





Disciples
Making Disciples

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Christ's "Mites" of Meal & Oil

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
7 Nov 2021

1 Kgs 17:10-16
Hebr 9:24-28
Mk 12:38-44

Many of us are familiar with this week's readings because the radical giving of the two widows is amazingly heroic. Already in dire straits without spousal support, but trusting in God's providence both widows still gave away all they had to live on.

In the first reading, the widow of Zarephath in Sidon sacrificed her last portion of meal (flour) and oil to make a scone for Elijah whom she had recognised as God's prophet (cf 1 Kgs 17:12). She trusted his assurance that her "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jar of oil shall not be emptied" (1 Kgs 17:14). Jesus highlighted this gentile widow's faith when he said, "...no prophet is accepted in his hometown...there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time...Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath..." (Lk 4:24-26)

In the Gospel, the "poor widow" gave two small coins or mites (the smallest denomination circulating at that time) to the Temple treasury. Jesus saw this as a magnificent donation, "...this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury...they have put in money they had over, but she...has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on." (Mk 12:43-44)

Where did the faith of these widows come from?

How is it that the widow of Zarephath could so easily trust Elijah's assurance? Perhaps her faith was not

unfounded for she truly believed that Israel's God gave his people manna everyday during their 40 years of desert sojourn until they reached the Promised Land (Jos 5:11-12). Elijah's assurance raised her hope that she too could receive "manna" – and God did just that, "The woman did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold..." (1 Kgs 17:16)

And how is it that the widow in today's Gospel could give away all her mites? The miracle given the Zarephath widow was a national embarrassment for Israel. When Jesus recounted this miracle in the synagogue, the people were "filled with fury...led him to the brow of the hill...to hurl him down headlong." (Lk 4:28-30) Perhaps this widow had been experiencing her own unemptiable jar and jug. Perhaps every time she gave away her mites, she got them back from God through a kind stranger.

What miracles of God can we recall in our own lives that could spur us to have the radical faith of the two widows?

Perhaps we need not think too deeply or look too far. In every Eucharistic celebration, we are in the Cenacle with Jesus at the Last Supper; we follow him to the foot of his cross as his body is "given up" and his blood "poured out" for us (Words of the Institution).

From Christ's side, we receive the two precious "mites" of "meal" and "oil". The blood and water that gushed from Christ's pierced side have sacramental reality. They are the Eucharistic body and blood of Christ (meal/bread) and the baptismal cleansing and gift of the Holy Spirit (water & oil).

Christ gives himself to us at every Eucharist to nourish his gift of faith at Baptism: "The origin and growth



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(CCC 1392)*

of the Church are symbolized by the blood and water which flowed from the open side of the crucified Jesus... What material food produces in our bodily life, Holy Communion wonderfully achieves in our spiritual life. Communion with the flesh of the risen Christ, a flesh 'given life and giving life through the Holy Spirit,' preserves, increases, and renews the life of grace received at Baptism." (CCC 766, 1392)

The widows prefigured Christ who gave his all. Christ offered himself "with the blood that is ...his own...to do away with sin." He will return "not to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him." (Hebr 9: 25-28)

We meet Christ in every Holy Communion, do we have the widows' faith to recognise his presence and love? Have we lived this real communion with him by giving selflessly because we already possess Christ's infinite abundance? Will others be able to see our faith?

Announcements

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

SSVP 2ND COLLECTION

This weekend, there will be a second collection by Society of St Vincent De Paul to help the poor and needy in monthly rations and other aid programmes. SSVP members will be at the atrium area. Please give generously. If you wish to make a cheque payment or PayNow, it should be payable to:

Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP)

- OCBC Bank Account No: 686 596 768 001
- PayNow UEN: S61SS0149B

TEMPORARY ONLINE MASS OFFERINGS

Please submit your intention **1 WEEK in advance**. The Finance Department will then provide you with a "Reference No", MO xxx (eg MO 001). Key in the given referral number when making payment via PayNow (**T08CC4033J**). Your intentions will be offered during our priests' private masses.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Please submit your prayer request to www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessory-prayer. All prayer requests are kept confidential. Join us online 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
Date & Time: Fri 12 Nov, 8pm
Meeting ID: 861 5125 7252
Password: SFXIP12NOV



November Mass Bookings

[HTTPS://MYCATHOLIC.SG](https://mycatholic.sg)

Tue 9 Nov, 12pm

3rd booking for all weekday and weekend Masses*

**Weekday Mass bookings for whole of Nov are open throughout the month and subject to availability with a cap of five weekday Masses per booking.*

Fully Vaccinated/PET Masses (180pax):

- Fridays: 8pm • Saturdays: 5.30pm
- Sundays: 9am, 1pm

Things to note:

- All Masses will be held in the Main Church. Entry for 50 persons Masses will only be via the Plaza.
- Mass bookings/cancellation may be made **1 hour** before Mass.
- Vaccinated parishioners should refrain from booking unvaccinated Mass slots.

MASSES FOR FULLY VACCINATED/PET INDIVIDUALS:

Admission Criteria:

- ✓ **Fully Vaccinated**
14 days after 2nd dose of Pfizer/Moderna/WHO EUL vaccines.
 - ✓ **TraceTogether**
Check in via TraceTogether token/app.
 - ✓ **Pre-Event Testing**
Taken from MOH-approved test provider. No earlier than 23 hours before Mass.
 - ✓ **Children aged 12 years and below**
can participate in Pre-Event Testing (PET) or Vaccinated-only Masses. The total number of children allowed is no more than **20%** of worshippers present for the Mass.
 - ✓ **Vaccination Proof**
ONLY local vaccination certificates or Health Hub vaccination proof are accepted.
 - ✗ **Other Vaccines**
- Self-test Kit
- For more information on the MOH guidelines, visit www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19/pet



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:

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

THE ALTAR SERVERS SOCIETY RECRUITMENT

The Altar Servers Society is recruiting. All boys aged 8 and above who are keen to learn more about serving at the Lord's table are welcome. Training will be held every Saturday beginning in December. A hard copy of the registration form can be obtained from the Parish Office. Please submit the completed registration form via tinyurl.com/SFXAltarServersRecruit2022 by **Sun 21 Nov**. For any enquiries, please contact Matthew Chua (8228 6175) or Gerald Lee (8522 7216).

CATHOLIC200SG PRAYER MARATHON WITH SFX

Our parish will be leading an intercessory prayer session on **Mon 15 Nov, 5pm - 6pm**. Come join us online in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament as we pray for the 200th anniversary of the Catholic Faith in Singapore. Do invite your family and friends!

ONE: ADVENT REFLECTION E-BOOKLET

The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced a reflection e-booklet to journey with you throughout Advent and Christmas. It is available in English, Chinese and Tamil. The reflection theme for Advent this year is "The Promised Word" and for Christmas is "Word Made Flesh". Download the e-booklet at <https://bit.ly/AdventChristmas2021>.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: BREAKING OF THE WORD

There will be a new collaboration in 2022 between Children's Liturgy, your catechists and with you as parents journeying with your children from nursery, K1 and K2! We will break the word for the little ones every Sunday so that they will understand better the gospels when they attend the evening mass. So calling all parents who have registered their nursery, K1 and K2 children for catechism classes, if you want to be part of the breaking of the word please register with Children's Liturgy so that we can journey together with you and your children. Call Monica - 9691 0599 or Craig - 9451 8256 now.

We have also planned an exciting and fun Advent programme for you and your children. So come join our Advent Journey with SFX's Children's Liturgy and prepare for our Lord's birth.

One week before each Sunday of Advent, we will publish the materials and resources needed. So do look out for the details in the Manna. The first set will be published on **Sun 21 Nov**.

IN THE MONTH OF OCT 2021

WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couples:

1. Matthew Ch'ng Han Jin & Audrey Tay Hui Yi
2. Evan Yeo Min-Yang & Tan Wei Wei, Alicea

CONDOLENCES

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

1. Pauline Low Li Koen
2. Catherine Lee Tee Beng
3. Wee Johnny
4. Maria Chia Ah Hiang
5. Foo Yew Hock John Michael

BAPTISMS

We welcome the following:

1. Matthew Tomasz Toh Marzinek
2. Emelyn Marie Ongpauco Tan Zhi Xuan
3. Ezekiel Deva s/o Christopher John
4. Koh Ah Bah John

LIFE: "ANIMA" - THREE-PART SERIES ON FORMED

Longing for a sense of greater meaning in our lives? Join the LiFE Ministry as we take on a three-part series, titled "Anima" where we are led through an inspiring account of how God's plan for the world gives each of us a great dignity and purpose. This series on FORMED will instigate further meditation on how you can respond to Christ's sacrifice and continue carrying out his mission in his Church. This will be held on **Fridays (12, 19, 26 November) at 8.30pm** via Zoom. To register, contact Theresa Rezel at 9730 6507.



HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS THIS MONTH

UNIVERSAL: PEOPLE WHO SUFFER FROM DEPRESSION

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

CATHOLIC200SG

A 200-hour virtual prayer marathon for Catholic200SG will be held from **12 to 20 November 2021**. It will be streamed live on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel. His Grace, Archbishop William Goh, will start off the prayer marathon on **Fri 12 Nov, 9am**, with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and lead the first hour of prayer. Subsequently, there will be hour-long live prayers led by various groups, and Eucharistic Adoration between the prayer sessions.

The daily schedule of prayers are:

9am - 10am:	Lauds
11am - 12pm:	Holy Spirit Chaplets
1pm - 2pm:	Rosary (Foreign Languages)
3pm - 4pm:	Divine Mercy
5pm - 6pm:	Sacred Chaplets
7pm - 8pm:	Vespers/Rosary
9pm - 10pm:	Compline



The Prayer Marathon will conclude with the reposing of the Blessed Sacrament by the Archbishop at **5pm** on **Sat 20 Nov**, the Feast of Christ the King. Do join in the Prayer Marathon at the Archdiocesan Youtube channel at www.youtube.com/catholicsg.

The Catholic200SG Festival caps the 200th anniversary celebration of the Catholic Church in Singapore. There are more than a hundred events and activities over an 8-day period, from **4 to 11 Dec 2021** at Mission District. Find out about the individual events by going to myCatholic.sg and clicking on Catholic200SG Festival logo or banner. All events are open for booking on **Mon 8 Nov, 12pm**.

Community Call

There will also be a community call via Zoom on **Sat 13 Nov, 10am - 12pm**. Log in to learn more from the organisers of the details of how to participate in the Festival. The Meeting ID is 982 5400 0162, and the Passcode is 200. Alternatively, check out catholic200.sg or your Festival WebApp for the URL link.

PRAYER MARATHON

CATHOLIC200SG
FESTIVAL



Looking for more Information?
visit www.sfxchurch.sg

27 NOVEMBER — 3 DECEMBER 2021

Feast Day Fiesta

RETHINK • RECONNECT • RECHARGE

Embracing the theme to rethink, reconnect and recharge, we have lined up a series of events* to mark the patronal feast of St Francis Xavier.

Link up with a friend or family member and sign up for these events. Make it an enjoyable time of prayer and fellowship and an opportunity to reconnect with our parish life.

PILGRIMAGE WALK

Sat 27 Nov, 7am - 5pm

Journeying with others and God through a prayer walk to various Churches in Singapore.

TREASURE HUNT

Sun 28 Nov, 2.30pm - 5.30pm

Discovering the hidden gems in our Church and neighbourhood in a fun way.

ABIDE

Tue 30 Nov, 8pm - 10pm

A night of worship, prayer, adoration and fellowship for youth and young adults.

MARATHON ADORATION

2 Dec, 10pm - 3 Dec, 6pm

1-hour intimate time with Jesus in worship and adoration.

FEAST DAY TRIDUUM

1 - 3 Dec, 8pm - 10pm

Eucharistic Celebration and Collective Discernment Exercise.



To find out more, visit
WWW.SFXCHURCH.SG/FEASTDAY2021

*subject to prevailing MCCY guidelines.



Mass Timings

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue & Thu:
6.30pm

Fri:
8pm*

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat Sunset
5.30pm*

Sun: 9am*, 11am,
1pm*, 5.30pm
(There is currently
no Confession
before Mass)

*Fully vaccinated/PET Mass

MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

9am

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

Mon to Sat:

10am - 12pm, 2pm - 4pm
Booking via
<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 one week 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