



Disciples
Making Disciples



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Christ, the King of My Life

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus
Christ, King of the Universe
22 Nov 2020

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28
Mt 25:31-46

In today's first reading, God speaks of himself as a shepherd who would look after and tend his sheep; he himself would pasture his sheep, give them rest, seek out the lost, bring back the stray, bind up the injured and heal the sick. In antiquity, kings were seen as shepherds – their sceptre or royal staff symbolised their commitment to shepherd the people at all costs. On this final Sunday of the liturgical year as we celebrate Christ as King of the Universe, we are professing Christ as the one true Shepherd-King of humanity – for he laid down his life to save all men (cf Jn 10:11).

Christ's kingship is unlike many of the earthly authoritarian royalties of the past. Out of his immense love for us, Christ "emptied himself, [took] the form of a slave" and came in human likeness to reach out to us (Phil 2:7). If we want to show gratitude for his self-emptying love, we must obey him for he told his disciples, "if you love me, you will keep my commandments." (Jn 14:15)

To keep Christ's commandments is to surrender our own will and submit to Christ's will, thus allowing Christ to be the king of our lives. Christ has made this submission to divine will easier for us by his incarnation as the great 7th century theologian St Maximus the Confessor argued. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Christ

knew he would die a terrible death yet cried out to God, "Not my will, but yours be done" (Lk 22:42). St Maximus said that in surrendering his human will to the Father's will, Christ had most perfectly drawn the human will into a complete union with the divine will. This is the moment where Jesus as both man and God took what was ours and united it ever more perfectly with God.

To allow Christ to be the king of our lives also means allowing him to be the king of our minds and actions. The fruit of making him the king of our minds would be the loving responses seen through our actions. This is most evident when we have to make a decision and choose to do what would be pleasing to him. Oftentimes, however, we are "playing" God as if God is subject to us, thus making ourselves king of our own lives. We try to "play" God by supporting abortion, euthanasia, divorce, IVF, human embryonic stem cell research, same-sex marriage, and artificial contraception. In the case of human embryonic stem cell research, we "play" God by using stem cells from fertilised human embryos. Even in the area of ministry and lay apostolate work, have we consulted God before

deciding how we are to reach out to and evangelise to others?

Venerable Fulton Sheen, in his book, "Peace of Soul", expounded on how many good souls have the desire to follow Christ intimately but are not willing to surrender as Christ himself surrendered to the Father, "Today, there is in the world a vast army of good souls who have not yet entered into the fullness... they are thirsty, but they fear to ask Him for a drink lest He pour it from a chalice. They are cold, but they fear drawing near His fires, lest those flames cleanse as they illumine them; they know that they are locked in the sepulchres of their own pettiness, but they fear that their Resurrection, like His, will bear the scars of battle. There are many who would like to stretch a finger to Our Lord; they shrink back lest He should seize their hands and woo their hearts. But they are not far from the Kingdom of God. Already, they have the desire; they need only the courage...in which, through an apparent surrender, they will find themselves victors in the captivity of Divinity."

Let us ask today for the courage to surrender to our selfless King.



In the Garden of Gethsemane, Christ knew he would die a terrible death yet cried out to God, "Not my will, but yours be done" (Lk 22:42). St Maximus said that in surrendering his human will to the Father's will, Christ had most perfectly drawn the human will into a complete union with the divine will.

Announcements

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

CHRISTMAS CARD MAILING LIST

Have you changed your address? Are you new to the parish? Have you received a christmas card from SFX? Please update your address and any other details with the Parish Office or send an email to secretariat@sfxchurch.sg. We want to make sure you get your Christmas card!

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/intercessory-prayer. Rest assured that all prayer requests are kept confidential.

You could also join us online **every Friday, 8pm** 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!

ZOOM MEETING DETAILS
Meeting ID: 861 5125 7252
Password: SFXIP27NOV



BOOKING OF MASSES IN NOVEMBER

Great News! Our Main Church is now ready to accommodate 100 parishioners for both weekday and weekend Masses. Please visit **MyCatholic.sg** to book your Mass slots. To ensure that all who want to attend are able to get slots, we ask that you be gracious and book at least 2 days in advance, and only if you are sure you can attend. Do also remember to cancel your booking if you are unable to attend. **There will be two check-in points via the Main Church foyer & outside JPll Hall.** Please come 20 minutes earlier and bring along a photo identification card for verification.

MASS TIMINGS

Tuesday, Thursday: 6.30pm

Saturday: 5.30pm

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

One-time change of Parish: You can now 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.

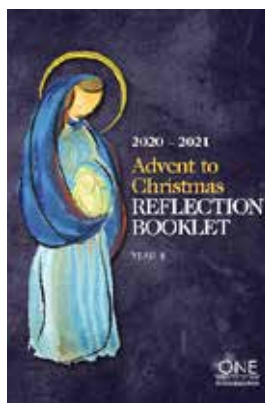
MASS COLLECTION

Mass collections can be made via:

- 1. 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**.
- 2. Cheque** - Payable to **Church of St Francis Xavier**. Mail cheques to **63A Chartwell Drive, Singapore 558758**.

CHARISMATIC: ONE MIND ONE HEART

The next Charismatic Prayer Meeting via Zoom is on **Mon 23 Nov, 8pm**. Praise and Worship followed by a talk on 'One Mind One Heart' by Martin Fernandez. All are welcome.



ONE: ADVENT TO CHRISTMAS REFLECTION E-BOOKLET

The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced a reflection e-booklet to journey with you throughout Advent & Christmas. The reflection themes for Advent & Christmas are "The Coming Word" and "Word Among Us" respectively. Please download the e-booklet at bit.ly/AdventChristmas2020. Short weekly videos that complement the e-booklet will also be uploaded on **Mon 8pm**, starting **23 Nov 2020** at tinyurl.com/oneyoutubechannel.

ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Meeting ID:
836 3543 9497
Password:
HOLYSPIRIT



RECRUITMENT: IT VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

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**

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!



*Must Have **Great to Have

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

King of the Universe

The Feast of Christ the King was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism, a way of life which leaves God out of man's thinking and living; and organizes his life as if God did not exist. The feast is intended to proclaim in a striking and effective manner Christ's royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations.

The final Sunday of the church Year, the Feast of Christ the King, is the day when we are invited to commemorate His sovereignty over all men, women, and children. Jesus Christ has come. Jesus

Christ is coming. Jesus Christ will come again. Jesus Christ is Lord of All.

On this Feast Day, we celebrate the full and final triumph and return of the One through whom the entire universe was created - and in whom it is being "recreated" - and by whom it will be completely reconstituted and handed back to the Father at the "end" of all time. That end will mark the beginning of a timeless new heaven and a new earth when "He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death." (Revelation 21:4).

Reflections

Why do we need to assess our commitment to Christ the King?

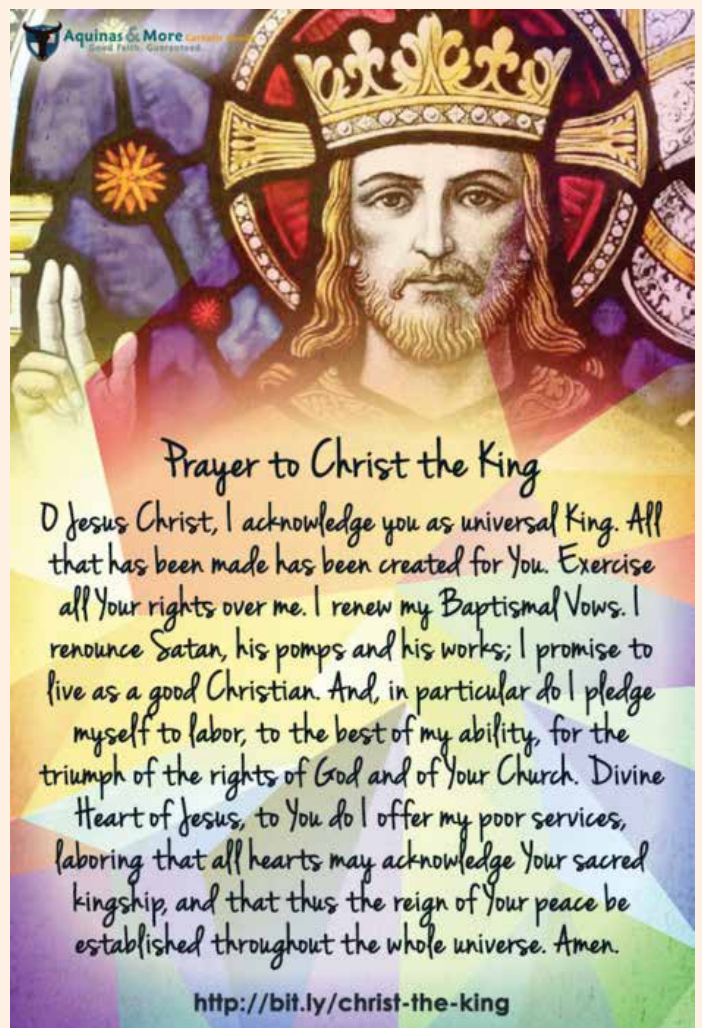
As we celebrate the Kingship of Christ, let us remember the truth that he is not our King if we do not listen to him, love him, serve him, and follow him. We belong to his Kingdom only when we try to walk with him, when we try to live our lives fully in the spirit of the Gospel and when that Gospel spirit penetrates every facet of our living.

Why do we need to follow Christ the King's lesson of humble service to the truth?

Christ has come to serve and to be of service to others. Hence, we are called to his service - service to the truth. In the Gospel, we hear Jesus saying that the reason for his coming - the reason that he was born - was to "bear witness" to the truth. The truth to which Jesus bears witness by His Life and which he teaches us is that God, his Father, is also our loving and forgiving Father, so we are all His children, forming one body. Hence, whatever we do for His children, and our sisters and brothers, we do for Him.

Why do we need to obey the law of love of Christ the King?

Citizens of Christ's kingdom are expected to observe only one major law - the law of love. "Love God with your whole heart and love your neighbour as yourself." "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." Jesus expects a higher degree of love from His followers: "Love one another as I have loved you."





This year, our Parish Feast Day theme is Rise Up and Reach Out!

We have a special guest Preacher from Perth, Fr Varghese Parackal, who will be blessing us with his charism of Healing and Empowerment, during our Triduum and Feast Day Masses.

We warmly invite all of you to come together as a Parish family, as we partake in this blessed time of Healing and Empowerment, celebrating our 61st Anniversary! Let us Rise Up and Reach Out, to bring God's Love and Healing to others, and be His Disciples making Disciples.

Mark your calendars and do share this with your family and friends, so that we can all experience God's Healing in our lives!

Sun 29 Nov | SPIRITUAL PREPARATION 8PM - 9.15PM

Praise & Worship • Preaching • Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Mon 30 Nov | HEALING TRIDUUM DAY 1 7.30PM - 9.30PM

Mass (Celebrant: Fr Benedict)

Praise & Worship • Preaching

• Exposition of Blessed Sacrament • Healing

Tue 1 Dec | HEALING TRIDUUM DAY 2 7.30PM - 9.30PM

Mass (Celebrant: Fr Cornelius)

Praise & Worship • Preaching

• Exposition of Blessed Sacrament • Healing

Wed 2 Dec | HEALING TRIDUUM DAY 3 7.30PM - 9.30PM

Mass (Celebrant: Fr Antony)

Praise & Worship • Preaching

• Exposition of Blessed Sacrament • Healing

Thur 3 Dec | Feast Day 7.30PM - 9.30PM

Mass (Celebrant: Fr Benedict)

Praise & Worship • Preaching

• Exposition of Blessed Sacrament • Empowerment

**LIVESTREAM MASSES CELEBRATED BY OUR SFX PRIESTS
GUEST PREACHER FR VARGHESE PARACKAL (PERTH)**

 www.youtube.com/ChurchofStFrancisXavier



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

Opening Hours

PARISH OFFICE

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

Mon - Sat:

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

ADORATION ROOM

Closed until
further notice

LIBRARY

Closed until
further notice

COLUMBARIUM

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

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



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

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