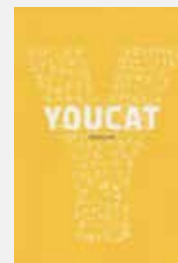
Join your parish librarians in gaining new knowledge and understanding of our faith from our abundance of Catholic writings. Each Book Club Group is limited to 6 participants to enable every participant to have the opportunity to read and share their understanding and insights. Two books are currently being read:



The Strangest Way: Walking the Christian Path
by Bishop Robert Barron

In this book, Bishop Barron of YouTube "Word on Fire" fame suggests that a serious commitment to three pathways and by certain related practices, we can all better understand and grow deeper our new life in Christ.

When: Every Sunday
Time: 8.30am - 9.45am
Venue: St Luke's Room



YouCat - The Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Youth Catechism is a condensed version of the 2865 articles of the Catechism of the Catholic Church presented through 527 questions and answers. It provides a solid foundation for understanding the faith through the time-tested 4-part structure of transmitting our beliefs: Creed, Sacraments, Commandments & Prayer.

When: Every Thursday
Time: 8.15pm - 9.45pm
Venue: St Luke's Room

Please WhatsApp or SMS your name and 'Strangest' and/or 'Youcat' to 9880 1179 (Janice) if you would like to join.

SFX KINDERGARTEN OPEN REGISTRATION FOR 2020

We believe every child is unique and special and a gift from God. We give priority to spirituality so that there is a sense of God in all that we do.

The following documents are required for registration:

1. Child's Birth Certificate and Immunization Records (photocopies)
2. Child's Baptism Certificate (photocopy) (if applicable)
3. Parents' I/C (photocopies)
4. Child's recent passport-sized photograph

Level	Child's year of birth
Pre-Nursery	2017
Nursery	2016
K1	2015
K2	2014

Chinese Immersion Classes for Nursery to K2 levels are available.

For further enquiries, kindly call the Kindergarten at 6280 8929 or email sfx_kindergarten@sfxchurch.sg

A Review of Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist – Unlocking the Secrets of the Last Supper

Courtesy of St Jerome Library

In preparation for our L3s receiving their sacrament of first holy communion this Sunday, a day of recollection was held for them and their parents on Sat 20 Jul. One of the sessions held for the parents was a talk on “The Real Presence in the Eucharist and Being a Model for your Children.” References were made to Dr Brant Pitre’s book ***Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist***.

Dr Brant Pitre, Distinguished Research Professor of Scripture at The Augustine Institute, spent 15 years studying and researching the Mishnah, the Talmud, the Midrashim (rabbinic literature) and other ancient Jewish writings to uncover that the True Presence of Jesus in the consecrated bread and wine of our Sunday Eucharist has its origins in the Passover, the Manna, the Bread of the Presence and the Fourth Cup of the Passover Seder.

Many of us know that our Sunday Eucharist was instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ on Holy Thursday. However, not many of us may be aware that the “roots” or origins of the Last Supper go further back to God’s covenant history with the Jewish people as well as the traditions that evolved out of these covenant observances.

In the first Passover, Israelite homes were spared from death by the blood of the lamb on their doorposts. They were led out of Egypt to freedom by Moses. At the Last Supper, Jesus inaugurated “the new Passover” – he “identified the bread and wine of the supper as his own body and blood, and commanded his disciples to eat and drink” (p49). Jesus became both the Passover lamb whose blood would save his people from death and the New Moses who would lead them to freedom from sin.

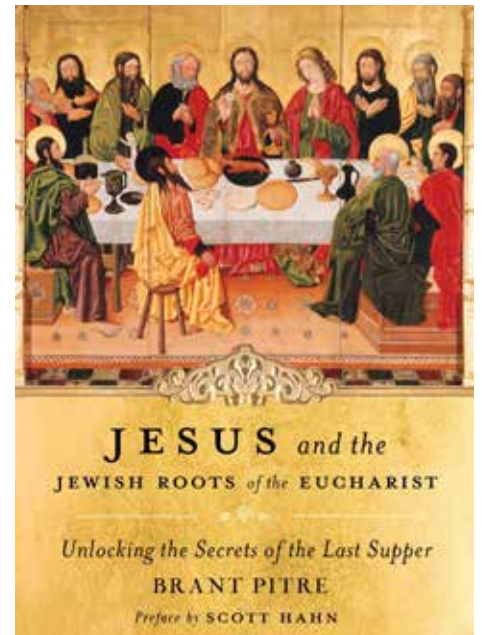
In inaugurating this new exodus to our heavenly homeland, the “food” that he will give for this journey is the

true manna or “bread from heaven” which is the “supernatural (*epiousios*) bread” we ask for in the Lord’s Prayer (Mt 6:11, Lk 11:3).

In the first Exodus, the Israelites worshipped God in the Tabernacle which contained three sacred objects, one of which was the Bread of the Presence (in Hebrew, “*lehem ha panim*” – literally Bread of the Face [of God’s Presence]). At the Last Supper when Jesus took bread and wine and told his disciples, “This is my body” and “This is my blood”, he gave to them the words and actions by which they could transform ordinary bread and wine to become the “sign and instrument of his real presence”. The longing of the Jewish people for God’s eternal presence with them is thus fulfilled by Jesus being truly present in the transubstantiated bread and wine at the Eucharistic table (p144).

Four cups of wine are drunk at every Jewish Passover meal but at the Last Supper, Jesus did not complete this ritual. In fact, he even vowed “not to drink wine until the coming of the kingdom”. He also spoke of his impending death as “‘drinking’ a cup”. Dr Pitre points out in his book that “Jesus’ unexpected act of drinking wine at the last moment before he dies on the cross” was the Fourth Cup that completed the Passover meal – also signaling that the kingdom of God that he had spoken of had now arrived.

In conclusion, Dr Pitre turns to Emmaus. There, along that journey,



Jesus’ identity had initially remained hidden from the two disciples but as he helped them understand how his death and resurrection had fulfilled what was foretold of the promised Messiah, they asked of Jesus, “Stay with us” (Lk 24:29). It was only in the ‘breaking of the bread’ that they realised Jesus had been with them all along that journey.

In this widely researched and deeply personal book, Dr Pitre encourages us to understand and rejoice, that “In the ‘breaking of the bread,’ in every Eucharist, [Jesus] answers [our] prayer, saying to [his disciples] – and to all of us – “I am with you always, even to the end of time.”



**Scan the QR
Code to watch
the video**



God gives us what we need

In today's Gospel reading, the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray, so he taught them the "Our Father".

In the first part of the "Our Father" we give glory to God by praising him, and in the second part we ask him for the things we need. First we ask for our daily bread. This can be asking both for the things like food that our bodies need, and for the spiritual things as well, especially Holy Communion. Next we ask for forgiveness for our sins and for God to keep us away from temptation and evil.

Jesus said that if a father on earth would give his children the things they need, then God, who is our Father in heaven, will certainly give us what we need. All he wants us to do is show that we trust in him by asking him.

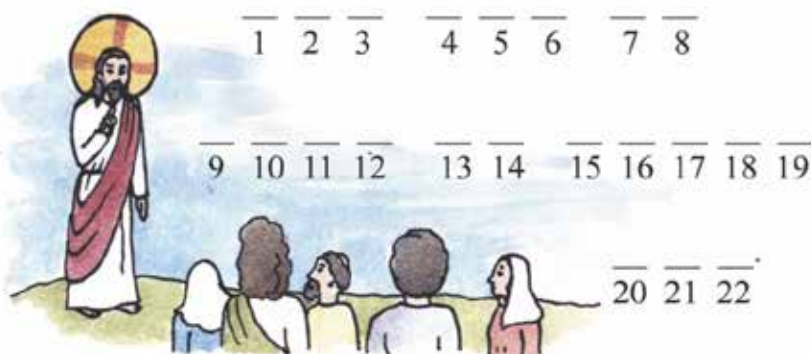
Make sure you say the "Our Father" every day to praise God our father and ask him for everything you need.



The Lord's Prayer

Fill in the blanks to complete the "Our Father."
Use the letters from the numbered boxes to fill in the blanks at the end.

Our ⁴ , who art in
¹⁷ , hallowed be thy
¹ ¹⁴ . Thy ³ ¹⁹ come.
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.
¹⁵ us this day our ⁷ ²⁰
¹³ and ²¹ ¹⁶ us our
 trespasses as ⁹ forgive those who
⁸ ² against ²² and
¹² us not into temptation but
⁶ ¹¹ us from ¹⁸ ¹⁰ .



Looking for more Information?
visit www.sfxchurch.sg!

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 except PH

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 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 and Church. 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