





f O C A sfxchurch.sg



Be Fed, My Sheep!

3rd Sunday of Easter 4 May 2025

Ac 5:27-32, 40-41 Rev 5:11-14 Jn 21: 1-19

Today's readings are so rich in teaching us about discipleship, love, the early Church and our Lord's mission, we are spoiled for choice in reflecting on them for spiritual direction. Every one of these themes is important to our faith and there is much we can learn from the stories that surround them.

First, consider the dramatic setting of the Gospel reading: The Apostles have returned to their homeland in Galilee, back to what they were doing previously as fishermen eking out a living. This, after three years of discipleship with Jesus during which they experienced an emotional rollercoaster of intense spiritual closeness to God, disappointment, humiliation, even betrayal. Now, after a night out at sea with nothing to show for it, they return to their old life of mundane work.

At this moment, our Lord appears and instructs them on what to do to haul a catch so full of "big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken" (Jn 21:11).

This is a familiar situation. We too are often caught up in work, study, or in raising a family, and become removed from God. But God does not forget and will seek us out just as Jesus does with the Apostles.



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Reference: Mass Collection



When he does, the Risen Christ takes many forms – in a friend's face, an encounter with a stranger, or foreigner, and especially among the poor and vulnerable.

How do we become aware of his presence? God knows what to do, just as in the reading, "[T]he disciple Jesus loved said to Peter: 'It is the Lord'" (Jn 21:7). When there is faith and love, in whatever circumstance we may find ourselves, God makes his presence known.

But mere awareness is not enough. We are also called to respond to him to complete the mission he sacrificed his life for. It is captured movingly in the second half of the Gospel reading when Jesus asks Simon Peter three times if he loves him. Each time Peter replies in the affirmative, our Lord responds: Feed my sheep (cf. Jn 21:15-19).

Peter has been singled out to head the Church and spread the Good News to the rest of humanity. His response is illuminating. He had denied Jesus three times on that fateful night in Jerusalem and must have been filled with remorse and guilt. But our Lord never demands that Peter seeks forgiveness, nor does Peter ask for it. "Lord, you know everything; you know I love you" (Jn 21: 17). even when you are afraid to look at it and take it in hand." (Pope Francis, homily, 5 May 2019)

Do not fear then: the Lord loves your life,

Peter answers for all of us in his response. We may fail God time and again, as Peter did, but as long as there is love in our hearts for him and for others, he will bring us back to him.

This is powerfully demonstrated in the first reading after the Apostles return to Jerusalem to carry out the Church's work, and are then detained and brought before the Sanhedrin, who warn them not to spread their teachings. This time they do not capitulate, but boldly witness to God's power. Their conversion is complete

It is fitting at this time when we grieve the passing of Pope Francis, to recall what he said in a homily in 2019: "God surprises us whenever he calls and asks us to put out into the sea of history not only with our nets, but with our very selves. To look at our lives and those of others as he does, for in sin, he sees sons and daughters to be restored, in death, brothers and sisters to be reborn; in desolation, hearts to be revived. Do not fear then: the Lord loves your life, even when you are afraid to look at it and take it in hand."

When we put our faith in God, we too will be surprised at what we are capable of achieving through him.



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

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on **Sat 3 May (Polling Day) & Mon 12 May (Vesak Day).**

2ND COLLECTION FOR THE GENERAL MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS OF THE CHURCH

There will be a second collection this week and all funds raised will go towards the general maintenance and operations of our church. If you would like to donate digitally, please PayNow to our **UEN T08CC4033J** and indicate in the reference 'Maintenance'. Please give generously.

CATECHISM NOTICE

Please note that there will be no Catechism on 4 May due to Office For Catechesis (OFC) Retreat. **Sessions shall resume on Sun 11 May.**

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

The Altar Servers Society will be serving breakfast this Sunday at JPII Hall. Do drop by for some food and fellowship.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER

The next Charismatic Prayer Meeting is on **Mon 5 May, 8pm - 9.30pm** at the Auditorium. There will be Praise & Worship followed by Praying Over. All are welcome!

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Join us on **Mon 5 May**, **8pm** at the **Mount Tabor Adoration Room**, where we will pray together in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Submit your prayer requests at <u>www.sfxchurch.</u> <u>sg/intercessory-prayer</u>. All prayer requests will be kept confidential.

MAY - MONTH OF MARY

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

- Weekday Masses: as per usual
- Weekend Masses: 1 decade before Mass

Alternatively, you may join our online Zoom Rosary Sessions:

<u>ROSARY BY Lectors</u> https://bit.ly/SundayRosary

Date & Time: Sundays, 8.30pm **Meeting ID:** 840 7232 7379 **Passcode:** 3059464132

<u>ROSARY</u>

Dates & Time: Tue, Wed, Fri, 8.30pm Meeting ID: 681 479 6504 Passcode: Rosary7

WEEKDAY DIVINE MERCY & ROSARY Date & Time: Weekdays, 3pm Meeting ID: 845 8298 0708

PARISH RECOLLECTION: JOURNEYING WITH CHRIST IN THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

In our busy lives, it's easy to lose sight of our connection with God. God's question - "Where are you?" - offers a gentle invitation to pause, reflect, and recenter ourselves on Him. Join Deacon Sherman Kuek for a reflection on the Luminous Mysteries, exploring what these mysteries reveal about our Catholic life and find rest in the Lord. **Registration closes on Sun 13 Jul.**

Date: 25 - 27 Jul Venue: SFX Auditorium (Parish Centre, Level 3) Fee: \$50 Register: https://tinyurl.com/SFXPR25



UPPER ROOM

The community of In One Spirit (IOS), a part of the 1Cor12 Communities invites you to step away from the noise of life and into a sacred space where you can encounter God's peace and presence. Whether you're coming to pray or simply to be, IOS Upper Room session will offer you a place of refuge to encounter the Lord and renew your spirit. Join us for a night of prayer and adoration on **Fri 9 May, 8.45pm** at Auditorium (Parish Centre, Level 3). For any questions, please reach out to @raphaeltheseira and @matthewkwan on Telegram. Register now at **https://tinyurl.com/sfxiosuprs**

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER SALE (10 - 11 MAY)

Come celebrate Mother's day by presenting a beautiful carnation to your mother, grandmother, godmother, or our Blessed Mother. Flowers will be available for purchase before and after Masses next weekend (10 - 11 May) at the foyer and Choir entrance. Love Offerings are welcome and appreciated!

CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGY (CTIS) 2ND SEMESTER 2025

Application is now open. Forms are available from the CTIS Office or go to **www.ctis.sg** to download. Closing date is 14 Jun. There will be an information night on **8 May, 8pm** at CTIS Bukit Timah. For further enquires, call 6902 8700.

MONTFORTIAN EXPERIENCE DAY OF RECOLLECTION: TRUE OR FALSE DEVOTION

This month of May, come together for a short recollection as we celebrate the month of Mother Mary and Mother's Day. In a world filled with counterfeit devotions, it's crucial to distinguish between what's true and what's not when honouring Mary. Through guided craftwork and reflection, this recollection invites us to recognize and avoid false devotions, while guiding us to choose the most perfect and sanctifying path — one that glorifies God and pleases Him most.

Date & time: Mon 12 May, 9.30pm - 12.30pm Venue: Monfort Centre (624 Bukit Timah Road, S678212) Register: <u>www.montfortcentre.org/events-1/true-or-false-devotion</u>



Easter Vigil Baptism 2025

On Saturday, April 19, the Easter Vigil celebration marked a momentous occasion as 39 Elects and Candidates from RCIA and RCIY received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist. Let's warmly welcome our new Neophytes into our faith community! Over the coming weeks, may their testimonies inspire and enrich your own spiritual journey with God.

"I wanted to understand the Catholic faith and sought an anchor — something constant to guide me through life. My journey has been deeply fulfilling though, it began as a daunting one. I felt lonely at times, especially since I registered for RCIA alone. What helped me through was trusting that there was a purpose behind my decision. I also found support and genuine kindness from the RCIA community.



God's presence in my life brings me peace and helps me worry less, especially about things beyond my control, because I trust that He knows what's best for me and will guide me to where I'm meant to be. The various rites and the retreat were truly memorable - each one felt like a small milestone that strengthened my faith. Holy Saturday, in particular, was a beautiful and unforgettable day filled with joy and meaning. I hope to carry its memory with me for the rest of my life.

I'm deeply grateful for the RCIA community and for every person who kept us in their prayers throughout this journey. The entire experience was truly life-changing - full of grace, growth, and quiet moments of transformation. Looking back, deciding to register for RCIA was one of the best decisions I have ever made. It wasn't always easy, but every step brought me closer to God and to a deeper understanding of faith. I'll always carry this journey with me, and I'm so thankful for the people who walked alongside me with such love and support." - **Debbie Rose Yee**

"I feel amazing, happy and grateful to be confirmed and part of the Catholic family. The spirituality, devotion to Mother Mary, the Sacraments and fellowship with the Catholic community have helped me feel at home. Our Heavenly Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit have given me peace, joy and hope for a smooth journey to eternal life in Heaven." - Serena Mary Lim



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IN THE MONTH OF APR 2025

WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couple:

1. Evan Mak Jhen Wei & Tran Thi Tuyet Anh

CONDOLENCES

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

- 3. Yip Chong Lam @ Yip Choong Lam
- 4. Sim See Miang, Aloysius
- 5. Monica Yeow Oy Sum
- 6. Mrs Helen Pong @ Foo Yoke Oi

BAPTISMS & CONFIRMATIONS

We welcome the following:

- 1. Tommy Matteo Wong
- 2. Michael Noah Oon Hao Yang
- 3. Eleanor Anne Wong
- 4. Pio-Emmanuel Lopez Guo Sheng
- 5. Marie Anne En Sin
- 6. Emmanuel John Tay
- 7. Isaiah Lucas Mendoza Lee
- 8. Tristan Andrew Kyler Liew
- 9. Daniel Chee Teck Huei
- 10. Ng Ah Moey Serene Anne
- 11. Serene Therese Bak
- 12. Nathaniel Naresh Mahtani
- 13. Miles Cheng Ming Wei
- 14. Valeria Tan Min Min
- 15. Leon Ignatius Chiang
- 16. Julien Amandus Ng
- 17. Jeffree Wang Ngiap Chew
- 18. Jason Leong Wei Hoong
- 19. Gwen Lim Hwee Swang
- 20. Debbie Rose Yee
- 21. Christine Seow Geok Ping
- 22. Chris Chan
- 23. Owen Yip Chee Weng
- 24. Alfred Leong Chee Kheong
- 25. Beatrice Bessie Lim Lay Khim
- 26. Alvin Augustine Eng
- 27. Ava Deanna Khong
- 28. Tyler John Ormsby
- 29. Paul Skyler Ng
- 30. Chu Pei Xuan Joanne Elizabeth
- 31. Jenny Grace Sim
- 32. Jamie Bernadette Cheng
- 33. Eunice Chang Ze Ying
- 34. Aaron Confucius Teo
- 35. Lee Kok Gee Aden Aaron
- 36. Mandy Elizabeth Ann Wong
- 37. Serena Mary Lim
- 38. Jeannie Yim Lok May
- 39. Jacob Andre Bertrand Chua Zhu Kai
- 40. Ansa Simon Tng En
- 41. Axel Isaiah Ng Li Wei
- 42. Clare Chloe Teo Zi Ning
- 43. Kiera Shandhiri Lim Tao Jing
- 44. Leanne Adele Ng
- 45. Naomi Dionysia Loo

"The Holy Spirit led me last year to start the RCIA journey and led me closer to God in such a miraculous Way: to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, to Mother Mary and the angels and saints. I have been in constant daily communication with God for all the questions and challenges in my daily life. The culmination in Baptism and receiving my first Holy Communion was an amazing moment!" - Nathaniel Naresh Mahtani





"It has been a good experience to learn more about God in the RCIA journey. I have led a sheltered life so far and hope that through baptism, I will continue to receive God's blessings and love. I believe in the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and will become a faithful Catholic going forward... I feel blessed and refreshed after baptism to have been born again in life!" - Alfred Leong Chee Kheong

St Jerome Library Book Recommends May – Month of Mary

The Church from her earliest days has always honoured Mary for her pivotal role in salvation history. It was her "fiat" or "yes" to be "the handmaid of the Lord" (Luke 1:38), and to become the Theotokos (God-Bearer) or Mother of God, so, that we celebrate with great joy, God's redemption of humanity through Jesus Christ.

The month of May came to be established as the Month of Mary when Venerable Pope Pius XII, in 1954, instituted the Feast of the Queenship of Mary on 31 May. This feast has now been moved to 22 August and is celebrated as the Feast of the Visitation of Mary (to Elizabeth).

Spend more time with our Blessed Mother this May. Pray the Rosary every day as reparation for sins and that we may always be aware of our sinfulness and need for repentance. Rosary, Reparation and Repentance - may we enter deeper into Mary's humble heart this May and imitate her obedience to God.

Learn more from these recommended readings available for loan from St Jerome Library:







Message of Mary

Looking for more Information? visit www.sfxchurch.sg!

Mass Times

Opening Hours

WEEKDAY MASSES Mon - Thu: 6.30pm

MAIN GATE Mon - Sun: 5am - 11pm Closed on Public Holidays after 9am Mass

BACK GATE Mon - Sun: 5am - 1am

Closed on Public Holidays

after 9am Mass

PARISH OFFICE

Mon - Sat: 9.30am - 6.30pm

Sun: 8.30am - 1pm

Closed on Public Holidays

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

Fri:

4pm - 6pm

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

CONFESSION Contact Parish Office to make an appointment.

LIBRARY Sat: 4.20pm - 5.20pm Sun: 8am - 1pm

> COLUMBARIUM **Mon - Fri:** 10am - 7.30pm

Sat: 10am - 12pm

Sat - Sun: 8.30am - 7.30pm 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



available outside the Parish Office and outside JPII 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