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**Disciples
Making Disciples**

Life in Two Deaths

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
29 Sep 2019

Am 6:1, 4-7
1 Tim 6:11-16
Lk 16:19-31

The Rich Man and Lazarus in today's gospel, whilst living very different lives, had one thing in common - they both died! It is with great certainty that we too, are all going to die. Yet, many do not want nor like to talk about death because in a superstitious way, it is inauspicious to do so. And when it comes to talking about our own personal death, most would not even contemplate the thought unless they find themselves seriously ill or injured. At that point in time, even Christians, may fall into despair, denial and anger.

Death is a consequence of sin. Sin entered into the world through Adam, and because all men sinned, so all must die (cf Rom 5:12, CCC 1008). Jesus, the Son of God, himself suffered the death that is part of the human condition. And though Jesus was without sin, he freely chose to accept a cruel and horrifying death as the perfect atonement for all our sins, in complete submission to his Father's will. The obedience of Jesus transformed the curse of death into a blessing when he was resurrected (cf CCC 1009). Now, by the grace of faith in Jesus Christ, we too can rise with Christ after our bodily death.

To rise with Christ, we must die with Christ (cf CCC 1005), because "if we have died with him, we will also live

with him." (2 Tim 2:11) "Through our Baptism, we have already 'died with Christ' sacramentally, in order to live a new life." Then, "if we die in Christ's grace, physical death completes this 'dying with Christ' and so completes our incorporation into him in his redeeming act." (CCC 1010)

So to a Christian, by the grace and mercy of God, death is no longer dying, but entering life!

Death then simply marks the end of our earthly pilgrimage and the end of time available to us to freely choose to love God and our neighbour which ultimately decide our destiny after life (cf CCC1013). The Rich Man in choosing to ignore the needs of Lazarus, who was right at the very gate of his house, had in fact chosen to ignore God. He chose not to love his neighbour the way he loved himself. As a consequence, the Rich Man by the choices he made in life, ended up in Hell. In the same way, our choices in life matter and has consequences into eternity, because whilst we are saved by faith in Christ Jesus, we will be judged by what we have done with our earthly life (cf Rev 20:12-13, Mt 25:31-46).

It is not always easy to love our neighbour. It is not always easy to choose to follow God's ways, because we are mostly worried about earthly consequences instead of consequences into eternity. As a result, we may hold back on providing and building up the Church because we cannot see any earthly returns from giving to the Church. We choose to take our children out of Catechism because exam preparations and vacations seem more important

presently, than a sound grounding in Christ in their lives. We choose not to speak about our faith to others because we are afraid of being ridiculed. Our first reading today, cautions us not to allow our earthly considerations of success and comfort lull us into complacency about eternity, and in the second reading, St Paul urges us to "fight the good fight of faith and win for yourself the eternal life" to which we are called at our baptism (1 Tim 6:12).

Fighting to keep our faith can be a mighty struggle. We cannot do it by ourselves but must implore the help of the Holy Spirit through prayer. In prayer, through the living word of Scriptures and through the Sacraments, we encounter Jesus our risen Christ and come to know him as the One whom we can and should love deeply. When we fall in love with Jesus, choosing to obey comes more naturally. Then, when we die in God's grace and friendship, we will be assured of eternal salvation (cf CCC 1030).



*"Death is no longer
dying, but entering life."*

Announcements

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

HOLY HOUR

Come spend some time with our Lord at Holy Hour, on **Thu 3 Oct**, **8.30pm** in the Main Church.

SPIRITUAL BOUQUETS FOR SFX CER

Since the beginning, the Lord stated clearly that we live not only for ourselves, but also for our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

For our upcoming SFX CER in Nov, we invite and encourage you to take the intentional step to be the keeper of your brothers and sisters in Christ, and to lift them in prayer through our spiritual bouquets. This includes rosary prayers and devotional acts of fasting. Booths will be set up during all weekend masses from **7 - 29 Sep**. Come and sign up to offer your spiritual support for the Retreatants, Archbishop William Goh, Priests and all Service Team!

CALL FOR INTERESTED PARISHIONERS TO JOIN MISSION TRIP

SFX SiGN (Sowers in God's Name) will be organizing our next mission trip to Myanmar in the **3rd week Dec** (Dates are TBC). We will once again visit the Nazareth Bush School to assist Fr Benjamin Eihsu with the children's spiritual formation. If you are keen to join the Mission trips or wish to find out more, please contact Anne (9741 9634) or Thud Chee (9632 3489) for more details.

PRAY THE ROSARY ON THE GO!

October is a month dedicated to Our Lady and the rosary. The Daughters of St Paul have just launched a new rosary recording, The Holy Rosary with Scripture Readings, is available on CD, USB and online streaming on Spotify and Apple music. Listen to a **Sample clip:** tiny.cc/Rosarydpsample **On Spotify:** tiny.cc/Rosarydsp or on **Apple music:** tiny.cc/Rosarydspa

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF THE MAIN CHURCH (7 - 9 OCT)

Due to the parish renovations, the Main Church will be closed on **7 - 9 Oct**. Mass will be held at the following rooms - St Matthew, St Mark & St Luke, located on the 2nd floor of the parish centre. **Mon 7 Oct morning mass is still celebrated in the Main Church.** There is no change in the mass timings.

MISUSE OF CHURCH RESOURCES

After 3.30pm last Sunday, a fire extinguisher was discharged near the toilets on the 2nd floor parish center. Cleaning up and restoring the premises to safe and usable state took effort and time. Thank you for your understanding and we apologise for any inconvenience.

Let us also be mindful of our resources and love all that our loving Heavenly Father has provided for us.



PARISH FORMATION PROGRAMME 2019: MINISTRY & GROWTH (LAST TOPIC)

Have you experienced growth in your spiritual life as you serve in different parish ministries? Or do you feel like serving in a ministry has become more of a routine, a burden and just a form of service? Come and learn how we can transform our ministries into places of growth so that as we serve the wider parish community, we too can experience rejuvenation and growth in our spiritual lives. Come and discover more with **Celine Arents** on **Mon 30 Sep, 8 - 10pm** at the **Main Church**. All are welcome!

60TH ANNIVERSARY FEAST DAY DINNER: ONE-WAY BUS TICKETS SALE & PRIZE DONATIONS

One-way bus tickets for sale! Bus pick up point is in front of the Church foyer and departs at 6.15pm sharp on Sun 1 Dec. **We would like to appeal to your generosity for donation of lucky draw prizes.** New electronic items or gift vouchers are welcome. Please contact Patrick at 9616 6663 if you would like to purchase tickets or contribute to the lucky draw prizes.



PIETA MEMORIAL MASS FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE DIED

We come together as bereaved families to remember our children who have died, no matter how recently or long ago, including unborn and adult children. The mass will be celebrated by Msgr Philip Heng SJ, Rector of the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd on **Fri 8 Oct, 7.30pm**. Parents who wish to include the name of your child for this mass, please register before **Fri 18 Oct** at tinyurl.com/PietaMM2019. For more information, email to pietamass@gmail.com.

CHIJ 165TH ANNIVERSARY: 'IJ RECONNECT - COME, SEE & SHARE'

Inviting all Friends of IJ to join us on our journey to revisit the inspiration of our Founder, Blessed Nicolas Barre, deepen our IJ Spirituality and to respond to the needs of today through our IJ Mission on **Sat 19 Oct, 8.45am - 12.30pm** at **CHIJ Primary (Toa Payoh)**. Please register via IJReconnect2019@gmail.com by **Tue 1 Oct**.

“Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God's heart. You must speak to Jesus not only with your lips, but with your heart. In fact on certain occasions you should only speak to Him with your heart.”

– St Padre Pio



The Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of the Holy Rosary is October and this entire month is dedicated to the Rosary. The feast day of the Holy Rosary is **7 October** - in memory of the glorious and triumphant victory at the battle of Lepanto. That battle was the most convincing military victory that proved without a doubt the great power of the Rosary. The month of October is a good time to commit to praying the Rosary everyday. The Rosary will bring great peace and holiness to our life. It is a powerful instrument for conversion. The Rosary is the best method of honouring Mary.

Activities in Our Parish

EVENING ROSARY PRAYERS

During the month of the Rosary, you may gather with fellow Catholics to pray the Rosary at the Grotto, after evening mass daily (**about 7.15pm on weekdays, 6.45pm on the weekends**).

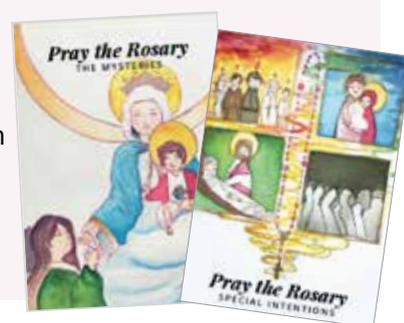
MAP OF PRAYER & ROSARY WALK

In the spirit of evangelisation, as it is also the month of mission, do join us on the Rosary walk as well. Just gather in small groups and walk as you pray the rosary. When you're done, please take a marker and highlight the path that you walked on the map found at the front of the church. If you walked outside of the parish boundaries, just write the name of the area along the sides of the map. Hopefully, we will fill the estate and Singapore with prayer during this month of the rosary. If you wish to follow the parish-organised walks, these will be held from **14 to 20 Oct. Meet at the Grotto after evening mass. If it rains or if haze conditions are very bad, prayers will held indoors.**



ROSARY BOOKLETS

Includes the 4 mysteries, as well as a thematic rosary booklet for specific intentions such as families, vocations, souls in purgatory, pro-life and healing! These can also be found on our **parish website under "resources"** (<http://www.sfxchurch.sg/resources>). You can download it and use it for your rosary walks!





Looking for more Information?
visit www.sfxchurch.sg



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Go to <https://sfxchurch.formed.org/>.
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A verification eMail will be sent to you.

Existing Viewers

if you forgot how to log in, go to 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

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 contact 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