



**Disciples**  
*Making Disciples*



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## Called to be Fire

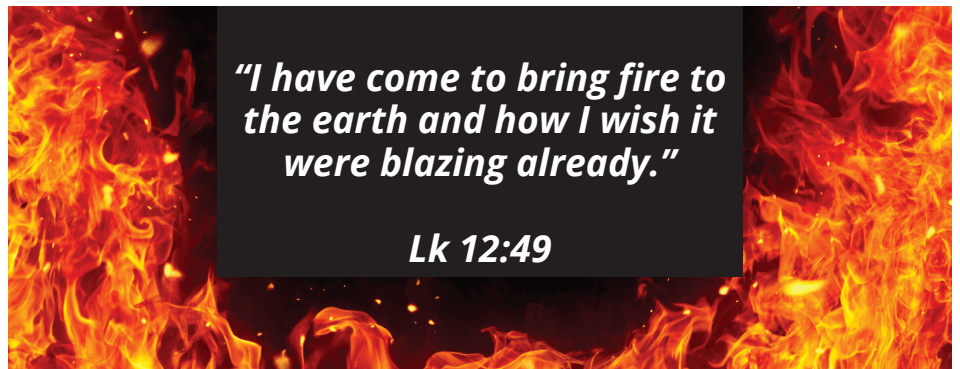
20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
14 Aug 2022

**Jer 38:4-6, 8-10**  
**Hebr 12:1-4**  
**Lk 12:49-53**

In a world struggling with war, disease and a myriad of injustices, the Church's proclamation that God loves the world may be hard for many to believe. If there is truly a loving God, why is there so much human suffering? Jesus' call to us in today's gospel to be his fire in the world is timely for we live in a world seeking healing and truth.

Today's readings speak of this call. In the first reading, the prophet Jeremiah is persecuted for opposing the political intrigues of the king's advisors. He was thrown into a cistern by the court officials to die but was saved by the Ethiopian Ebed-melech who risked being politically incorrect to rescue him. Jeremiah had spent most of his life speaking the difficult messages from God, thereby risking his own life. He wants to keep quiet, but there is an inner conflict within him. He would say to himself, "I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name anymore, but then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not do it." (Jer 20:9)

It is this fire that Jesus speaks of in the gospel when he says, "I have come to bring fire to the earth and how I wish it were blazing already." (Lk 12:49) God's fire compels Jeremiah and all of us who are baptised to speak the truth. We



*"I have come to bring fire to the earth and how I wish it were blazing already."*

**Lk 12:49**

are entrusted with this fire of faith to keep it burning till Jesus comes again.

Just like the Holy Spirit came like tongues of fire to ignite the members of the early church with the passion to preach the good news, Jesus came to set us on fire with the living flame of love for God. It is important for each of us to allow the Holy Spirit to burn in us and melt the cold indifference in our hearts, as the greatest obstacle to our proclaiming our faith and bringing people to God is being lukewarm towards Jesus.

A reason that we are lukewarm and resist being on fire is that we are afraid of losing things dear to us. Jesus, in today's gospel, reminds his disciples to be prepared for difficulties that will bring them into conflict with those closest to them, including their families.

While the commandments say that we are to honour our parents, we can only obey them if their wishes are not against God's will. Disobeying our parents in such situations will fracture the peace we have with them. That is why Jesus says that he has not come to bring peace but division. The decision to do the right thing or the good thing is not always easy and demands huge sacrifices. The book of Hebrews says we must

"throw off everything that hinders us..." and this may even include family members who want to prevent us from serving God.

We, who have been confirmed, have a share in Jesus' prophetic anointing. Like Jeremiah, we will face opposition and may even have to risk our lives in some situations, but like him we must be strong and fearless. We too have the gift of fortitude through the Holy Spirit. Our God will always come to the aid of his children in times of trouble as the Psalmist reveals: "I waited and waited for the Lord, and he stooped down to save me, he heard my cry." (Ps 40:1) With this assurance of God's help, let us "keep running steadily in the race we have started, let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection." (Hebr 12:1-2)

The truth that God commands us to share is sometimes in contrast to the culture of the world but we should not allow our fear of others' opinions to get in the way of our mission. Our mission is to be on fire with love, on fire with passion to set the world ablaze and fill it with God's light. In the words of St Catherine of Siena, "Be who God made you to be, and you will set the world on fire." This is our call.

## Announcements

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

**SCAN QR CODE  
FOR MASS HYMNS**  
[www.sfxchurch.sg/mass](http://www.sfxchurch.sg/mass)



### FAULTY CHURCH PEWS?

Spot any faulty or damaged pews in church? Scan the QR Code to share with us at [tinyurl.com/SFXFacilitiesReport](http://tinyurl.com/SFXFacilitiesReport)



### SSVP 2ND COLLECTION

With your kind donations last weekend, SSVP was able to raise **\$7,759.15** for our Friends-In-Need. We thank you for your generosity and continued support of their activities.

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**

### THE MASS EXPLAINED

Come join us for a 2-part series of talks by Rev Fr JJ Fenelon on the liturgical celebration. Love offerings are welcome! Organised by the Lectors Ministry. All are welcome!

#### PART I

**Date:** Tue 16 Aug 2022  
**Time:** 8.30pm - 10pm  
**Venue:** SFX Parish Hall (Parish Centre, Level 3)

#### PART II

**Date:** Tue 23 Aug 2022  
**Time:** 8.30pm - 10pm  
**Venue:** SFX Parish Hall (Parish Centre, Level 3)

### ALIVE! WORSHIPPING GOD IN FREEDOM

Come join us for a time of worship, input, and testimonies as well as adoration. The testimonies will be from the attendees of this year's SFX Worship Workshop. Scan the QR Code or register at [bit.ly/sfxalive](http://bit.ly/sfxalive)

Do sign up early as slots are limited! All are welcome!

**Date:** Sun 21 Aug  
**Time:** 9am - 1pm  
**Venue:** Main Church



**SOLEMNITY OF THE  
ASSUMPTION OF THE  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
(Day of Obligation)

**MON 15 AUG:**

• 6.30am, 6.30pm (Non-VDS)  
Mass Entry: All doors

• **8.30pm (VDS ONLY)**

Mass Entry: Choir Entrance and Foyer

## AUGUST 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 TIMES:

**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 Weekend Masses - Choir Entrance and Foyer

**The Rosary will be prayed 30 mins before all weekday Masses.**

### 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**.

### VACANCY FOR LITTLE SHEPHERDS' SCHOOLHOUSE - PRESCHOOL EDUCATORS

The Little Shepherds' Schoolhouse is on the lookout for more preschool educators. If you have a background in early childhood education and are passionate about children, please send your resume to [lss.recruit@catholicpreschool.edu.sg](mailto:lss.recruit@catholicpreschool.edu.sg)

### THANKSGIVING SOLEMN MASS FOR HIS EMINENCE WILLIAM CARDINAL GOH

The announcement of Cardinal-elect William Goh's appointment to the College of Cardinals is a cause of joy in our Archdiocese. Let us come together as one Church and celebrate this Thanksgiving Solemn Mass.

**Date:** Thu 8 Sep

**Time:** 5.30pm - 8.30pm

**Venue:** St Joseph's Church  
(Bukit Timah)



Bookings for Mass open on **Wed 17 Aug, 6pm**. Seats are limited, please book early. Log in to your [mycatholic.sg](http://mycatholic.sg) account to indicate your interest\* and receive an email reminder to book for this event!

\*The indication of interest does not constitute a booking. Booking is still required from 24 Aug onwards to secure a spot for the Mass.



## BLESSINGS TO OUR CARDINAL

Express your well wishes and blessings for Cardinal-elect William Goh!



Feel free to include photos of yourself with him!

*P.S. These messages will be sent to him for his keepsake.*

## CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY CENTRE: TO LIVE IS CHRIST

*"Living is Christ and Dying is Gain"*  
- Phil 1:21

Let Jesus be the centre of our life by deepening our understanding of and our relationship with Jesus. Come and know him, experience his love and mercy. Grow in faith and live the life in Christ.

**Dates & Time:** 18 - 21 Aug 2022, 9am - 6.30pm (Non Stay-in)  
**Venue:** 1261 Upper Serangoon Road, Singapore 534796  
**Retreat Fee:** \$200  
**Register:** bit.ly/CSCTLIC1

## RESTORE, REKINDLE AND RENEW YOUR MARRIAGE

*"Marriage is a project to be worked on together and a process of growth."* - Pope Francis (*Amoris Laetitia*, no. 218, 221).

Good marriages can always be made better! To deepen your relationship, do sign up for a Marriage Encounter Weekend scheduled for **23 - 25 Sep 2022** by contacting Joe & Reenie @ 9670 5390 or email at mewkend@gmail.com

## CHARIS' OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION COURSE

The Overseas Humanitarian Foundation Course is a face-to-face learning experience that allows participants to explore their lives' faith journeys and answer the call to be living missionary disciples. The course features key speakers like Rev Fr Colin Tan, SJ, Khoo Peng Beng, and Kenneth Wambeck. It will be held on **Sat 20 Aug, 9am - 5pm** at the **Catholic Archdiocesan Education Centre**.



For more information, scan the QR Code or to register at <https://makehopehappen.charis-singapore.org/Activities/ohfc2>

## VACANCY FOR CATHOLIC AIDS RESPONSE EFFORT (CARE) - PROGRAMME EXECUTIVE

Catholic AIDS Response Effort (CARE), a non-profit organisation in Singapore, is looking for a Programme Executive to work with people with HIV/AIDS and coordinate the organisation's in-house and external programmes. If you are interested, please submit your resume, supporting documents and your expected salary via email to [michael\\_loh@care.org.sg](mailto:michael_loh@care.org.sg). Find out more at <https://catholicaidresponseeffort.com>.

### Roles

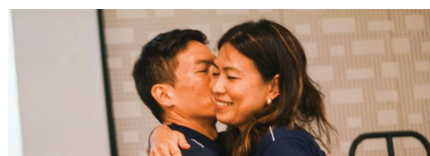
- Programme coordination including volunteer management, advocacy & public education, rehabilitation programmes (eg Dum Spiro Spero) etc.
- Pastoral Care
- Shelter management

### Pre-requisites

- A recognised qualification preferably in social work, counselling and/or related fields
- Experience in and/or predilection for working in a care-giving environment
- Good communication skills

## COUPLE EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

Would you like to experience the fullness of marital joy? We bring to you the latest church teachings on family life and life skills to build stronger marriages and raise emotionally balanced children.



Come for a no-obligation preview of these sessions on **4 Sep 2022** starting from **1pm - 5.30pm** at the Church of Divine Mercy. The sessions run from **4 Sep - 30 Oct 2022**. There's a dedicated team to take care of your kids including infants for all sessions! Register now and make God the cornerstone of your marriage!

**Date:** Sun 4 Sep 2022  
**Venue:** Church of Divine Mercy  
**Time:** 1pm - 5.30pm  
**Register:** <http://cep-sg.org>  
**Enquires:** Julian at 9790 8065 or Andrea at 9857 9075

## THE CENACLE SISTERS: QUIETING THE SOUL CHIANGMAI 2022

Spend eight or five days of quiet prayer and solitude with God in a sanctuary of peace in Chiang Mai, Thailand. A Spiritual Director will accompany you as you journey into your own heart and into the heart of God.

This quality time with God will be spent in "listening" to God's voice - through His words, movements in your heart, the wonders of nature and in the silence. The retreat hopefully would help you be in touch with that One Love we all desire - God!

### Three choices of dates (includes travel time):

- 1) 8 days: 25 Nov - 4 Dec 2022
- 2) 5 days: 28 Nov - 4 Dec 2022
- 3) 5 days: 7 Dec - 13 Dec 2022

Deadline for registration: 15 September 2022 or when registration is full.

For more info, visit [cenaclemission.com](http://cenaclemission.com) or email [cenaclesingapore@gmail.com](mailto:cenaclesingapore@gmail.com)



### THE BIBLE AND THE VIRGIN MARY: EPISODE 11: THE ASSUMPTION

In this session of "The Bible and the Virgin," we explore both the teaching of Mary's Assumption and the identity of the mysterious woman in the book of Revelation. This episode also reveals how John's apocalyptic visions are the dramatic fulfillment of the promise God made back in the Garden of Eden!



To set up your free account, visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish. Scan the QR Code to watch the video:  
<https://watch.formed.org/videos/the-assumption>



### What did Jesus say in today's Gospel reading? Match the parts to find out!

**Luke 12:49-53**

"I have come to set the earth on fire,	and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."
There is a baptism with which I must be baptized,	and a son against his father,
Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth?	and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!
From now on a household of five will be divided,	No, I tell you, but rather division.
a father will be divided against his son	and a daughter against her mother,
a mother against her daughter	and how I wish it were already blazing!
a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law	three against two and two against three;

Source: The Kids' Bulletin



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

#### MASS TIMES

##### 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)

**\*For Vaccinated Only**

##### MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

9am

##### CONFESSION

Contact Parish Office to make an appointment.

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