

부 MANNA Church of St Francis Xavier









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The Storms in our Lives

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time 20 Jun 2021

Job 38:1, 8-11 2 Cor 5:14-17 Mk 4:35-41

This Sunday's readings teach us how we should approach struggles in our life as Christians, together with Christ.

We begin with the Gospel, in the shoes of the disciples. They get into the boat with him, leave the crowd, and "cross over to the other side". Similarly, we place our trust in Jesus (or at least we think that we have done so), follow him instead of the masses, and leave our worldly pursuits behind.

And yet, storms arise. In March 1992, a wind storm known as *Sharqiya* sent waves crashing into downtown Tiberias on the west side of the Sea of Galilee. In our lives too, we are battered: train breakdowns, work exigencies, sickness, COVID-19.

Just like the disciples, we lament to Jesus: "Master, do you not care? We are going down!"

This is a curious question. Although Jesus was evidently asleep, the disciples assumed that he knew about the storm. And instead of requesting for a divine solution, they get upset by his seeming lack of concern. Faced with storms in our lives, we also often question whether God cares. We have enough faith to believe that he is all-knowing and even all-powerful, but not enough to believe that he is all-loving.

So after Jesus calms the storm, he responds to the heart of their question – their lack of faith – with his own question. "Why are you so frightened?



"This is the ultimate answer to Job's question: whatever sorrows earthly life may bring, if we are baptised in to Christ's death, we will also share his Resurrection. We already share Christ's life and are being transformed into him. The life we are experiencing now is only a preparation for its fulfilment in Christ's Resurrection."

- Fr Henry Wansbrough OSB

How is it that you have no faith?"

In the First Reading, this is how God responds to Job too. In a series of rhetorical questions, God reminds Job that he was the one who "pent up the sea behind closed doors" and instructed the "proud waves" to "[come] no farther". God reminds Job to have faith.

Consider also where God speaks from – the "heart of the tempest". It is in the eye of the harshest storms that God speaks to us and reveals his power and glory, that we learn to trust God.

But what does God's power and glory mean for us? Are we just to be humbled and awed? How does he answer the disciples' key question – whether we are cared for, whether we are loved?

The Second Reading provides the key: "The love of Christ overwhelms us when we reflect that... the reason [Christ] died for all was so that living men should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised to life for them."

In other words, God cares for us and loves us to the point that his Son died for us – not just that we may live like we were before, but that we may have new life. We are not just loved; we are saved by his love.

The Second Reading thus continues: "And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here." Or as CCC460 puts it: "The only-begotten Son of God, wanting to make us sharers in his divinity, assumed our nature, so that he, made man, might make men gods."

Fr Henry Wansbrough OSB concludes: "This is the ultimate answer to Job's question: whatever sorrows earthly life may bring, if we are baptised in to Christ's death, we will also share his Resurrection. We already share Christ's life and are being transformed into him. The life we are experiencing now is only a preparation for its fulfilment in Christ's Resurrection."

But in the final analysis, perhaps what is more important than answers are the questions which lie at the heart of this Sunday's gospel: Master, do you not care? How is it that you have no faith? Who can this be?

The search for answers amidst our storms, beyond the answers themselves, bring us face to face with Christ, to know him and his love for us, and to marvel at who he is. May we continue to search with all our hearts.

Announcements

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

GIFT COLLECTION

This weekend, being the third weekend of the month, there will be a call for contributions for the GIFT (Giving in Faith & Thankfulness) programme to build a more vibrant, evangelising and missionary Church. Please give generously to support the organisations and projects of the archdiocese by making a monthly giving pledge. You can give via PayNow (UEN: 201231391K) or drop your contributions into the GIFT donation box. More info at catholicfoundation.sg

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 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?

Please submit your prayer request to **www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessoryprayer**. All prayer requests are kept confidential. Join us online on **Fri 25 Jun, 8pm** to pray and intercede for others in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome!

ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Meeting ID: 861 5125 7252 Password: SFX25JUN



CHARISMATIC

The next Charismatic session via Zoom is on **Mon 21 Jun, 8pm**. There will be praise and worship followed by a talk on 'Encountering and Praying to God through the Scriptures' by Grace Tan.

ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Meeting ID: 836 3543 9497 Password: HOLYSPIRIT



Wishing all Fathers a Happy Father's Day!

"I will guide you in the way of wisdom and I will lead you in upright paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered, and when you run, you will not stumble." - Proverbs 4:11-12



ONLINE MASS BROADCAST

Due to the reduced capacity of 50 persons per Mass, all Mass slots for June have been fully booked. Do remember to cancel your booking 24 hours in advance if you are unable to attend. You can tune in to the Archdiocese Daily Mass broadcast via Youtube.com/CatholicsSg

Weekdays: 12noon

Sundays & Public Holidays: 10.30am



MASS COLLECTION

Your continuous generosity and donations will help contribute to our Parish's daily operations. You can make your offerings via the following options:

- 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' and write 'Mass Collection' behind the cheque. Mail cheques to 63A Chartwell Drive, Singapore 558758.

RCIA AND RCIY 2021/2022: A JOURNEY OF FAITH

Do you know of anyone who is interested in embarking on a journey of faith? Or perhaps someone who has felt a stirring in their heart and is seeking answers to questions, or even peace in their struggles?

We encourage you to reach out to them and invite them to join us in RCIA and RCIY.

RCIY journey (13 - 23 years old)

Sessions start: Sun 27 June 2021 Every Sunday, 10.15am - 12.30pm **Venue:** Parish Center, 2nd Floor St

Mark Room

Register: tinyurl.com/sfxrciysignup or enquire at **rciy@sfxchurch.sg**

RCIA journey (24 years old and above)

Sessions start: Tue 6 Jul 2021 Every Tue, 8pm - 10pm

Venue: Parish Center, 2nd Floor St

Mark Room

Register: tinyurl.com/sfxrciasignup or enquire at rcia@sfxchurch.sg

CPS LUNCHTIME ZOOM TALK: AM I READY FOR MISSION?

The pilgrim Church is missionary by her nature and I am part of her. What does mission mean? Is everyone called to one? How do I know I am ready? Come join us as Fr Valerian shares the great mission which Jesus Himself has called us to live.

Dates: 5, 12, 19 & 26 July

(Mondays)

Time: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Register: https://tinyurl.com/ytwmsdk7

IGNITE TALK: THE UNSEEN GOOD - IS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IMPACTFUL AND RELEVANT IN SINGAPORE TODAY?

The Catholic Church has played a significant role in the development of Singapore in the last 200 years, especially in the area of education and healthcare. As time passed, Singapore has developed to be a cosmopolitan city. Is the Church still impactful and relevant in Singapore today? Join us for the 3rd IGNITE TALK where Fr Adrian Yeo will be talking about The Unseen Good. Happening on **Thu 24 Jun, 8pm** on **http://youtube.com/catholicsg.**



CARITAS: MY PERSONAL MORAL COMPASS (ONLINE MODULE 4)

What sexual behaviours does the Church consider immoral? Is premarital sex permissible? Should homosexual people be able to marry? Why is there a great discrepancy between traditional Christian morality and contemporary

Dates: 1 Jul to 19 Aug

(Thursday) **Time:** 7.30pm **Register:**



culture on sexuality? Can the Church impose its views on society at large? Who decides? Let us explore these questions and much more in the next module of My Personal Moral Compass (MPMC) by Fr David Garcia!



Career Counselling is now available via Zoom Meeting. In these current times, this can be a valuable service for you, as you can have discussions with a trained Counsellor on Career exploration, Career planning, Career transitions, Workplace challenges, Job Search strategies, etc. To register https://bit.ly/CCIntakeForm

CAREER COUNSELLING FOR PMES

FORMED: Into the Breach

Into the Breach is a groundbreaking 12-episode video series from FORMED that seeks to answer what it means to be a Catholic man in today's world. Inspired by Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted's apostolic exhortation to Catholic men, Into the Breach tells men they are made for greatness and challenges them to achieve it by founding their lives on God and pursuing heroic virtue. Each episode explores a



different aspect of authentic Catholic masculinity and features well-known Catholic speakers, as well as the personal story of a man who has deeply experienced the episode's topic in his own life. Speakers include Dr. Scott Hahn, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jason Evert and many others. Scan the QR Code to check out the videos!



Into the Breach - Episode 1: Masculinity



Into the Breach – Episode 2: Brotherhood



Into the Breach - Episode 3: Leadership



Into the Breach – Episode 4: Fatherhood



Into the Breach - Episode 5: Family



Into the Breach - Episode 6: Life



Into the Breach - Episode 7: Prayer



Into the Breach - Episode 8: Suffering



Into the Breach - Episode 9: Sacramental Life



Into the Breach – Episode 10: Spiritual Warfare



Into the Breach – Episode 11: Evangelization



Free FORMED Access for SFX Parishioners

Getting FORMED on your mobile (Scan with your camera/reader app)

iPhone users:



Android users:



New Viewers

Go to **https://sfxchurch.formed.org/**. Fill out the registration form. 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.

Highlights from Blessing of Grotto

On the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (12 Jun), our new Grotto was officially opened and blessed by our parish priest. Let us continue to give thanks to God as we ask our Blessed Mother to intercede for us.



Our new Grotto with a freshly refurbished statue of Mother Mary located outside the Parish Centre.



Praying in a socially distanced way.



Incensing the Grotto.

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

Mass Timings

WEEKDAY MASSES Tue & Thu: 6.30pm

Fri: 8pm

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat Sunset: 5.30pm (There is currently no Novena at 4.45pm)

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

MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 9am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tue & Fri: 4pm - 6pm Sat: 10am - 12pm

> **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 BOOKING

Mon to Sat:

10am - 12pm, 2pm – 4pm https://tinyurl.com/ **SFXColumbarium**

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. 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