



**Disciples**  
*Making Disciples*



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## Jesus the Redeemer

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time  
25 June 2023

Jer 20:10-13  
Rom 5:12-15  
Mt 10:26-33

This Sunday's gospel reading is part of a larger narrative in which Jesus gives his disciples their mission in three sections, each ending with "for truly I tell you".

In the first section (Mt 10:5-15), Jesus gives directions for the brief and temporary mission that his disciples would immediately go forth to carry out. The second section (Mt 10:16-23) opens out into the permanent exercise of the Gospel ministry. And the third (Mt 10:24-42) expands to the service of Christ in the widest sense for the whole Church.

In carrying out our mission for Christ, this Sunday's readings call us to stand firm in our faith and assure us that the Lord will redeem us at the end.

First, Jesus tells his disciples not to be afraid of those who "kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell" (Mt 10:28). This reframes our objectives as we carry out the mission – to strive not for gains in this life, but in the next; to fear not what can be lost in this life, but in the next.

In this regard, Jesus assures us that if we declare ourselves for him "in the presence of men", he will declare himself for us "in the presence of [his] Father in heaven". (Mt 10:32) We thus look not for glory and riches in this world, but in the next.

Similarly, the prophet Jeremiah bemoans how he has been disparaged and how those



*"So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven."*

**- Mt 10:32**

who used to be his friends now "watched for [his] downfall". But amidst such worldly suffering, he is secure in his knowledge that "the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero... for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men". (Jer 20:13)

The second point is on how Jesus redeems us. St Paul sets out his fullest explanation in his letter to the Romans, in which he argues essentially that Jesus is the second Adam.

In Rom 5:12, Paul points out how Adam's first sin brought death to all men: "Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned."

But Paul then notes that "divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift".

Through Adam's sin, man in his pride turns away from God. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, man in his obedience is reconciled with God.

And if Adam, who was only human, brought death; how much more

would grace, brought by Jesus, who was both human and divine, bring salvation. Hence, Paul argues, "Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall." (Rom 5:15)

Just as Adam's sin applies to all men as it was the Original Sin, so does Jesus' redemption apply to all men as he is the Redeemer.

We are therefore redeemed insofar as we unite ourselves with Christ.

In our modern lives today in Singapore, we do not often encounter physical persecution and martyrdom. But we can be 'killed' in other ways for our faith – mocked for being 'unrealistic', laughed at for being 'naïve', criticised for 'blind obedience'.

During these times, let us remember that, like Jeremiah, the Lord is a mighty hero at our side. Let us recall Jesus' exhortation not to be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Above all, let us set our sights on the prize of eternal life, and not of the things of this world.

## 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/SFXFacilityReport](https://tinyurl.com/SFXFacilityReport)



## PUBLIC HOLIDAY ON 29 JUN (THU) - HARI RAYA HAJI

There will be only one mass at 9am and no evening mass.

## FR NATHANIAL - HOME LEAVE

Fr Nathanial will be away from **Sun 25 Jun - Mon 10 Jul** as he returns home for a short break. Do keep him in your prayers and ask our Lord to bless him with a safe journey and rejuvenating rest.

## WHY WE BELIEVE: ANSWERING COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Is the Eucharist Jesus' Real Presence? What does the Bible teach about Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist? Join the SFX Bible Apostolate Team (SFXBAT) in this talk to find out more.

### TOPIC 5: Is the Eucharist: Jesus' Real Presence?

**Date & Time:** Sun 25 Jun, 9am - 10.30am

**Venue:** Jeremiah Room (Parish Centre, L2)

**Register:** [bit.ly/WWB2023Register](https://bit.ly/WWB2023Register)

## CHARISMATIC

The next Charismatic Prayer Meeting is on **Mon 26 Jun, 8pm** at **SFX Auditorium (Parish Centre, Level 3)**. There will be Praise & Worship followed by Empowerment for LISS. All are welcome!

## VERBUM DEI: SEP FAMILY CAMP

Come away to Malaysia with your kids to the Verbum Dei Family Camp from **1 - 3 Sep 2023!** Hear from fellow Catholic parents about their life experiences on how to grow closer to God as a family. Kids' Programme for ages 3 - 12 provided. For further enquiries and registration, please email [VDeifamilies@gmail.com](mailto:VDeifamilies@gmail.com), contact 9689 0919 or visit [www.verbumdeisingapore.org](http://www.verbumdeisingapore.org).

## 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

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

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

**Date:** Mon 26 May  
**Time:** 8pm - 9.30pm  
**Venue:** Mount Tabor Adoration Room

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS/YOUTH

Do you have big questions about life and its meaning, where and how God fit in? Come discover what the Catholic Church says and offers. RCIA/Y stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults/Youth. As Jesus said "Come and See" in Jn 1:39, we warmly invite all inquirers to come and join us in our journey to explore and deepen our faith! Registration forms are also available on the SFX website and at the Parish Office.

### New RCIA Journey (24 years old and above)

**Session start:** Tue 4 Jul 2023

**Time:** 8pm - 10pm

**Venue:** JP11 Hall (Parsonage, Level 1)

**Register:** [tinyurl.com/SFXRCIA2023](https://tinyurl.com/SFXRCIA2023)

**For enquiries:** 9626 5960 (Angela) / 8112 8041 (Grace)



SCAN TO  
REGISTER

### New RCY Journey (13 - 23 years old)

**Session start:** Sun 2 Jul 2023

**Time:** 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Venue:** Isaiah room (Parish Centre, Level 2)

**Register:** [tinyurl.com/RCY23](https://tinyurl.com/RCY23)

**For enquiries:** 9002 9977 (Angela) / 9675 5698 (Corinne)



SCAN TO  
REGISTER

### RCY 'Come and See' Session

**Date:** Sun 25 Jun 2023

**Time:** 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Venue:** Thessalonians room (Parsonage, Level 2)

## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR 2023 (LISS) - JUMPSTART

Do you desire a new life in the Holy Spirit? Join us in LISS - a series of 10 weekly in-person sessions including live praise and worship, talks and small group discussions. Seats are limited so sign up now!

**Dates:** 3 Jul - 11 Sep 2023 (Mondays)

**Time:** 8pm - 10pm

**Venue:** SFX Auditorium (Parish Centre, Level 3)

**Register:** [tinyurl.com/SFXLISS2023](https://tinyurl.com/SFXLISS2023)



## BAT: THE GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE TIMELINE

Discover the story of salvation history and understand how you fit into God's plan. Journey with BAT through this 24-session study programme to explore all twelve time periods of The Bible Timeline Chart, from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church. We will email the Zoom invites for the study sessions and information regarding the in-person meetings. Find out more and sign up now!

**Dates:** 21 Jun - 29 Nov (24 Wednesdays)

**Time:** 8pm - 10pm

**Location:** Zoom (21 Sessions), SFX (3 sessions)

**Register:** <https://bit.ly/GBA2023Register>



## 3RD WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY DAY - THANKSGIVING NIGHT DINNER

In 2021, Pope Francis instituted the World Day for Grandparents and Elderly on the fourth Sunday in July, close to the feast of Jesus' grandparents, Saints Joachim and Anne. On this special day, we are offering an exclusive dinner catered from Jack's Place for you to serve your grandparents/elderly. They're available only while stocks last! Tickets are now available for sale outside JP11 Hall after Sunday Masses on a first-come, first-served basis. Please bring the exact cash amount and there will be no advance/phone bookings.

**Date:** Sat 22 Jul  
**Time:** 7.30pm  
**Venue:** JP11 Hall  
**Capacity:** 30 pairs  
**Cost:** \$90/pair



# ***“It is MORE blessed to GIVE than to receive.”***

**When a love offering is requested for church activities, during Mass or when getting food from our church canteen, do we give a nominal amount or do we give generously what we can afford, a voluntary and heartfelt expression of love for our church and community?**

*The key points below are adopted from a speech given by Archbishop William Goh at a Catholic Foundation Dinner on 18 October 2017 where he discussed the five spiritual reasons why the act of giving is an important aspect of the faith.*

## **1. When we give, we are acknowledging that God is the creator of all things and the giver of all things**

Our success is achieved not only through our own efforts but more importantly, God's divine providence. He has sent the right people and opportunities to us. Therefore, if we have the ability to give, it is only because God is the source of all blessings. Without Him, we would be nowhere. Giving can be *"overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God."* (2 Cor 9:12)



## **3. Having the capacity to give is to share in the heart of God**

St Paul said that God blesses us with resources so that we can share in His blessings. What are the blessings in life that we are called to share? When we give our time or resources, we receive fulfilment, meaning and a joy that cannot be described.



## **2. We are all trustees of the resources and talents He has given us**

God does not give us things only for our own use. We are accountable to Him and to our fellow men for how we use what God has blessed us with.



## **4. God will bless you when you bless others**

*"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."*  
(2 Cor 9:6)

> Continued on page 4

## 5. Every baptised Catholic and Christian is called to share in the mission of the Church

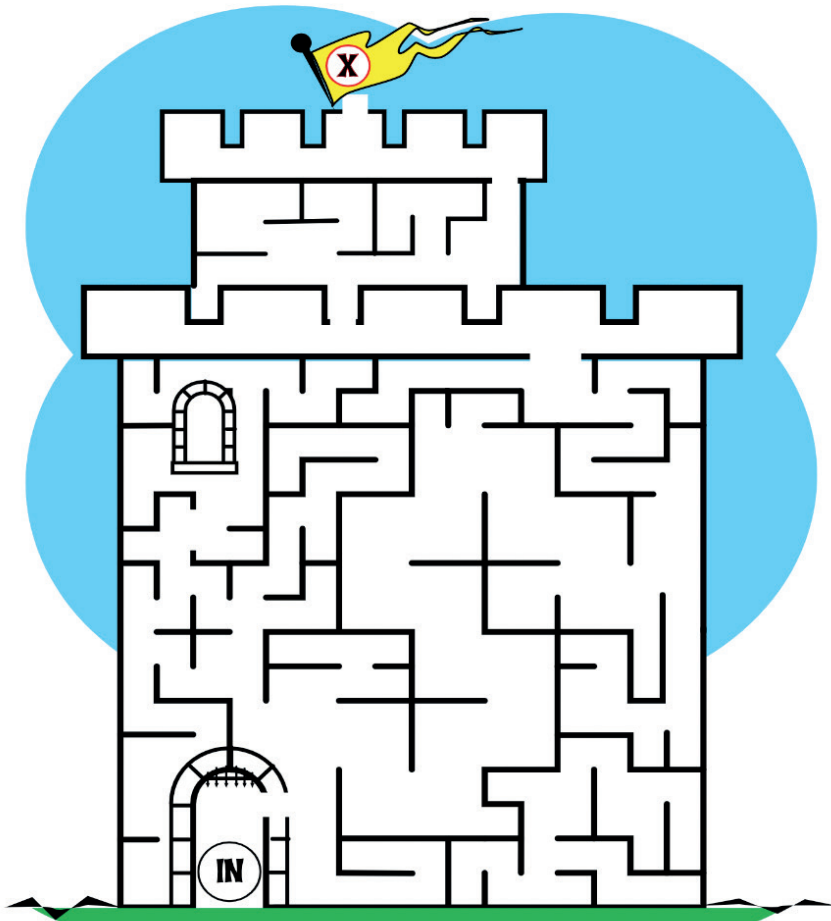
The church needs our support to carry out its mission, including supporting charitable endeavours, maintaining the facilities, and organising community outreach programs. By making love offerings, we parishioners actively participate in the growth and well-being of our faith community. The act of giving reinforces the values of compassion and stewardship; and our donations reflect our appreciation and support for the sense of belonging and spiritual enrichment that our church community provides.

*As St Paul tells us, "God loves a cheerful giver." May that "cheerful giver" be you.*



### Walls of Jericho Maze

Find your way through the maze from the entry at bottom to the flag on top.



Source: SundaySchoolZone.com



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)

##### 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

#### 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

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](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg)