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What we shall be has not vet been revealed

Solemnity of All Saints 1 Nov 2020

Rev 7:2-4, 9-14 1 In 3:1-3 Mt 5:1-12a

If you are connected to Catholic sources on social media, you might have seen the beatification of Blessed Carlo Acutis held earlier in October at the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi. Born in 1991, he might just be the first millennial to be made a saint. What is remarkable is really how ordinary he seemed to be - he wore Nike shoes and jeans, studied computer science, and owned a mobile phone. Blessed Carlo Acutis seemed just like any one of us on the outside. In this broken modern world, is it possible that someone of the younger generation could be made a saint? In fact, what makes anyone a saint?

The gospel today sheds some light. Indeed, the Beatitudes are a concise instruction manual for achieving holiness and an accurate description of the saints. At the mention of holiness, we often refer to keeping the Ten Commandments. When we go to Confession, it is often sins against the Ten Commandments that we refer to. Perhaps this points to a need to allow God's love to fill and transform our hearts (cf CCC 1964 & 1968).

Many of us strive for power, comfort, and safety to be happy. But the Beatitudes tell us that it is those who recognise their dependence on God; those who are grieving; those who reach out in tenderness to unite peoples; those who seek justice and righteousness selflessly; those who are single-hearted in and not the finite. The infinite is our homeland. We have always been expected in heaven." - Blessed Carlo Acutis

their pursuit of God; these are the ones who are truly happy.

"Our aim has to be the infinite

The "kingdom of heaven" is a phrase often used in Jesus' many parables, and it indeed holds eschatological significance. It is a code word for God's presence in our daily living, and the subsequent transformation God effects in the lives and situations of those who respond to him. In the Second Reading, it says "what we shall be has not been revealed...when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." (1 Jn 3:2) That does not mean we can only wonder who we might be when God is done with us. God continues to mould our person in the everyday situations we face and through the people we meet. We can cooperate with his grace to discover our own unique way of being.

Blessed Carlo Acutis found his unique way of being while on earth. He was a genius in computer science and much enjoyed computer programming, editing films, and creating websites. Submitting his giftedness for the good of others, he created a website catalogue of all the Eucharistic miracles. He also cared greatly for his friends and the homeless and destitute whom he served. From his life stories, we see Blessed Carlo Acutis living out the Beatitudes on earth and heavenward. As he says: "Our aim has to be the infinite and not the finite. The infinite is our homeland. We have always been expected in heaven." The Beatitudes are undeniably relevant to everyone, regardless of nationality, age, duties in life, seasons etc. Each of us can strive to be holy and happy now.

On All Saints' Day, we celebrate not just those who have "made it" but also the meaning our lives can take on as we look towards our ultimate end, which is communion with God. The fourth verse of the hymn "For All the Saints" inspires and urges us on in our earthly journey:

O blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; vet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

St John encourages us in the First Reading through his "vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands." (Rev 7:9) There will be no discrimination. All who live the Beatitudes, all who fulfil the new law given by Jesus, will be accepted into his kingdom. We need to ask ourselves: what is our unique way of living the Beatitudes; who am I becoming in God's kingdom?

Announcements

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



All Saints' Day (Day of Obligation) Sat 31 Oct (Eve): 5.30pm Sun 1 Nov: 9am, 11am, 1pm, 5.30pm

All Souls' Day (Additional Masses) Mon 2 Nov: 6.30pm, 8.30pm

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

It is available via appointment only. You can contact the Parish Office to make an appointment for the following time slots:

Tuesdays & Fridays: 4pm - 6pm Saturdays: 10am - 12pm

TEMPORARY ONLINE MASS OFFERINGS

Please submit your intention 1 WEEK in advance and wait for the Finance Department to contact you. They will provide you with a "Reference No", MO xxx (eg MO 001). Key in the given referral number upon making payment via PayNow (T08CC4033J). Your intentions will be offered up during our priests' private masses.

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Our SFX Intercessory Prayer Ministry will intercede and offer your prayer petitions at its weekly prayer sessions. Please submit your prayer request to **www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessoryprayer**. Rest assured that all prayer requests are kept confidential.

You could also join us online every Friday, to pray and intercede in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. If you are joining us for the first time, please email **intercessory@ sfxchurch.sg** for more information. All are welcome!

Date & Time: Fri 6 Nov, 8pm



BOOKING OF SECOND WEEKEND MASS IN NOVEMBER

Booking for the second weekend Mass begins on **Tue 10 Nov** at **9am** via **mycatholic.sg**. It is subject to availability. Do be gracious and make your booking only if you are sure you can attend. Please bring along a photo identification card for verification when you attend Mass.

One-time change of Parish: With effect from **Sat 17 Oct**, you will be able to make a **ONE-TIME** change of your Parish via **mycatholic.sg** under the *myProfile* page. To learn more about how you can qualify for the change, visit **www.catholic.sg/resumption-of-mass15**.

Cancellation of Mass bookings and editing of particulars are now available on the *myProfile* page. For those who need to amend their NRIC/FIN number or email address, please email **mycatholicsg@catholic.org.sg**.

MASS TIMES: Tuesday, Thursday: 6.30pm

Saturday: 5.30pm Sunday: 9am, 11am, 1pm, 5.30pm

MASS COLLECTION

Mass collections can be made via:

- PayNow Launch the Paynow service on your bank's app or online website. Select "Send via Unique Entity Number (UEN)" and enter "T08CC4033J". Proceed to check entity name - Church of St Francis Xavier, then key in amount. Lastly, key in the reference - Mass Collection.
- Cheque Payable to Church of St Francis Xavier. Mail cheques to 63A Chartwell Drive, Singapore 558758.

IT VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

We are in need of committed volunteers to assist in technical matters during Mass both on weekdays and the weekends. **Basic skills required are** Linux – CLI level*, Windows*, Network management**, Data storage management, C / C++ / Python / Bash** (* Must have ** Great to have)

If you have the above gifts and talents, come serve with us to build the Kingdom of God and email **mmm@sfxchurch.sg** to find out more!

CATECHISM REGISTRATION 2021

Registration for Nursery Level catechism (children aged **4 years old in 2021**, born in 2017) will start from **Sun 25 Oct** till **Sat 14 Nov**. Parents can download the registration form via **www.sfxchurch.sg/forms-and-admin**, and submit the completed form together with a scanned copy of the child's baptism certificate to **catechism@sfxchurch.sg**. For Level 1 (Primary 1) catechism, please follow the same procedure.

CATECHISM SESSIONS 2021: Nursery: 9am - 10.30am K1, K2: 1.30pm - 3pm L1, L2, L3, L4: 1.30pm - 3pm L5, L6: 3.15pm - 4.45pm L7, L8, L9, L10: 3.15pm - 5pm

All catechism sessions for 2021 will be conducted on Sunday via the zoom platform and the timings remain unchanged. For any enquiries, please email **catechism@sfxchurch.sg**.

FAMILY LIFE SOCIETY: ONLINE COUNSELLING

Community of Paracounsellors (CPC) under Family Life Society is now offering pro bono e-Counselling for anyone who requires support during this time. Their team of committed therapists support and journey with all who come with any kind of difficulty or challenge, regardless of race, religion or background. This is open to all - as long as they are able to use Zoom for the session. Booking can be done via **http://cpc.familylife.sg**.

BOOKING OF COLUMBARIUM VISITS

All visitors to the Columbarium are required to book a visit timeslot via https://tinyurl.com/ SFXColumbarium.

- 1. This will be on a first-come, first-served basis. All visitors are to fill in their name, NRIC (last three digits and alphabet) and contact number.
- 2. Do make your online booking one day in advance.
- The Columbarium is not open to visitors on Public Holidays and Sundays. The visiting period is from Mon to Sat: 10am – 12pm, 2pm – 4pm.
- 4. A maximum of 5 people are allowed per slot for a duration of 20 minutes. All visitors are required to wear a mask, check in with SafeEntry and register at the Parish Office for temperature screening. If visitors are late for their booked timeslot, no additional time can be accorded.



UNIVERSAL: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE We pray that the progress

of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

IN THE MONTH OF OCT 2020

WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couples:

- 1. IP Jowa Andrew & Pereira Fiona Lyn
- 2. Chia Nan Yu Freeman & Diana Ong Sher Pin
- 3. Vinsensius Albert & Mary Ann Lim Hui Ming
- 4. Christopher Joseph DeCruz & Koh Karin

CONDOLENCES

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

- 1. Leong Chong Seng Magnus
- 2. Soh Pheck Chee Francisca
- 3. Chan Swee Mong Paul
- 4. Leong Siew Kew, Christine

INFANT/ ADULT BAPTISMS

We welcome the following:

- 1. Alyssa Jayne Khoo
- 2. Nathan Christien Ho
- 3. Avalyn Alexis Toh En Ya
- 4. Elijah Edgar Eng Yu Kai
- 5. Elijah Jeremiah Holland
- 6. Choong Wai Hing Laurie

What's on FORMED

Video: Lectio: Peter

The character of St Peter is both inspiring confounding and to many of us. How could a stubborn and impulsive fisherman become the "rock" which upon Jesus would build his



Church? Bringing together biblical accounts, historical evidence, Church teaching, classical art, and personal insights, Dr Tim Gray gives a fresh perspective on Simon Peter that is immediately informative and relevant to our lives. After all, if Jesus could bring out the very best in someone like Peter, then there is hope for the rest of us.

Book: *A Family of Saints: The Martins of Lisieux*

The recent, and unprecedented, canonisation by Pope Francis of a husband and wife, Louis and Zélie Martin, the parents of Saint Thérèse, has stirred a great interest in this extraordinary family. This work, by the highly regarded expert on the Martin family, Fr Stéphane-Joseph Piat, OFM, is the definitive biography of this amazing "family of saints."



This family of saints, who lived in the late 1800s and early 1900s, might appear from their quaint photographs to have lived a relatively serene and smooth path to sainthood, untarnished by modern problems. But, as this book shows, the reality is quite the opposite. They suffered from the loss of four children, the failure of a family business, and the death of Zélie, at forty-five, to breast cancer. The secret to their happiness then is the secret to our happiness now - unfailing love made possible by boundless faith in God. All the challenges the Martins faced, great and small, were met with a profound trust in Divine Providence.

What's on **FORMED**

Video: All Saints Day



The Solemnity of All Saints falls on Sunday, November 1. Prepare for this wonderful feast with the professors and friends of the Augustine Institute in this special category of reflections on the saints.

Podcast:

Vatican II, Mercy & You: St John Paul II's Vision for the New *Evangelisation*

In this illuminating talk, Fr Michael Gaitley recounts Archbishop how Karol Wojtyła, later Pope St John Paul II, used the teachings of the Second Vatican



Council with great success to help Catholics in his diocese fully live their Catholic faith. Learn how Vatican II provides a map to help us enrich our lives through faith and effectively experience the Good News of God's divine mercy.



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

Mass Timings

WEEKDAY MASSES Tue & Thur: 6.30pm

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat Sunset: 5.30pm (There is currently no Novena at 4.45pm) Sun: 9am, 11am, 1pm, 5.30pm (There is currently no Confession before Mass)

MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS Suspended until

further notice

HOLY HOUR Suspended until further notice

https://tinyurl.com/ <u>SFXColumbarium</u> (by appointment only)



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

INFANT BAPTISM

For more information, please contact the Parish Office for Baptism of Infants.

hospital can be contacted.



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

PARISH OFFICE For pastoral care services (e.g anointing, funerals etc), you may contact before coming at the following hours.

Opening Hours

Mon - Sat: 9.30am - 6.30pm Sun: 8.30am - 1pm

> **ADORATION** ROOM Closed until further notice

> LIBRARY Closed until further notice

COLUMBARIUM

