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Disciples Making Disciples

A day of spirit-filled joy

Pentecost Sunday
5 June 2022

Ac 2:1-11
Rom 8:8-17
Jn 14: 15-16, 23-26

Of all the days in the Christian calendar, Pentecost Sunday is among the most joyous and hope-filled. But unlike Christmas and Easter Sunday, it is seldom associated with celebration and does not have a national holiday like Christmas and Easter Monday. Yet, if we truly understand what Pentecost means to our faith, we should shout out our joy and fill the church today with spirit-filled happiness. Today's readings explain why Pentecost is such a wondrous occasion.

What are we celebrating?

First, it marks the birthday of the Church, the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles to begin their mission of continuing our Lord's work to free the world from sin. On Pentecost, we celebrate the fulfilment of the blessing the Church first received from the risen Christ when he breathed the Holy Spirit into our first leaders, and proclaimed:

"Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you...Receive the Holy Spirit." (Jn 21:21)

The task before them was daunting but they could not have had a more powerful send off for their Master had breathed new life into them and poured the Holy Spirit into their hearts. We are blessed with the same spirit, and that is truly worth celebrating.

Second, we celebrate the life-giving nature of the Holy Spirit. It is not easy

to understand the divine mystery of the Holy Spirit who is consubstantial with the Father and the Son. The second reading offers a profound insight: The Spirit lives in us!

"People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, since the Spirit of God has made a home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him." (Rom 8:8-9)

Therefore, we can only truly celebrate the Church's birthday today if the Holy Spirit is in us, and the celebration that we mark is really one of belonging to Christ.

The Catechism captures the relationship between the Holy Spirit, the Church and our Lord succinctly:

"The mission of the Holy Spirit in the liturgy of the Church is to prepare the assembly to encounter Christ; to recall and manifest Christ to the faith of the assembly; to make the saving work of Christ present and active by his transforming power; and to make the gift of communion bear fruit in the Church." (CCC 1112)

Finally, we celebrate the transformative power of the Spirit. Throughout scripture, whenever the Spirit is invoked, there is change, upheaval, and renewal. It begins in Genesis and is manifested throughout the Old and New Testament:

- "then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living thing." (Gen 2: 7)
- I will pour my spirit upon your descendants...They shall spring up like a green tamarisk, like willows by flowing streams." (Is 44: 3-4)

- "When Pentecost day came around, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven... and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire." (Ac 2: 1-3)

Our experience with the Spirit might not seem as dramatic, but the change it brings is no less radical. How can it not be when it is the difference between life and death, as the second reading makes clear,

"...though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself..." (Rom 8: 10)

The Holy Spirit is not an external agent sent by God to help us. It dwells in us and cannot be separated from who we are and our relationship with the Lord. We live because of the Spirit in us. It is this spirit-filled life that we celebrate today.

When you sing the responsorial psalm, "Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth" (Ps 103), make sure to fill the sanctuary with the spirit of your unbridled happiness to celebrate the fulfilment of all that had been promised.

Happy birthday!



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Announcements

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

**SCAN QR CODE
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:

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

SSVP 2ND COLLECTION

This weekend, there will be a 2nd collection by the Society of St Vincent de Paul to help the poor and needy in their monthly rations and other aid programmes. SSVP members will be at the atrium area. Please do 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

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Come storm heaven with us in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Date & Time: Mon 6 Jun, 8pm
Venue: Micah (Parish Centre, Level 2)

ALTAR SERVERS RETREAT

Let us pray for the Altar Servers who will be having their retreat from **Sat 10 - Sun 12 June**.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: MAKE YOUR MARRIAGE A PRIORITY!

Good marriages can always be made better. To deepen your relationship, sign up for a Marriage Encounter Weekend on **1 - 3 Jul**. Please contact Mark & Pearly at 9105 5559 or email them at mewkend@gmail.com.



MAIN CHURCH GATE CLOSING HOURS

Please note that the main gate of the Church will be **locked daily from 11pm - 5am**.

UPDATE ON JUNE MASSES

Online Mass bookings are no longer required. Seating capacity for Weekend Masses has been increased to 700 for VDS* Masses and 500 for Non-VDS* Masses.

NON-VDS MASSES (500 PAX):

- Weekday Masses (EXCEPT SPECIFIED SOLEMNITY MASSES)
- Sat 6.30am, Sun 7am, Sun 5.30pm

VDS MASSES (700 PAX):

- Sat 5.30pm, Sun 9am, Sun 11am

As per MCCY guidelines, we regret that we may have to refuse entry when the maximum capacity has been reached.

* Vaccination-Differentiated

MASS TIMINGS

Please note that we now have more Weekday Masses. The updated Weekday Mass Schedule is as follows:

Tue - Sat 6.30am

Mon - Thu 6.30pm; Fri 8pm

THINGS TO NOTE

- Trace-Together App/token and ID **NOT REQUIRED** for Weekday & Sat AM Masses except specified Solemnity Masses
- Trace-Together App/token and ID **REQUIRED** for VDS Masses for Vaccination status verification and headcount
- ID **REQUIRED** for Sunday non-VDS Masses for headcount
- Mass Entry: Weekday & Sat AM Masses - all doors; Sun 7am Mass - Choir Entrance only; all other Masses - Choir Entrance and Foyer

CORPUS CHRISTI

Please note that there will be outdoor procession on Sat and Sun 5.30pm Masses.

Sat 18 Jun: 5.30pm*

Sun 19 Jun: 7am, 9am*, 11am*, 5.30pm

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

RCIA/RCIY 2022/2023 - THE 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.

New RCIA Journey (24 years old and above)

Date: Tue 5 Jul 2022

Time: 8pm - 10pm

Venue: JPII Hall (Parsonage, Level 1)

Register: tinyurl.com/sfxrciasignup

For enquires: 9827 6893 (Lloyd)/
8112 8041 (Grace)



New RCIY Journey (13 - 23 years old)

Date: Sun 3 Jul 2022

Time: 10.30am - 12.30pm

Venue: Jeremiah
(Parish Centre, Level 2)

Register: tinyurl.com/SFX-RCIY-2022-23

For enquires: 9002 9977 (Angela)/
9675 5698 (Corinne)



RCIY 'Come and See' session,

Date: Sun 26 Jun

Time: 10.30am - 12.30pm



**HOLY FATHER'S
PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR
THE MONTH OF JUNE**

FAMILIES

We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2022



IN THE MONTH OF MAY 2022

WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couples:

1. Tan Yong Da Clarence & Ashleigh Ann Chong Jun Mei
2. Scott Ho Hao Yi & Tay Mei Jie, Kerrie

CONDOLENCES

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

1. Chew Annie

BAPTISMS

We welcome the following:

1. Noah Amadeus Yeow Teng Rui
2. Sarah Tan Mei Yan
3. Gan Yu Lin Eleanor Claire
4. Conrad Callan Teo Kai Ren
5. Lee En Hui Marie
6. Esme Ana Félix
7. Charlie Hoon Chia Loui

For the first time in two years, our teens were confirmed at the Main Church, together as one group, with the congregation present. On 29 May at the 5.30pm Mass, the church was filled with so much joy and love as 41 teens proudly and publicly professed their faith in Christ as they were strengthened and sealed by the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The past two years have not been an easy road for anyone to walk on. To watch our teens boldly receive this Sacrament is a testament of God's love for us. He will never leave us in times of need. Together as a church, we continue to support and encourage all families around us to enjoy the fullness of the Catholic life.



*Baptism is welcome. Eucharist is nurture.
Confirmation is mission so
that more can be welcomed,
nurtured, served and healed.*



Sacrament of Confirmation 2022



Confirmed teens in our community had no fear of missing out (FOMO) when they were Full Of Myrrh Oil!



"Signed, sealed, delivered, I'm yours"



Looking for more Information?
visit www.sfxchurch.sg

MASS TIMINGS

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon - Thu:
6.30pm

Tue - 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

**For Vaccinated Only*

CONFESSION

Fri:
4pm - 6pm

Sat:
10am - 12pm

OPENING HOURS

MAIN GATE

Mon - Sun:
5am - 11pm

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 - 11pm

Closed on Public Holidays

COLUMBARIUM

Mon to Sat:
10am - 6pm

Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays.

ANOIDTING 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

Spiritual preparation is held on the last Friday of every odd month. Baptism is held on the first Sunday of the following month. For registration, please refer to our website.



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