



Disciples
Making Disciples



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Jesus, The Last Word

Easter Sunday
of The Lord's Resurrection
17 Apr 2022

Ac 10:34, 37-43
1 Cor 5:6-8
Jn 20:1-9



***"If Christ has not
been raised, then our
preaching is in vain
and your faith is in
vain." - 1 Cor 15:14***

Easter celebrates Jesus' resurrection. However, in today's gospel reading, the text does not feature Jesus at all. Instead there is a focus on the disappearance of our central character and the experience of emptiness.

Firstly, we see how Mary Magdalene, being the first who saw that the stone was moved, assumed the body had been stolen. She ran and alerted Simon Peter and the beloved John. Next, we see both disciples rushing down to the tomb. Although John outran Peter, it was Peter in his characteristic rashness who entered the tomb first. In contrast, John who arrived first, had some time to contemplate the opened tomb before following Peter in. The Gospel says, even though "they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead", only John "saw and believed." (Jn 20:9-10)

When something life changing turns our whole world upside down, are we more like Mary Magdalene, Simon Peter, or John? For those of us who have experienced a devastating event in our lives — receiving a cancer diagnosis, losing a life partner, being retrenched—what is our response to God? Do we rush to find meaning and jump to certain conclusions? Do we instinctively get angry and reject even

comfort and care? Do we take a long time to mull and replay the events in our head over and over again?

This is not a comparison to determine who was the greatest disciple and what is the ideal or perfect response to a devastating event. Rather, we see how Jesus continues to pursue his disciples each in their own way in the aftermath. We think of doubting Thomas and the two disciples on the way to Emmaus. "By means of touch and the sharing of a meal, the risen Jesus establishes direct contact with his disciples. He invites them in this way to recognise that he is not a ghost and above all to verify that the risen body in which he appears to them is the same body that had been tortured and crucified, for it still bears the traces of his Passion." (CCC645)

In the continuation from today's gospel text, we also see how the risen Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene when she remained behind and lingered in her grief at the entrance of the tomb. When Jesus called her by name, she recognised him at once. "This authentic, real body possesses the new properties of a glorious body: not limited by space and time but able to be present how and when he wills...in the guise of a gardener or in other forms familiar to his

disciples." He does this "precisely to awaken their faith." (CCC645)

As St Paul says, "if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain... But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death." (1 Cor 15:14; 2 0-22, 24-26)

Indeed, the story does not end with emptiness; death does not have the last word. By his Resurrection, Jesus opens for us the way to a new life. The paschal mystery is made manifest in our lives when we allow our relationship with God to transform and evolve as we are assailed by afflictions of all kinds. Can we open our hearts once more to God's pursuit of us in the wake of devastation? Can we allow our faith to be awakened by Jesus' glorious victory?

Announcements

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

SCAN FOR MASS HYMNS

www.sfxchurch.sg/mass



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

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Come storm heaven with us every Monday at **Chapel@B1 (Columbarium)** to pray and intercede in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome!

Date & Time: Mon 18 Apr, 8pm
Venue: Chapel@B1 (Columbarium)

CHARISMATIC

The next Charismatic Prayer Meeting via Zoom is on **Mon 18 April**. There will be Praise & Worship followed by a talk on 'Jesus: "Because I Live, So You Shall Live"'. All are welcome!

ZOOM MEETING DETAILS
Meeting ID: 884 2477 8685
Password: HOLYSPIRIT



ONE: EASTER REFLECTION BOOKLET



The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced an e-booklet of reflections for the season of Easter. The theme is **"The Word is active and Alive"**.

The e-booklet is available for download at <https://one.org.sg/resource/2022-easter-reflection-booklet/>.



THE LORD IS TRULY RISEN, ALLELUIA!

Wishing all parishioners a blessed Easter and may you come to believe and experience the living hope and joy of Christ in these extraordinary times.

April Mass Bookings

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

Bookings will **NOT** be required for weekday Masses except for days of obligation etc that fall on a weekday. Seating capacity for **all weekend Masses has increased to 450**.

THINGS TO NOTE:

- **Mass booking/cancellation** closes **1 hour** before Mass. Please be gracious and cancel your booking if you are unable to attend.
- **Mass registration** starts at least 45 minutes before Mass.
- **Mass Entry:** Friday and Weekend Masses via Church Foyer and Choir Entrance; all other Masses via Choir Entrance only.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.SFXCHURCH.SG/BOOKING-OF-MASS-APRIL-2022/

PARISH RETREAT: JOURNEY HOME TO THE HEART OF GOD

Has Covid left you wandering in the wilderness - adrift, alone, dry and disconnected? Say 'yes' to the Lord's invitation for a weekend with Him - for your spirit to be refreshed, restored and renewed. The Parish retreat is run in collaboration with Catholic Spirituality Centre. Sign up now!

Dates: 30 Apr - 2 May

Time: 9am - 6pm

Cost: \$60

Venue: Parish Hall

(Parish Centre, Level 3)

Register: tinyurl.com/SFXPR22

***Registration closes on 23 April**



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**.

COLUMBARIUM VISITS

Online booking for Columbarium visits is no longer required. The Columbarium will be open from **10am - 6pm** daily except on Sundays and Public Holidays. A maximum of ten people are permitted per visit.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: MAKE YOUR MARRIAGE A PRIORITY!

"Marriage is a project to be worked on together and is a process of growth" - Pope Francis (Amoris Laetitia, no. 218, 221). Good marriages can always be made better. To deepen your relationship, sign up for a **Marriage Encounter Weekend on 6 - 8 May**. Please contact Joe & Reenie at 9670-5390 or email them at mewkend@gmail.com.

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

WATCH

OCEAN OF MERCY

At the dawn of the twentieth century, three voices rose up from Poland to proclaim an urgent message, a message powerful enough to alter the course of an age plunging into spiritual darkness. This true story examines and chronicles the phenomenal lives and spiritual legacy of St. Faustina Kowalska, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope St. John Paul II, modern day "Apostles of Mercy."



DIVINE MERCY: IN THE SECOND GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

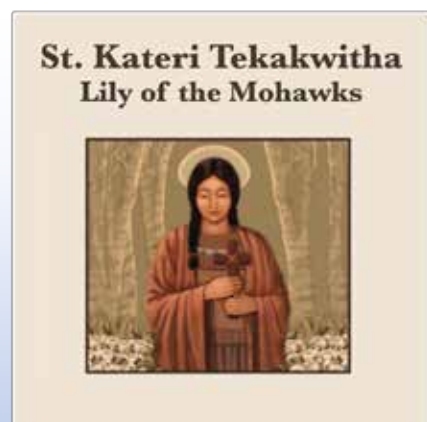
Learn the dramatic history of God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative message of St. Faustina, the miraculous appearance of Mary at Fatima, the witness of Maximilian Kolbe, and the world-changing papacy of Pope St. John Paul II. The vast panorama of God's work of mercy in the world unfolds as a story to be experienced.

LEARN

LISTEN

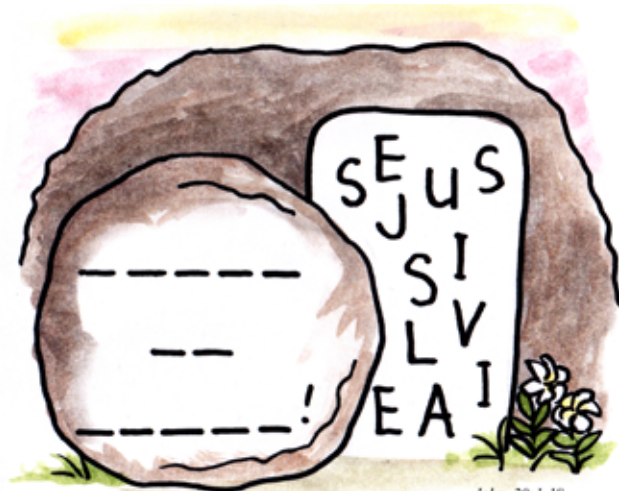
ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA: LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

Young Kateri suffered misunderstanding and ridicule due to her counter-cultural choices as a Mohawk to remain an unwed virgin for the love of Jesus Christ. Experience our first Native American Saint's struggles to follow Our Lord within her tribe and through the teachings of some early Jesuit Missionaries.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

What are we celebrating on Easter?
Unscramble the letters to fill in the blanks!



John 20:1-18

Easter Word-Find

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

See if you can find
all the words in
CAPITALS. Use
the leftover letters to
fill in the blanks at
the end.



EARLY in the MORNING, while it was still DARK, Mary MAGDALENE had gone to see JESUS' TOMB. But when she got there she found it EMPTY! She ran and got SIMON PETER and the other DISCIPLE to show them. The STONE had been rolled back. The two men went in and saw that the BODY was gone, and only the BURIAL CLOTHS were sitting there. They BELIEVED although they didn't yet understand what the SCRIPTURE said about the RESURRECTION of Jesus. Mary stayed WEeping outside, but when as she stood LOOKING in, she saw two ANGELS. Then she saw a man in the GARDEN. She thought He was the gardener until He said, "MARY!" Then she knew who it was:

_____!



Looking for more Information?
visit www.sfxchurch.sg

Mass Timings

*WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue & Thu:
6.30pm

Wed & Sat:
6.30am

Fri:
8pm

*WEEKEND MASSES

Sat:
5.30pm

Sun: 7am, 9am,
11am, 5.30pm
(There is currently no
Confession before Mass)

*MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

9am

*All are vaccinated Masses

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*

Mon - Sun:
7am - 12mn
Closed on Public Holidays
*For vaccinated only

COLUMBARIUM

Mon to Sat:
10am - 6pm
Closed on Sundays and
Public Holidays.

LIBRARY

Closed until
further notice

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