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**Disciples  
Making Disciples**

**Pride: The  
Queen of Vices**

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
1 Sep 2019

**Sir 3:17-20, 28-29**  
**Hebr 12:18-19, 22-24**  
**Lk 14:1, 7-14**

This week's readings denounce the proud. The gospel states, "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted." The first reading states, "There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him." (Lk 14:11, Sir 3:28)

In fact, the Christian tradition has long held special condemnation for the sin of pride. St Gregory the Great called pride the "queen of vices". In the *Summa Theologiae*, St Thomas Aquinas reasoned that "the first sin of the angel can be none other than pride."

In *Mere Christianity* — a more contemporary example — CS Lewis wrote, "Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere fleabites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil:

Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind."

Why is pride such an evil? What exactly is pride?

Aquinas defines a proud man as one who "aims higher than he is". Pride is thus seeing ourselves as above others, and taken to its extreme, as above God. Put another way, pride is essentially putting ourselves first, rather than God or our neighbour; of seeing the world with ourselves at the center, rather than God or our neighbour.

The ancient philosopher and Christian martyr Ancius Boethius thus said, "While all vices flee from God, pride alone withstands God."

Lewis put it another way: "In God you come up against something which is in every respect immeasurably superior to yourself. Unless you know God as that—and, therefore, know yourself as nothing in comparison—you do not know God at all. As long as you are proud you cannot know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people: and, of course, as long as you are looking down, you cannot see something that is above you."

In this sense, pride can be distinguished from vanity. A vain man may inordinately

desire praise and admiration, but he at least values other people enough to want them to look at him. A proud man—the kind afflicted with what Lewis calls the "real black, diabolical Pride" — sees others as so beneath him that he does not care what they think.

A man who cares not for the gaze of others must thus be honest with his own intentions: it could be because he only looks up to God, or it could be because he looks down on everyone.

Pride's corresponding virtue is humility. If a proud man puts himself before his neighbour, a humble man will put his neighbour before himself. In fact, he will be so focussed on his neighbour that he forgets himself. A humble man is a selfless man.

Lewis thus concluded, "Do not imagine that if you meet a really humble man he will be what most people call 'humble' nowadays: he will not be a sort of greasy, smarmy person, who is always telling you that, of course, he is nobody. Probably all you will think about him is that he seemed a cheerful, intelligent chap who took a real interest in what you said to him... He will not be thinking about humility: he will not be thinking about himself at all."



*"In God you come up against something which is in every respect immeasurably superior to yourself. Unless you know God as that - and, therefore, know yourself as nothing in comparison - you do not know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people: and, of course, as long as you are looking down, you cannot see something that is above you."*

– CS Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

## Announcements

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

### HOLY HOUR

Come spend time with our Lord at Holy Hour, on **Thu 5 Sep, 8.30pm** in the Main Church.

### COLUMBARIUM

Please note that the Columbarium will be closed till completion of phase one of the renovation project (estimated **mid-Nov**). This is for the safety of the public. Thank you for your understanding.

### CATECHISM BREAK

Please note that there will be NO catechism sessions on **Sun 8 Sep** due to the school holiday break. Catechism resumes on **Sun 15 Sep**.

### ANAWIM

Our next session will be on **Tue 3 Sep, 8pm** in **St Francis Xavier Room** at the Parish Centre (Level 2). We welcome anyone who wants to rediscover some aspects of our faith and to live it more meaningfully and joyfully. If interested, please contact Theresa at 9643 7132.

### SPIRITUAL BOUQUETS FOR SFX CER

Truly we are made to live by charity! Our upcoming SFX CER in Nov, is an excellent opportunity for us to live up to our charitable aspirations. We will be starting a Spiritual Bouquet offered for all involved in our upcoming SFX CER. Spiritual Bouquets are prayers or devotional acts that someone (the giver) has offered for someone else (the recipient). We will be offering rosary prayers and devotional acts of fasting as our Spiritual Bouquet. Booths will be set up during all weekend masses from **7 - 29 Sep**. Please come and sign up and be part of this Spiritual Bouquet for those involved in our SFX CER.

### ONE: NEW WINE CONFERENCE

Are you involved in the Parish Pastoral Council, Ministry or Small Christian Community? This conference is for you. Come & discover new ways to build a more vibrant, evangelistic, and missionary Church in Singapore! Register now at [bit.ly/nwc19](https://bit.ly/nwc19)

**Date:** 21 Sep 2019  
**Time:** 9.30am - 4pm  
**Venue:** St Joseph's Institution Jr (3 Essex Rd S309331)

## PARISH FORMATION PROGRAMME 2019: AUTHENTIC LISTENING

Have you ever experienced trying to share your life with another, but realised that the other person isn't really listening to you? Just as we all have an innate desire to be known and heard, so do the people in our lives, our communities and our ministries, all desiring to be heard. Learning how to actively listen will help us to build relationships - to come out of ourselves and build a community in our homes, workplace and in the parish. Come and listen to Lance Ng, a spiritual director at Kingsmead Spirituality Centre, who will be teaching us the art of authentic listening on **Mon 2 Sep and 9 Sep, 8 - 10pm** at the **Main Church**. All are welcome!

### 60TH ANNIVERSARY PARISH FEAST DAY DINNER: TICKET SALES!

Join us as we celebrate our 60th Feast Day as a parish community on **Sun 1 Dec, 7pm** at **Ban Heng Restaurant** (Harbourfront Centre #04-01, 1 Maritime Square S099253). Besides the sumptuous menu and entertainment, there will also be exciting games and a lucky draw! Look out for the ticket sales booth after mass and purchase your tickets early. Tickets cost **\$70 per person**, on a first come first served basis! **Renovation fundraiser tables are available at \$10,000 per table. For further details or to purchase a table, contact the parish priest. Nett proceeds from this year's Feast Day Dinner will go towards the Renovation Fund.**

### NOVENA YOUTH RALLY - A JOURNEY

Calling all youths & young adults (13 - 30 years old). Dive deep and join us at the Novena Youth Rally. Bring your friends to experience the stillness of God's presence.

**Date:** Mon 2 Sep 2019  
**Time:** 7pm - 10pm  
**Venue:** Novena Church

### FAMILY LIFE SOCIETY: MONSTER IN EVERY ROOM

Arm yourself and your child with tools to conquer PORN. For parents and everyone who works with children.

**Date:** Wed 9 Oct  
**Time:** 7pm - 9.30pm  
**Venue:** The Catholic Centre, Level 3 (55, Waterloo Street, S-187954)  
**Register:** Register at [bit.ly/mer\\_mail](https://bit.ly/mer_mail) or call 6488 0278 (Jacinta) for further enquires  
**Cost:** \$10/pax

### CENACLE SISTERS: FIRE TESTED GOLD - LIVING WITH DEPRESSION IN THE LIGHT OF FAITH

This weekend retreat is designed for those who suffer from depression, as well as those who take care of loved ones who struggle with this oft-debilitating disease. Through inputs, prayer, reflection and faith-sharing, the participants will be led to see depression not only as a medical condition to be dealt with proper medical and therapeutic interventions, but also as a vehicle of God's healing mercy and faithfulness. Like fire-tested gold, their faith will become stronger when the experience of depression is integrated within the greater context of their life as a whole, in the light of the God Who has never left them to suffer alone. By Sr. Cecille Tuble, rc. Please register at [www.cenaclemission.com](http://www.cenaclemission.com)

**Date & Time:** Fri 11 Oct, 8pm - Sun 13 Oct, 1pm  
**Venue:** Montfort Centre (622 Upp Bukit Timah Road S-678117)  
**Contribution:** \$300

### LANDINGS: WELCOMING RETURNING CATHOLICS

An evening of testimonies by Catholics who have returned and strengthened their faith with the help of Landings will be held on **Fri 23 Aug, 7.30pm** at the **JM Beurel Centre (Annex Building Level 3), Cathedral of the Good Shepherd ('A' Queen Street S188533)**. Listen to stories of struggles, challenges, grace and reconciliation and register via <https://bit.ly/2Dz549P>.

#### Details of next Landings programme at the Cathedral:

**Date:** Fridays from 13 Sep - 29 Nov  
**Time:** 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
**Venue:** Cathedral of the Good Shepherd

We invite Catholics seeking a reconnection with the Faith and those interested in this ministry to participate in this 10-week programme. **Registration closes on Sun 25 Aug**. Please email [returning@landings.org.sg](mailto:returning@landings.org.sg) or find out more at [www.landings.org.sg](http://www.landings.org.sg).



## HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS THIS MONTH

**UNIVERSAL – POLITICIANS, SCIENTISTS AND  
ECONOMISTS**

That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.

### IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2019

#### CONDOLENCES

We offer our prayers to the families of the following who have returned to the Lord:

1. Cecilia Kho Gek Lee
2. Pamela Kwarn Yeng Jowe
3. Tan Ah Tee William (Desmond)
4. Loo Chee Sin Michael

## 1Cor12 Retreat

Amidst the bustle of an increasingly noisier world, 1Cor12 had a retreat with Jesus last weekend. The retreatants were displaced from their comfort zones through activities such as improvisational acting, giving care packages to the needy in Kovan and a pilgrimage in Punggol. They were challenged to experience God and listen to his voice through the discomfort. There was time and space for silence, to encounter God.



The retreat was organised by the Parish of St Ignatius' De Vita Christi (DVC). Comprising of five 'communities' i.e. community-ministries, ranging from teenagers to young adults, DVC shares a special relationship with 1Cor12, as many of the members have shared journeys, are good friends, or are married to one another.

Christ said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." How much more will heaven open when two or three communities, or two or three parishes, are gathered in his name! Thank you, DVC, for being the life of Christ to us!

*"Despite not being able to stay throughout the retreat, the weekend was filled with grace. I was awed by the sense of community and church even though I did not know every person from the 1Cor12 community; and some are from different age groups and stages of life. Yet coming together to share and pray for each other allowed me to connect with others with whom I otherwise would not have done. This is also the case for my 5 and 2 year olds. At a personal level, I also felt God's invitation to trust in his providence and entrust him to hold the tensions within my heart. Praise Be To God!"*

- Joshua Foo, Mustard Seed Community

*"I went for the 1Cor12 retreat without much expectations, but it was a good time to spend with the Lord. He wanted me to let go of the expectations I had so that I could learn what true freedom is; which is to love and to accept love. Also, to see the goodness in myself and to truly believe in the truth that I am a child of God."*

- Grace Teo, Leaven of God





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



*"I really did not know what to expect; I was filled with anxiety and excitement at what was to come. God truly has a very unique and different way in speaking to people. Throughout the retreat I felt so much love, warmth and security; and he knew this was what I needed most at that point in time. I'm so grateful for this experience, it was truly fulfilling and I'm very thankful for all the hard work that was put into it."*

- by Sarah Teo, Lighthouse

### 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

### ANOINTING 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



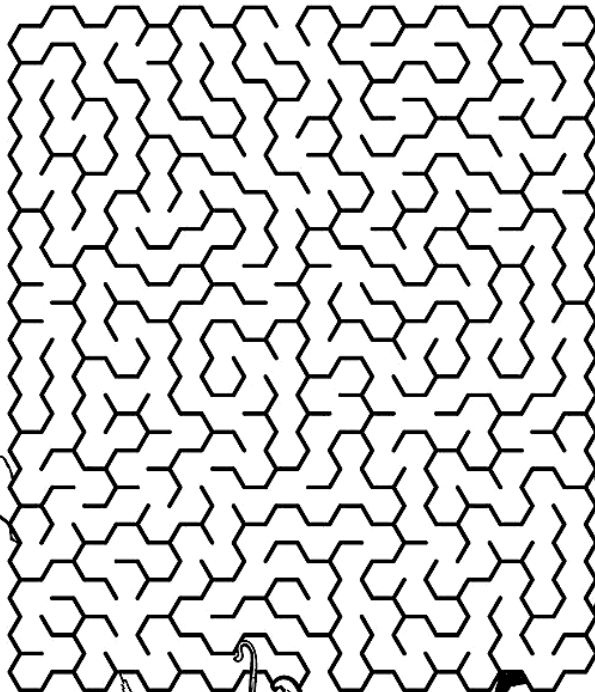
Mass offering envelopes are available outside the Parish Office. Submit your envelopes at least two weeks in advance of your intended date. Please write the names clearly, and in block letters.



## THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Help the shepherd guide his lamb.

FINISH



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