



Disciples
Making Disciples



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Holy Spirit - The Person of Pentecost

Pentecost Sunday
28 May 2023

Acts 2:1-11
1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13
Jn 20:19-23

Pentecost - the outpouring of the Holy Spirit which we read about in today's first reading is the fulfilment of Jesus' Passover and inaugurates the age of the Church which is the mystical Body of Christ. From here on, the mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit continues in the mission of the Church which is to bring Christ's faithful to share his communion with the Father in the Holy Spirit. The Church's mission then, is not separate nor in addition to that of Christ and the Holy Spirit but is its sacrament - a visible sign of the invisible reality that Jesus, by the Holy Spirit continues to draw all men to himself. In her whole being, the Church and all her members bear witness, make present and spread the mystery of the communion of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (cf CCC 731-738).

Who then is the Holy Spirit and what can we say about him?

From all eternity, the Father loves the Son and the Son loves the Father. This bond of mutual love for each other is so strong, so perfect and so infinitely powerful that it expresses itself in nothing less than a Person, who is Love. The Father pours out this Love which is the Holy Spirit, through his Son Jesus, into his Church and each of us, to satisfy the hunger of our inner most being for truth, life and love. And because the Holy



"The Father pours out his Love which is the Holy Spirit, through his Son Jesus, into his Church and each of us, to satisfy the hunger of our inner most being for truth, life and love."

Spirit "proceeds from the Father and the Son", he is truly God - the third person of the Holy Trinity (*The Divine Romance*, Venerable Fulton Sheen).

No one can see the Holy Spirit but we all know him by his effects - in the Scriptures he inspired; in the Church's Magisterium which he leads to all truth; in the sacramental liturgy, through words and symbols to put us in communion with Christ; in prayer when he intercedes for us; in the charisms and ministries by which the Church is built up; and in the witness of the saints through whom he manifests his holiness and continues the work of salvation (cf CCC 688).

On a personal level, the first work of the grace of the Holy Spirit is conversion whereby our hearts are moved to turn towards God and away from sin, enabling us to accept forgiveness from God (CCC 1989). "The grace of the Holy Spirit has the power to justify us, that is, to cleanse us from our sins and to communicate to us 'the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ' and through Baptism." (CCC 1987) Through Baptism, the Holy Spirit infuses into our soul sanctifying grace which heals it of sin and enables it to live with God and to act by his love (CCC 1999, 2000).

After the initial infusion of sanctifying

grace at Baptism, man can still reject the Holy Spirit by freely choosing to commit mortal sin. Thankfully, in his goodness and mercy, God also provides a means to restore sanctifying grace in our souls through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In God's providence, the acceptance of one grace begets another from God and the reverse is also true (cf Mt 25:28).

Apart from sanctifying grace, there are also special gifts of the Holy Spirit which are also called charisms. St Paul speaks of the gifts of wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, distinguishing between spirits, speaking in tongues and interpreting tongues (1 Cor 12:8-10). These special gifts are always oriented towards sanctifying grace and intended for the common good of the Church. They are at the service of charity and for building up the Body of Christ which is the Church (cf 1 Cor 12:7, CCC 2003).

The Christian life is no bed of roses. We are beset on all sides with suffering and the temptations of the world which all conspire to pull and entice us away from the love of God. Therefore, we constantly need the grace of the Holy Spirit, poured out abundantly through the Sacraments to help us persevere in living out our Christian faith to the end.

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



FAULTY CHURCH PEWS?

Spot any faulty or damaged pews in church? Scan the QR Code to share with us at tinyurl.com/SFXFacilitiesReport



PUBLIC HOLIDAY NOTICE

Please note that the Parish Office, Adoration Room & Columbarium will be closed on **Fri 2 Jun (Vesak Day)**. There will only be one Mass at 9am.

INTERCESSORY

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

Date: Mon 29 May

Time: 8pm - 9.30pm

Venue: Mount Tabor Adoration Room

CROWNING OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

To end off the Month of Mary, we will have a candlelight rosary procession around church on **Wed 31 May** for the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary **at 8pm**, during which we will have the coronation of our Blessed Mother at the Grotto. Do join us in honouring our Blessed Mother.

Date: Wed 31 May 2023

Time: 8pm

Venue: Meet in JPll Hall

WHY WE BELIEVE: ANSWERING COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Where did the Bible come from? Who decided which books to include? What about the contradictions found in the Bible? Join the SFX Bible Apostolate Team (SFXBAT) in this talk to find out more.

TOPIC 4: HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE

Date & Time: Sun 28 May, 9am - 10.30am

Venue: Jeremiah Room (Parish Centre, L2)

Register: <https://bit.ly/VWB2023Register>

MAY - MONTH OF *Mary*

Come join us to pray the rosary as a parish community to honour our Blessed Mother at the following timings:

Mon - Thu: 8pm (Grotto) | **Fri:** 7.30pm (Church) | **Sat - Sun:** 6.45pm (Grotto)

Alternatively, you may join our online Zoom Rosary Sessions:

WEEKDAY DIVINE MERCY & ROSARY

tinyurl.com/SFXWeekdayRosary

Date & Time: Mon - Fri, 3pm

Meeting ID: 845 8298 0708

ROSARY BY SaLT

tinyurl.com/SFXTueRosary

Date & Time: Tues, 8.30pm

Meeting ID: 867 1052 4234

Password: 465481

ROSARY BY LECTORS

bit.ly/SundayRosary

Date & Time: Sun, 8.30pm

Meeting ID: 840 7232 7379

Password: 3059464132



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR 2023 (LISS) - JUMPSTART



Do you desire a new life in the Holy Spirit? Join us in the Life in the Spirit Seminar (LISS) - a series of 10 weekly in-person sessions including live praise and worship, talks and small group discussions. We are available at the booth outside JPll Hall to address your questions after Mass. Scan the QR Code to read the testimonies from our past LISS participants.

Dates: 3 Jul - 11 Sep 2023 (Mondays)

Time: 8pm - 10pm

Venue: SFX Auditorium (Parish Centre, Level 3)

Register: tinyurl.com/SFXLISS2023



CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE: A CLOSER WALK WITH YOU - A CHARITY WALK WITH FAMILY, FOR FAMILIES

Catholic Family Life (CFL) is organising a virtual charity walk! Open to all individuals and families, here is your chance to put your devices down, and spend time to bond as a family. Join our Virtual Charity Walk for Family Bonding, while helping to fund more parenting and educational talks, counselling support and other initiatives by CFL to build strong families. To sign up and learn more, scan the QR code to register now!

Dates: 1 June - 30 June 2023

Venue: Anywhere, It's Virtual!

Register: bit.ly/CFLwalk2023



ACMI: ABUNDANT AND BETTER LIFE ABROAD (ABBA) PROGRAMME FOR MIGRANTS

Join ACMI's upcoming ABBA programme at the Church of St Bernadette, in collaboration with Couples for Christ (CFC) Singapore. This four-week values formation programme seeks to help participants find meaning in various aspects of their lives through reflection activities and sharing sessions. This programme is open to all migrants and is free of charge. To register, scan the QR code below or visit bit.ly/42CBeda

Dates: 4, 11, 18, 25 June (Sundays)

Time: 1pm - 5pm

Venue: Canteen and Parish Hall @ Church of St Bernadette
(12 Zion Rd Singapore 247731)



OYP: LIVING JOY - OUTREACH FOR SECONDARY 4 & 5 STUDENTS

The Office for Young People is excited to bring an outreach programme for Secondary 4 and 5 students! On this day, we gather to experience the joy of the Lord in the midst of their busy school life. Know someone who is graduating from secondary school this year? Invite them to come and see! For enquiries, please email to neumann.oyp@catholic.org.sg

Date: Fri 16 June 2023

Time: 2pm - 5pm

Venue: Catholic Centre, Level 8 (55 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187954)

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/junesecoutreach>



Confirmation Mass

14 May 2023

At SFX, it takes a community to raise a child. We are very blessed and grateful for our dedicated catechists and supportive parents who have journeyed with our teens for the past 10 years.

On 14 May 2023, William Cardinal Goh presided over the Confirmation Mass and 52 teens received the Sacrament of Confirmation.



"I am blessed to have spent the last 4 years with the supportive community of SFX. We had so much fun participating in retreats and learning about our church heritage. I want to thank all seniors and catechists who have helped me learn more about the Catholic faith. Though we may set off on our separate paths, I hope we can continue to keep in touch."

Timothy Kim (L10 Faith)

"Confirmation may seem like 'graduation' but I will continue my journey with the Lord with renewed faith. I believe that the Holy Spirit gives us courage to stand up for our faith and to spread the word of God! Confirmation isn't the end but the start of my relationship with the Lord."

Jenevieve Yeo (L10 Hope)

"Confirmation was this looming monster I wasn't sure I was ready for. In reality, Confirmation is simple and meaningful. Confirmation is just a bus stop on my bus ride to heaven. It is a continuing journey, filled with jerks and jolts, but I am thankful for this 'confirmation stop' that brings me one 'stop' closer to heaven."

Ashley Tay (L10 Faith)

"My journey with these teens (my daughter included!) started 12 years ago. As they grew in stature and faith, I learnt what it means to 'Give, and it will be given unto you.' By God's grace, and by being surrounded by a loving community, I overcame moments of spiritual dryness and my tears never lasted long. Together with the fellow catechists, we will continue this journey with you, now as fellow servants of God!"

Joan Sim, Catechist (L10 Love)

"The whole experience was exhilarating! We have spent 10 years preparing for this Confirmation Mass! The Mass was perfect with zero slip ups. I have deepened my connection with God."

Andrew Yang (L10 Hope)





Looking for more Information?
visit www.sfxchurch.sg



"I realised that my spiritual journey lacked the element of the community spirit. After my son started Catechism, I started getting involved in church, by helping out at food stations or with art and craft. After I got involved in church, I was no longer alone but became part of the vibrant church community at SFX, where we cheer each other on; pray for one another; and build each other up through faith and love."

Sylvia Lee, Parent

PPC – Day of Recollection



Last Saturday, 43 leaders representing various ministries gathered for a day of recollection led by Deacon Sherman based on the theme "Where are you?" which is drawn from Genesis 1:39. It was a time of spiritual reflection and renewal, with a focus on deepening participants' relationship with God, which began with a short, guided contemplation during Adoration led by Fr Nathaniel.

During the sessions, Deacon Sherman invited participants to reflect on where they are in their relationship with God, and to consider what intentional steps they can take to draw closer to Him. This was followed by a time of sharing, where participants were invited to share their insights and experiences with one another. The day of recollection also included Mass and praying of the rosary at the grotto, which provided a powerful opportunity for the leaders to come together in worship and prayer. The day ended with a time of personal commitment to God.

The day of recollection was a powerful reminder that our relationship with Jesus is always tested and we must always set aside time to constantly reflect on our spiritual lives, and bear in mind, the value of coming together as a community to support each other in our faith journeys. The participants left the day of recollection, feeling energized and encouraged to continue growing in their relationship with God.

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)

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

BACK GATE

Mon - Sun:
5am - 1am

PARISH OFFICE

Mon - Sat:
9.30am - 6.30pm
Sun: 8.30am - 1pm
Closed on Public Holidays

ADORATION ROOM

Mon - Sun:
7am - 11pm
Closed on Public Holidays

LIBRARY

Sun:
8am - 1pm

COLUMBARIUM

Mon - Fri:
10am - 6pm

Sat - Sun:
8.30am - 6pm
Closed on 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/second 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 and outside JP11 Hall. 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