



**Disciples**  
*Making Disciples*



**Parish Office:**  
6280 6076, [secretariat@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:secretariat@sfxchurch.sg)



**Parish Priest:**  
Rev Fr Benedict Chng  
6288 0484  
[benedict.chng@catholic.org.sg](mailto:benedict.chng@catholic.org.sg)



**Little Shepherds' SchoolHouse@St Francis Xavier:**  
6280 8929, [sfx\\_kindergarten@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:sfx_kindergarten@sfxchurch.sg)

**Assistant Priest:**  
Rev Fr Cornelius Ching  
6282 3151  
[cornelius.ching@catholic.org.sg](mailto:cornelius.ching@catholic.org.sg)

**Assistant Priest:**  
Rev Fr Nathaniel Xavier  
6280 8331  
[xavier.nathaniel@catholic.org.sg](mailto:xavier.nathaniel@catholic.org.sg)

## Emmanuel: Love Made Manifest

Solemnity of the  
Epiphany of the Lord  
2 Jan 2022

Is 60:1-6  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Mt 2:1-12

Do you look up at the night sky wondering what the "Jesus star" looks like? The wise men in today's gospel said they saw "his star as it rose." (Mt 2:2) Jesus himself said that "signs in the sun, moon, and the stars" will accompany his coming (Lk 21:25). What would you do if you came across an unusual star? The magi knew they had to pursue the star - travel far, over field, fountain, moor and mountain as we sing in the hymn "We Three Kings." But how did these gentile wise men come to know of the birth of Jesus? What is the significance of this feast that we are celebrating today?

Some answers can be found by first looking at the meaning of the word Epiphany. Meaning manifestation, it is derived from Greek roots meaning "to show, to display". So what is being manifested? CCC 528, states that, "the Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee." In this feast we see the beginning of the revelation of God's unfolding plan of salvation for his people. The nuance of the significance of Epiphany is in the magi's search for the Jewish King. "Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Saviour of the world only by turning towards



the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament." (CCC528) God is truly Emmanuel - with his people, those who know him and those who seek him.

It is remarkable that these gentiles from different nations were able to receive the prophecy of the new King of the Jews. In his book, *Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives*, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI explored the identity of the magi and how they came to know of Jesus' birth. Traditionally thought to be from the Persian priestly caste, the magi would have been well-versed in philosophy and astronomy, and used these means to seek truth. Church tradition has expanded upon the backgrounds of the wise men to originate from varied age profiles and regions to highlight the universality of Jesus' invitation. The magi's visit then also illuminates how the search for truth in nature and religion ultimately leads to Jesus through a determined seeking with open hearts. As Pope Emeritus remarked, this story "represent(s) the inner aspiration of the human spirit, the dynamism of religions and human reason toward him."

What sets these wise men apart from their contemporaries, evident in their juxtaposition to King Herod, is their persistent search and openness

*"In this feast we see the beginning of the revelation of God's unfolding plan of salvation for his people."*

with which to receive the truth. After meeting Jesus, they allowed God to direct their plans, not returning by the same way. Similarly, in our own journeys, are we in pursuit of truth, of Jesus? Have we been open and engaged with him during Christmas? Pope Francis, in his Epiphany homily in 2019, highlights Isaiah's invitation for us to arise (60:1), "to get up from our sedentary lives and prepare for a journey", putting aside our pretences to be aware of the star that the Lord has placed in our lives, that leads us to our king.

What have been our dispositions to receiving our infant king? Are we overwhelmed with joy, as the wise men were (Mt 2:10)? Do we pay our Lord homage that he is due? The wise men were struck with awe and adoration as they came into his presence, as Pope Francis notes, "bow(ing) down before the One who is the centre". The magi become a guide for us then, on how to approach and greet the newborn king before us. Just as they presented gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, what gifts do we bring before our Lord? He does not desire material things but something even more valuable, the gift of ourselves. As we give of ourselves, he gives us something even better, his infinite love which we receive at every Mass in the Eucharist. What is our answer to him?

## Announcements

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

### 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

### 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

### HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Please note that Intercessory Prayer sessions in 2022 will be held on Mondays. Please submit your prayer request to [www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessory-prayer](http://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.

#### ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Date & Time: Mon 3 Jan, 8pm  
Meeting ID: 861 5125 7252  
Password: SFXIP3JAN



### TEMPORARY ONLINE MASS OFFERINGS

Please submit your intentions **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 reference number upon making payment via PayNow (**T08CC4033J**).

### CATHOLIC 200SG COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

It is available for **\$30** at the Parish Office during office hours, while stocks last! Please bring exact cash amount.

## January Mass Bookings

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

### Tue 4 Jan, 12pm

2nd booking of all weekday and weekend Masses, usual policy of 1 weekend Mass, and 5 weekday Masses per booking session.

#### 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](http://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**.

### COME, ADORE AND PRAY WITH JESUS

John Paul II Hall is available for silent prayer every **Wednesday** from **7pm to 10.30pm**. No booking is required, but a maximum of 10 people at one time will be allowed. It will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Usual safe distancing measures are applicable.

### MODULE 1 OF MY PERSONAL MORAL COMPASS 2022

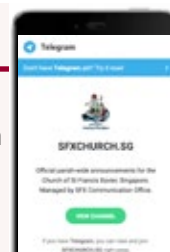
How do we know what is right and what is wrong? Why does this matter? Join us as we explore what are moral truths and why they matter for our happiness. Module 1 kicks off the 2022 run of My Personal Moral Compass, and it will start on **13 January 2022**. It will be held weekly on **Thursdays** over Zoom live at **7.30pm** for eight weeks. To register: <https://forms.office.com/r/B23U3uH7yh>. For enquiries, please email Caritas Singapore at [mpmc@caritas-singapore.org](mailto:mpmc@caritas-singapore.org)



### SUBSCRIBE TO SFX TELEGRAM CHANNEL

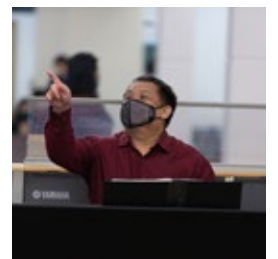
Receive the latest announcements on parish-wide events/initiatives, reminders, mass timings and the church bulletin on your phone through our official Telegram channel!

Subscribe and follow us at <https://t.me/sfxchurch>!





# *Highlights from Christmas Midnight Mass*





## HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS THIS MONTH

### UNIVERSAL: FOR TRUE HUMAN FRATERNITY

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

## IN THE MONTH OF DEC 2021

### WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couples:

1. Leonard Terence Cheng Wei & Michelle Tang Hui Ming
2. Shaun Lim Wei Long & Tan Li-Wun, Kathleen
3. Bart Mathijs Postma & Wong Shi Yin, Victoria
4. Koh Soon Teck, Richard & Yuan XiaoShan

### CONDOLENCES

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

1. Irvine John Schelkis
2. Canagasabey Betty
3. Lim Guat Cheng Nelly
4. Monica Ong Kim Geok
5. Lee Suen Pheng Anthony

### BAPTISMS

We welcome the following:

1. Aurelia Matilde Meng
2. Aiden Shane Wong Yi Zhong
3. Matthias Choo Yi Kai
4. Billie Olivia Koh
5. Landon Gerard Lee



## Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord

The feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord is a special part of the Christmas Season!

What are we celebrating on this feast? Connect the dots to find out!



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

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