



**Disciples
Making Disciples**



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“The Transfigured & Glorified Body of Christ...Amen!”

Feast of the Transfiguration
of the Lord
6 Aug 2023

Dan 7:9-10, 13-14
2 Pt 1:16-19
Mt 17:1-9

Today's first reading comes from a type of biblical writing called “apocalyptic literature”. Such writings are characterised by end time visions of God enthroned as the Lord of history who will cast out Satan and evildoers and reward the just who have been faithful to his will. Daniel's vision today included vivid detail on how “thrones [were] set in place...a court held...the books... opened” (Dan 7:9-10).

Within this scene of blazing flames and an outpouring stream of fire, Daniel sees “one like a son of man” who was “coming on the clouds of heaven”. When he came before the throne of “the one of great age”, he was conferred “an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away...” (Dan 7:14).

Who is this mysterious “one like a son of man” and what will his “eternal sovereignty” look like? Bible scholars say that Jesus calls himself “son of man” over 80 times in the gospels and it seems to have been Jesus' favourite self-designation. He used it not only in reference to his incarnation and his sharing in our humanity so that we can see and hear God through his miracles and teachings (cf 1 Jn 1:3) but he also explicitly laid claim to be the prophesied messiah-king from Daniel's vision. In healing the

paralytic, he calls himself the “son of man” who also had the divine prerogative to forgive sins (cf Mt 9:6). When asked by the High Priest if he was “the Christ, the Son of God”, Jesus virtually quoted Daniel's vision, “... I tell you that from this time onward you will see the Son of man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” (Mt 26:64-65)

Jesus, of course, was awakening them to the consequences of divine judgement in the face of their jealous stubborn refusal to acknowledge his divinity despite the many miracles worked. In today's second reading, Peter recalled another powerful manifestation of Jesus' divinity that he, James and John witnessed at the transfiguration, “...we had seen his majesty for ourselves. He was honoured and glorified by God the Father...the Sublime Glory itself spoke to him and said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour.’” (2 Pt 1:17)

While Peter, James and John had been “overcome with fear” at the transfiguration as Christ's face “shone like the sun... his clothes became as white as the light...”, they came to be deeply convinced after Jesus' resurrection and ascension that they had indeed encountered God in Jesus who they now profess to be “our Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Pt 1:16). 2 Peter was written to emphasise Jesus' divinity and his identity as God's Beloved Son sent to die to redeem humanity. It countered gnostic interpretations of Jesus as a dispenser of secret wisdom to a select few. Today, there are books focusing only on Jesus' “leadership style” or his “minimalist lifestyle” but Jesus did not become incarnate for these reasons. The Feast of the Transfiguration we celebrate today reminds us that as people baptised into Christ, we must do as Peter did

in his letter – we must profess Jesus as God and his redemptive work on the cross as opening heaven to all of us sinners who can only enter the glorious kingdom of heaven through him, with him and in him.

Christ's “eternal sovereignty” in fact, has already been established here on earth. The catechism says that “the Church, ‘on earth [is] the seed and beginning of that kingdom’” (CCC 541). Furthermore, the transfigured body of Christ is given us in the Eucharist to prepare us for our own resurrection, “This ‘how’ [of our resurrection] exceeds our imagination... it is accessible only to faith. Yet our participation in the Eucharist already gives us a foretaste of Christ's transfiguration of our bodies... The Father has already ‘raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.’” (CCC 1000 & 1003)

Reawakened in the Father's love for us in sending his Beloved Son to die so that we can share in his glory, let us receive Holy Communion today worthily and with deep gratitude - for we are truly receiving the transfigured and glorious Body of Christ. Amen!



*“...our participation in the
Eucharist already gives
us a foretaste of Christ's
transfiguration of our bodies...”
(CCC 1000)*

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/SFXFacilityReport



SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (DAY OF OBLIGATION)

Mon 14 Aug (Vigil Mass): 6.30pm
Tue 15 Aug: 6.30am, 6.30pm, 8.30pm
The rosary will be prayed at the Grotto 30 mins before all the Masses.

SSVP COLLECTION

There will be a second collection by Society of St Vincent De Paul this weekend to help the poor and needy in monthly rations and other aid programmes. SSVP members will be at the atrium area. Please give generously. For cheque payments or PayNow, pay to:

Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP)

- **OCBC Bank Account No:**
686 596 768 001
- **PayNow UEN:** S61SS0149B

INTERCESSORY

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

Date: Mon 7 Aug
Time: 8pm - 9.30pm
Venue: Mount Tabor Adoration Room

WHY WE BELIEVE: ANSWERING COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH

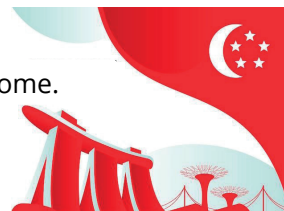
Where is Purgatory in the Bible? Why do Catholics pray for the dead? Join the SFX Bible Apostolate Team (SFXBAT) in this talk to find out more.

TOPIC 7: Purgatory & Prayers for the Dead
Date & Time: Sun 6 Aug, 9 - 10.30am
Venue: Jeremiah Room
(Parish Centre, L2)
Register: <https://bit.ly/WWB2023Register>

Happy 58th Birthday Singapore!

May God continue to bless this little red dot we call home.

National Day (9 Aug) is a public holiday. Please note that there will only be **one Mass at 9am**.



Blessed Sacerdotal Anniversaries to Fr Benedict & Fr David!

As a parish community and with our hearts filled with gratitude and joy, join us as we ask for God's abundant blessings upon Fr Benedict Chng on his 10th Sacerdotal Anniversary, and upon Fr David Garcia on his 30th Sacerdotal Anniversary on **8th Aug**. We thank God for their faithful commitment to serving his people and shepherding this community with selflessness and love for many years. May God continue to bless them with good health, zeal, and unwavering faith in their vocation. Grant them the perseverance to continue their mission with joy and enthusiasm, never growing weary in their service to God's people.



Blessed 10th Sacerdotal Anniversary Fr Ben!



Blessed 30th Sacerdotal Anniversary Fr David!

BOYS' TOWN 75TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING 2023

Staff/volunteers from Boys' Town will be in the parish during the weekend of **12 & 13 Aug 2023** to raise funds for their programmes and operations. Together, we can help make a difference in these young lives! **You can also donate via:**

PayNow to UEN: 201534576H007

For tax deduction purposes, kindly key in your information using the template below under Reference:
CC <space> NRIC <space> Mobile No.

OF MARTYRS, MIGRANTS, AND MYSTERIES: AN INTRIGUING JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

Join this thrilling investigative voyage in ancestor tracing, with its twists, turns and brick walls; where fact is often stranger than fiction. Here, buried family secrets come to light, ordinary heroes fight for their faith, and legend has it there is a remote village deep in the heart of China named 'Bethlehem'. The speaker, Cyprian Lim, is a father of seven, a researcher and author of *My Maternal Roots: A Story of Family, Faith and Freedom*.

Date: Thu 10 Aug
Time: 8pm
Venue: JPPI Hall
Register: tinyurl.com/AITJ2023

CHURCH OF STS PETER & PAUL: CANTONESE RETREAT

Activities include Rosary Recitation; Praise & Worship; Testimony; Healing and Holy Mass. All are welcome and no registration is required. Lunch is provided.

Date: Wed 9 Aug 2023 (National Day)
Time: 9am - 5.30pm
Venue: Church of Sts Peter and Paul
Speakers: Fr. Daniel Lim & Deacon Tse Ming Fai
Organisers: SPP Cantonese Group & SHBCC
For Enquiries: Philip 9868 9144/ Maria Sze 8181 4278

CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP CENTRE: DISCERNED DECISION MAKING (DDM)

A two-session workshop to enable leaders to differentiate between various leadership styles, to identify blocks in group decision-making and to adopt group processes that support consultative and collaborative decision-making. Leaders will learn how a community may discern the will of God for it at that point in time, and experience how to integrate the process of discernment within its decision-making modalities.

Date: 12 August 2023
Time: 9am - 3pm
Cost: \$180
Register: <https://catholicleader.sg/discerned-decision-making-ddm/>

Ministry Spotlight

In our Church, we hear so much about "ministry" but have you ever reflected on what being in a ministry entails? What is the main purpose of ministry and how do I know if I'm being called to serve? How do I even get started?

In August, the Manna will be highlighting a few ministries to help you know a little bit more about what they do and more importantly, why and how you can, and should, be involved.



In Ephesians 4:12, we are told that the goal and purpose of ministry is to build up the body of Christ..."to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ..." Our role in the Church's ministry is to build up Christ's Mystical Body so that its members can become more transformed into the very image of Christ. Church ministry is an important part of God's plan for His people, and it can help to build relationships with others and help them grow in their faith.

The Marketing and Media Ministry (MMM)

No, this is not the mmm of the chocolate kind but it serves up even more delectable offerings. The MMM helps our church in all its communications, social media and outreach purposes. From writing and designing for this bulletin to all the posters and media that you see in church and in social media plus taking photos for church events, it's all part of this ministry. In particular, if you like design and are willing to give back to church, the MMM team is desperately looking for designers to help in the production of the Manna. If you're interested in content curation and design layout, contact mmm@sfxchurch.sg



HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

IN THE MONTH OF JUL 2023

WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couples:

1. Brian Thomas Conley & Kristine Tan Min Xuan
2. Koh Kuan Eu, Gerard Malcolm & Lee Seok Chin, Pauline
3. Ong Wei-Xiang, Bryan & Yap Min Nee
4. Choo Boon Kiat & Nicole Liem
5. You Hongyi, Clement & Tay Rui Yi, Ashley

CONDOLENCES

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

1. Wong Kie Choon John
2. Cordeiro Elover Gleanor
3. Joseph Sin King Wah
4. Teo Boon Choo (Pearl Chen)

BAPTISMS

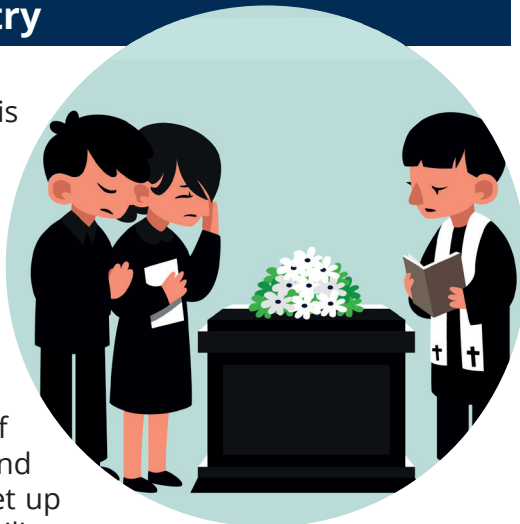
We welcome the following:

1. Gabriel Leo Ng Ze Yang
2. Gideon David Chia Tai Cheng



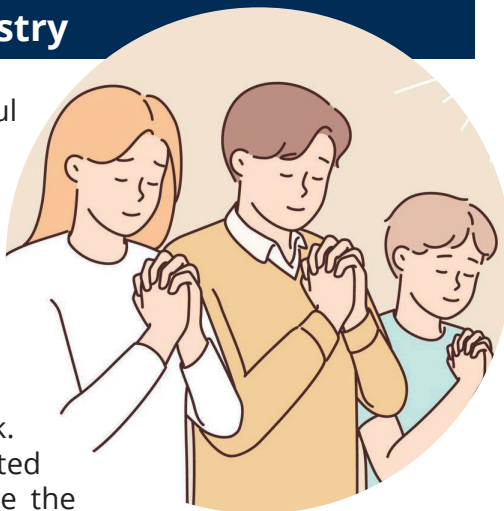
The Mt. Horeb Ministry

Mt Horeb in the bible is associated with Moses encountering the burning bush and how he eventually embraced the will of God and his role in leading his people out of Egypt. Did you know that our parish has a room (named Mt Horeb) that caters for the funeral wakes of deceased family members? And the Mt Horeb Ministry was set up in Feb of this year to help families use this space and to manage the closing each night. Joining this ministry not only provides one the opportunity to comfort the bereaved through prayer but also helps the church staff in the operational aspects ie the closing of the premises each night.



The St. Pio Prayer Ministry

This ministry prays for the faithful departed of our parish, as we believe it is through prayers that we can help to bring more souls to God. The group meets as and when there is a request for wake prayers. The group meets as and when there is a request for wake prayers - on average 1 to 2 nights a week. Most times prayers are requested nightly until the last day before the



funeral. So it can be a continuous stretch for 1 to 4 nights before the funeral. They serve mainly our parishioners but when availability permits, they also serve parishioners of other churches and in some cases non-Catholics as requested by our parishioners for their non-Catholic family members and loved ones.

Am I being called? Do I have what is needed to help? Can I help?
Yes. Yes and yes!

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."
1 Peter 4:10

Every little bit helps in building up His kingdom and no effort is ever wasted. If you feel a stirring inside you, just remember this quote from Mark Batterson, "God does not call the qualified, he qualifies the called".

Join these ministries or find out more by emailing secretariat@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

ANOIDING 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