



# THE MANNA

Church of St Francis Xavier

63A Chartwell Drive,  
Singapore 558758



## Disciples *Making Disciples*



**Parish Office:**  
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## Cleanse me, Lord!

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
14 Feb 2021

Lev 13:1-2,44-46  
1 Cor 10:31-11:1  
Mk 1:40-45

The Lunar New Year holidays have been muted and constrained this year. With the Coronavirus pandemic now into its second year, new mutations spreading, and tens of thousands out of work, we as Church, the mystical Body of Christ, must reach out to those in despair to show our fraternal solidarity with them for we are one human family (*Fratelli Tutti*, All Brothers 8).

In his message for the 29<sup>th</sup> World Day of the Sick which we celebrated just three days ago on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, our Holy Father Pope Francis, called on us to show this solidarity in a relational way so that there is a holistic healing. He says we should look into the faces of the most vulnerable, even touch their flesh, sense their closeness and help them. He reminded us that Jesus healed "not by magic but as the result of an encounter, an interpersonal relationship."

Looking at today's gospel, we can see that the leper was restored in a very profound way through his encounter with Jesus. He had heard how Jesus healed the grievously sick, he intuited that God's power must be in Jesus - with great faith and at the risk of breaking the law (for lepers were "unclean" and must live away from others - Lev 13:46), he had entered the city, approached Jesus and pleaded on his knees, "If you want to...you can cure me." (Mk 1:40) Feeling deep compassion, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him saying, "Of course I want to! Be cured!" The leprosy left the man at



once. Knowing that only God could heal leprosy as the Old Testament account of Naaman's healing had revealed (cf 2 Kgs 5:7, 15), the leper rejoiced for he was not only made clean but he had just encountered God in Jesus!

Mark tells us that the leper told so many people about Jesus that "Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived." In cleansing the leper, Jesus had traded places with him - Jesus himself was now forced to live like a leper in isolation because of the throngs seeking him while the man went about "freely... everywhere." (Mk 1:45)

Mark narrates this detail for a theological purpose as Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI explains, "[Since] it was the priests' duty to diagnose [leprosy] and to declare unclean the sick person...leprosy constituted a kind of religious and civil death, and its healing a kind of resurrection. This miracle thus has a strong symbolic value. Jesus 'has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows' (Is 53:4). In his Passion he will become as a leper, made impure by our sins, separated from God: he will do all this out of love, to obtain for us reconciliation, forgiveness and salvation." (Angelus, 15 Feb 2009)

May we allow Christ's Passion to convert us once more as the season of Lent begins this Wednesday.

The blood and water from Christ's pierced side are his sacramental gifts of the Eucharist and Baptism to us. In Baptism, we have already been reconciled, forgiven and saved by Christ but through weakness, many of us will become leprous with sin again. With the deep faith of the leper, we must approach Christ in the Sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation to heal us of the sores we have inflicted on our immortal soul. Pope Emeritus urges us to seek purification in Confession because "in the Sacrament of Penance, the Crucified and Risen Christ purifies us through his ministers with his infinite mercy...and makes us a gift of his love, his joy and his peace. The sins that we commit distance us from God and, if we do not humbly confess them, trusting in divine mercy, they will finally bring about the death of the soul."

Sickness and death are topics usually shunned at Lunar New Year gatherings but with the pandemic, end-of-life matters have become a pre-occupation for many. Let us then bring hope by boldly sharing our own joyful encounters of Christ's mercy and healing. Like the leper, may our proclamations lead others to Christ. Acknowledging one's sinfulness, always trusting in Christ's mercy and in humility plea, "Cleanse me, Lord!" - that is the true festivity. That is the true and most joyous "Huat Ah!"

## Announcements

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



**Church of St Francis Xavier**  
Celebrates the 200th Anniversary  
of the Catholic Church in Singapore



*Fr Benedict, Fr Cornelius and all staff would like to wish all our parishioners a grace-filled & blessed Lunar New Year!*



### SECOND COLLECTION FOR GIFT NEXT WEEKEND

**Next weekend**, there will be the usual call for contributions for the GIFT (Giving in Faith & Thankfulness) programme to build a more vibrant, evangelising and missionary Church. Support the organisations and projects of the Archdiocese by making a monthly pledge. You can give via PayNow (UEN: 201231391K) or drop your contributions into the GIFT donation box at the two entrances of the Main Church. More info can be found at [catholicfoundation.sg](http://catholicfoundation.sg)

### TOTAL COLLECTION FOR SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

With your kind donations last weekend, the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) was able to raise **SGD\$4,247/-** for Friends In Need. We thank you for your generosity and continued support of our activities.

### TEMPORARY ONLINE MASS OFFERINGS

Please submit your intentions **ONE 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).

### HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Join us online **every Fri, 8pm** to pray and intercede for others in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Submit your prayer request to [www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessory-prayer](http://www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessory-prayer). All prayer requests are kept confidential.

#### ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Meeting ID:  
861 5125 7252  
Password:  
SFX19FEB



### FEBRUARY MASS BOOKINGS

#### MARS BOOKING SCHEDULE via [mycatholic.sg](http://mycatholic.sg)

Booking for a 4th weekend Mass\*: **Tue 16 Feb, 12pm**

\*Weekday Mass bookings are open throughout and subject to availability.

#### MASS SCHEDULE DURING LENT

**Please note that you are required to attend both Stations of the Cross and Mass; Do not come for just one or the other. No late arrivals will be entertained once Stations of the Cross has started.**

#### Ash Wednesday\*:

**17 Feb:** 6.30pm, 8.30pm

\*Fasting and abstinence to be observed.

Parishioners attending Mass will each receive a bottle of holy water with two packets of ashes. You may use these for your family members and/or give it away to others who are not able to come for Mass. Additional packets of ashes may also be collected after Ash Wednesday at the Parish Office, subject to availability.



#### Stations of the Cross + Mass

**Tue & Thu:** 6.30pm | **Fri:** 8pm

### MASS COLLECTION

Your continuous generosity and donations will help support our Parish's daily operations. Make your offerings via the following options:

- 1. PayNow** - 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.
- 1. Cheque** - Payable to Church of St Francis Xavier and write 'Mass Collection' behind the cheque. Mail cheques to **63A Chartwell Drive, Singapore 558758** or drop off in the Parish Office.

### MONTFORT CENTRE: COMPANIONS OF JESUS RETREAT (ZOOM)

True friendship is a sweet gift, but it is indeed very rare. In our world of hyper-connectivity and a plethora of online friends and followers, many of us are starving for true friendship. Friendship is one of the most important and most practical virtues that one can possess to obtain Wisdom.

The Eternal Wisdom, Jesus Christ became man to be in friendship with us. Would we accept his tender invitation to be his companions? Come and join us for "Companions of Jesus" retreat that comprises 4 online sessions and 1 day of recollection. The day of recollection will be held at Montfort Centre. Visit [montfortcentre.org](http://montfortcentre.org) for more information.

**COMPANIONS OF JESUS**  
Retreat with Fr. John Khor & Fr. Thomas Arin Day

**ONLINE MEDITATION SESSIONS**  
8:00PM - 9:30PM  
Session 1: 07 March 2021  
Session 2: 14 March 2021  
Session 3: 21 March 2021  
Session 4: 28 March 2021

**RECOLLECTION MONTFORT CENTRE**  
8:00AM - 8:00PM  
Session 1: 29 March 2021  
201 Upper Serangoon Road, Singapore 550023

Montfort Centre  
Email: [montfortcentre@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:montfortcentre@sfxchurch.sg) | Phone: (65) 6746 0171  
Registration: [montfortcentre.org](http://montfortcentre.org) | Facebook: [montfortcentre](https://www.facebook.com/montfortcentre)



**SHINE 2021**   
ENCOUNTER RETREAT FOR POLY, ITE & PRIVATE DIPLOMA STUDENTS

  
For once you were darkness  
but now, in the Lord  
**you are light**  
Live as children of light - 1 Peter 2:9

23 MAR (TUE) 9:45AM - 26 MAR (FRI) 6PM | \$40  
OFFICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE: 2 LORONG LOW KOON S536449 | SIGN UP AT: [tinyurl.com/shine2021](http://tinyurl.com/shine2021) 

## OYP: "SHINE" COMBINED TERTIARY RETREAT 2021

*For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are Light. Live as children of light. (Ephesians 5:8)*

SHINE is a Catholic encounter retreat for all who are currently studying or waiting to be enrolled in any local Polytechnic, ITE, or private diploma institutions. Come away to spend time with God and grow in your relationship with Christ and his Church.

**Date:** 23 Mar (Tue) 9.45pm - 26 Mar (Fri) 6pm (Non stay-in)

**Venue:** Office for Young People (2 Lorong Low Koon, S536449)

**Cost:** \$40

**Register:** <http://tinyurl.com/shine2021>

**DIALOGUE SPACESG FORUM FOR CHRISTIAN YOUNG ADULTS**  
SUNDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2021  
9AM TO 12 NOON ON ZOOM

BASED ON POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL  
*Fratelli Tutti*

As part of the Catholic2005G celebrations, the Archdiocesan Catholic Council for Ecumenical Dialogue (ACCED) is organising an online Dialogue SpacesG Forum to bring Christian young adults together to acquaint themselves with the reflections of Pope Francis in his encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*. Understanding the document written on fraternity and social friendships will go a long way in strengthening social cohesion among young Christians and fostering Christian unity in Singapore. There will be the opportunity to listen to engaging talks given by Christian leaders on *Fratelli Tutti* and meaningful interactions in small breakout groups.

**Register by 18 February 2021!**

CHRISTIANS AGED 18 TO 35 YEARS OLD ARE MOST WELCOME!  
To register, please sign up via <http://tiny.cc/dialoguespacesg>. Please direct all queries to Gerald at 6336 9408 or [acced@catholic.org.sg](mailto:acced@catholic.org.sg)

## ACCED: ONLINE FORUM BASED ON POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL - FRATELLI TUTTI (ZOOM)

The Archdiocesan Catholic Council for Ecumenical Dialogue (ACCED) is organising an online forum to bring Christian young adults (18 - 35 years old) together to acquaint them with the reflections of Pope Francis in his encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*. Understanding the themes of fraternity and social friendship in the document will go a long way to strengthen social cohesion among young Christians and help foster Christian unity in Singapore.

**Date:** Sun 28 Feb

**Time:** 9am - 12pm

**Enquire:** 6336 9408 (Gerald) or email to [acced@catholic.org.sg](mailto:acced@catholic.org.sg)

**Register:** <http://tiny.cc/dialoguespacesg> (by Thu 18 Feb 2021)


# WHAT IS LENT?

It commemorates the **40 days** before the **Pas-**sion, **Death and Resurrection of Jesus**, based on: the **40 years** in which the Israeli wandered the desert and the **40 days** in which Jesus was tempted by Satan.

## LENT FEAST DAYS


- PALM SUNDAY** ▶ Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem
- HOLY THURSDAY** ▶ Last Supper and Passover
- GOOD FRIDAY** ▶ Jesus' death on the Cross
- EASTER SUNDAY** ▶ Jesus has resurrected!

# THE 3 PILLARS OF LENT




## PRAYER

It helps us be close to Christ and in constant dialogue with Him. Joining Him in his sacrifice in the Cross.



## FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Both are practiced on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. Abstinence is practiced **every Friday** during Lent.




## ALMSGIVING


Giving what we have helps us to understand Christ's generosity in the Cross.

# WHEN DOES LENT BEGIN?


Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday**, where we remember our mortality and need for repentance.


## FASTING

 **ONE MEAL A DAY**

 **18 59** MANDATORY FROM 18 TO 59 YEARS OLD

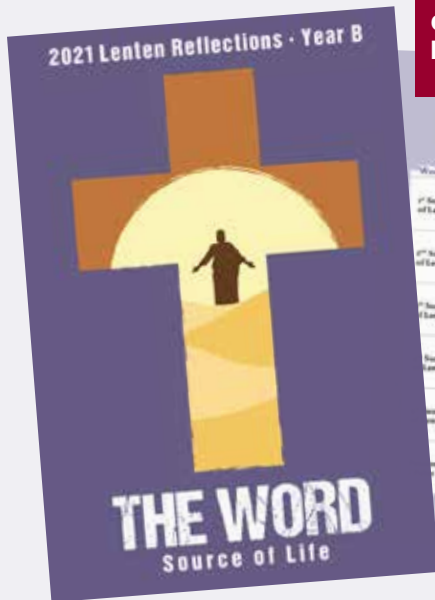
## ABSTINENCE

 **NO MEAT (ONLY FISH)**

 **14** MANDATORY FROM 14 YEARS OLD



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



Scan the QR Code  
or download at  
[bit.ly/Lenten2021](http://bit.ly/Lenten2021)



*Sundays of Lent (Year B)*  
**The Word - Source of Life**

Week	Readings	Prayers
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent	Genesis 22:1-18 1 Peter 2:24-25 Mark 1:12-13	Only for the Word
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent	Genesis 22:1-18 Romans 8:28-30 Mark 1:12-13	Listen to the Word
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	Exodus 17:1-7 1 Corinthians 10:1-11 John 6:41-51	The Word, the Wisdom of God
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	1 Chronicles 28:1-10 1 Peter 2:24-25 Mark 1:12-13	Redeemed by the Word
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	Jeremiah 31:1-10 Hebrews 10:1-10 Mark 1:12-13	Living to tell, alive to the Word
6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	Mark 1:1-13 Hebrews 10:1-10 Mark 1:12-13	Humbly accept the Word

## ONE: LENTEN REFLECTION E-BOOKLET 2021

The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced a reflection e-booklet for Lent. This booklet is based on the theme **"The Word, Source of Life"**. You may download the e-booklet at [bit.ly/Lenten2021](http://bit.ly/Lenten2021). It is available in English, Mandarin and Tamil. Short weekly videos that complement the e-booklet will also be uploaded on [tinyurl.com/oneyoutubechannel](http://tinyurl.com/oneyoutubechannel).



D I Q Z H T T G V X Z E K W U X M Z T W O O D Z B  
I T D W G H F S C H I X G N I A X Y S E P Z G U K  
J C O W M G B D Z Y L B M K A I Q C E B N E E P A  
G T R I K I J F J R O W C M R R E R I V X Q G N A  
T E E T I E B X L A Y G Y M M N V E D D A Y R E E  
L X H E Y Q N Q G M A W X T S S I M O N K X P E T  
T L T A E P O H M J X C I C C Q F B O N Z A I T W  
X F O L V T M S E C I F I R C A S L B W J C M R E  
I A M O V I K B T T G R X N G V B E Y W H A D I L  
X L P P G A O U I N E L X Y O T N V V G W U E H V  
H L N Y E V H B V H E F U J J R F G C E V A L T E  
W S R P S J X M C C M M N F Z A E H N W N J I F F  
D M S R O X E L O N N W R L K C O V O S J C A P D  
F B F U Z X U N D Z V U R A T N O I Y L F B N O Y  
X U O O S P E D O A S T T V L G S A W Q R I K B Y R  
N G U F E E W J U G M O N X S V R H T V F N Q V R  
R D R S M G Z C I F T D T E S N O I T A T S E D J  
J C T N V A K R V Y D X N F Q Z O N E L N C M S E  
W L E T W P M V X M H E L H O P N P Z R D O J E S  
X D E L X Y O R E A V Y Q O L U N E T D B Q R H T  
R F N F Z M A P F I F X B I U I F G V W J H T S Z  
G G J I Z L O Y G Z X L M D N G P C Q E T S A Z P  
Y B G Z J Y M R J I R V Z E S H P A F V L Z C F Q  
T H O R P D O O M W E E M I Q O S S Q T C E L V S  
L S X R S F D L J B L Y X L C R O S S J K U Y V K

Stations	Garments	Holiness	Seven
Cross	Nailed	Sacrifice	Eight
Condemned	Dies	One	Nine
Falls	Sepulcher	Two	Ten
Mother	Forgiveness	Three	Eleven
Simon	Mercy	Four	Twelve
Veronica	Thankful	Five	Thirteen
Speaks	Mary	Six	Fourteen

### Mass Timings

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
**Tue & Thur:**  
6.30pm

**Fri:**  
8pm  
(During Lent only,  
includes Stations)

### 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 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.

### 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](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg)