



Disciples
Making Disciples



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Online Mass Offering:
tinyurl.com/SFXMassOfferings
UEN: T08CC4033J
Reference: Mass Collection

God's Justice is His Mercy

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
26 Oct 2025

Ecclus 35: 15-17, 20-22
2 Tim 4: 6-8, 16-18
Lk 18: 9-14

This Sunday's readings should bring deep comfort to all of us, no matter our states of life or situations in life. They are an unambiguous reminder of God's justice, and an explicit recalling of his mercy, which we often forget is deeply rooted in his righteousness.

In the First Reading, Sirach writes that "[t]he Lord is a judge" who is impartial to all and "is no respecter of personages" (Ecclus 35:12-14). In other words, God loves you as much as the family next door who doesn't bag their trash and makes a mess of the condo foyer; he incarnated and died on the cross for the martyrs as much as for all the unrepentant hearts on death row.

And in case we mistakenly think he favours us more because we are not wealthy and have many struggles in life, Sirach reminds us that vulnerability in any shape or form does not validate the deeds of the underprivileged.

God is, however, attentive to the cries of the poor and defenceless when they have been subjected to harm and wrongdoing, for "he listens to the plea of the injured party" (Ecclus 35: 16).

Sirach's nuanced wisdom reveals to us that even though God is omniscient, he still desires that we

run to him and lean on him through prayer and supplication, for all our needs. For "[t]he humble man's prayer pierces the clouds" (Ecclus 35: 16) when he storms heaven for God's justice and mercy.

The short but rich passage goes on to emphasise the interrelatedness of worship and charity: "The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted" (Ecclus 35: 17). For cry as we may and should to him, our hearts must still remain focused on him, thanking and praising him. Through his empowering grace, he then works through others to put things to right again for us.

This week's Davidic psalm, too, is pure consolation for the righteous oppressed of the world, for "[t]he just call and the lord hears and rescues them in all their distress" (Ps 33:17). King David recalls how



*"...when we seek
justice through God,
his mercy will
always prevail."*

the Lord delivered him from Abimelech and from harm, and he rejoices in the solace that came through divine rescue.

Progressively, the Second Reading emphasises our need to keep the faith, trusting in God's defence as did St. Paul amid his trials in spreading the Gospel. Like the zealous apostle to the gentiles, we are called to be saved from sin into daily martyrdom, for our real treasure is heaven itself, not relief from earthly troubles, or persecution, which we will likely face from those who oppose the Gospel and the teachings of Christ. We may even face abandonment by fellow Christians who fear sharing in our trials. Yet God alone is just, and he alone justifies.

As the parable in the Gospel teaches, humility, poverty in spirit, and a plea for God's mercy are our only recourse to salvation. Our saving grace lies not in our own righteousness — even under oppression or persecution — but in God's mercy alone. We should never boast of our good works or piety, for "[t]he merits of our good works are gifts of the divine goodness" (CCC 2009).

What, then, is our key takeaway? It is that when we seek justice through God, his mercy will always prevail. At the same time, we should not stand idly by while we watch others suffer, but be his instrument of charity to others. When we do allow ourselves to be God's instruments of mercy and justice, we must not boast of the good we do, but remember that the good we do is possible only through his grace. We don't do good to feel good about ourselves either; our charity is meant to be a form of worship — an offering of praise and glory to the One from whom all goodness flows.

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.



ALTAR SERVERS RECRUITMENT

The Altar Servers Society will be commencing the training of new servers. Boys from 8 - 12 years old who are interested in serving the parish in the liturgy are encouraged to be part of this community. Sign up at tinyurl.com/SFXAltarServersRecruitment2025.



SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

The L6 from Catechetical Ministry will be serving breakfast this Sunday at JPil Hall. Do drop by for some food and fellowship. Love offerings are welcome!

THANKSGIVING MASS WITH FR SHAWN WONG

Join us in a joyful celebration as we welcome back Fr Shawn Wong, who will be celebrating a Thanksgiving Mass on **Sat 15 Nov at 5.30pm**.

Many of you may remember Fr Shawn from his formative years at SFX — once a dedicated altar boy and President of our Altar Servers Society. Today, he serves with the Institute for World Evangelization - ICPE Mission and is currently based in Malta. The ICPE Mission is an international Catholic community committed to forming missionary disciples and transforming lives through the joy of the Gospel.

Ordained on 17 May 2025, Fr Shawn returns home to the parish that helped nurture his vocation. Let's come together as a parish family to give thanks and celebrate this special moment. Dinner reception to follow and special sign dance by the ICPE Mission. All parishioners are warmly invited to come, celebrate, and reconnect with a beloved son of SFX!

ALL SAINTS' AND ALL SOULS' DAY MASS SCHEDULE

This year, the Solemnity of All Saints falls on Sat 1 Nov, and All Souls' Day falls on Sun 2 Nov. All Saints' Day and Sunday are Holy Days of Obligation.

ALL SAINTS' DAY

(Day of Obligation):

Fri 31 Oct (Vigil Mass): 8pm

Sat 1 Nov: 6.30am, 9am, 5.30pm

ALL SOULS' DAY:

Sun 2 Nov: 7am, 9am, 11am, 5.30pm

There will be blessing of niches at the Columbarium after the 7am Mass.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please submit your Mass Intentions for All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day by Sun 26 Oct.

BAT: FAITH AND WORKS ACCORDING TO PAUL AND JAMES

Catholics and Protestants have long been debating the relationship between faith and works. Many Protestants claim that we are saved by "faith alone" and that Catholicism teaches a false "works-righteousness." In support of this, they turn to the teaching of Paul: We are "saved" but "not because of works" (Eph 2:9). On the other hand, Catholicism asserts that the only time the New Testament says "faith alone" is when the letter of James teaches that we are "justified by works and not by faith alone" (James 2:24). Do the teachings of St. Paul and St. James contradict one another? In this study, we will unpack the Catholic Church's true teaching on justification—which is nothing other than the New Testament's teaching on justification.

Date & Time : Sun 26 Oct, 9am - 10.30am

Venue : Jeremiah Room (Parish Centre, L2)

Chat Link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/BmZN4clVvRGCH2PzKcvov6?mode=www>



PARISH FUNDRAISING WALK FOR THE BUILDING OF THE CHURCH OF ST JUDE THADDAEUS

Our Parish is organising a 16km Walk from Venus Drive Carpark to the site of the future Church of St Jude Thaddaeus in Tengah on **Sat 6 Dec 2025 from 6.30am to 1.30pm**.

Fund Raising

We hope to raise \$100,000 through this Walk, through sponsorship of parishioners participating in the Walk. Please note that while the Walk is limited to 100 participants, we are all encouraged to be part of the church building project by being donors. You may make direct donations via PayNow to UEN **T08CC4033J**. Kindly indicate St Jude Thaddaeus in the 'Add a message' or 'Remarks' field.

BRIEFING & COLLECTION OF DONATION CARD

Date & Time: Thu 30 Oct, 8pm - 8.45pm **Venue:** JPil Hall

REGISTRATION

Parishioners under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. **Registration closes on Thu 13 Nov 2025.**

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



ST AUGUSTINE MUSIC MINISTRY FUNDRAISING CONCERT: FIND US READY, LORD. A CHRISTMAS OF HOPE

Join us for an evening of song and Christmas cheer as we await the coming of our Lord. All proceeds will go towards the Church of St. Jude Thaddaeus building fund. For further enquiries, please email samm@sfxchurch.sg. Book your tickets now!

Date & Time : Sat 20 Dec, 7.30pm

Venue : Auditorium, Parish Centre (Level 3)

Cost : \$30/ticket

Register : tinyurl.com/SAMMChristmasConcert2025



CHARISMATIC

The next Charismatic Prayer Meeting is on **Mon 27 Oct, 8pm - 9.30pm** at the **Auditorium**. There will be Praise & Worship followed by Mass celebrated by Fr Edward Lim. There will be birthday blessings, wedding anniversary blessings, and fellowship.

INTERCESSORY

Join us on **Mon 27 Oct, 8pm** at the Mount Tabor Adoration Room, where we will pray together in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Submit your prayer requests at www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessory-prayer. All prayer requests will be kept confidential.

HOUSE OF BLESSING: OUR HOME, HIS DWELLING

What is home to you? Just a place to eat and sleep, or something more? Join us to discover simple ways to invite His presence, guard your household from spiritual warfare, nurture faith, and grow closer to God as a family. Turn everyday living into holy ground.

Date & Time : Sat 8 Nov, 9am - 3.30pm
Venue : Saint Francis Xavier Retreat Centre (Punggol)
Fee : **Individual:** \$40 per pax
Family (up to 4 pax): \$135
 (one prayer kit per family)
Register : <https://www.familylife.sg/houseofblessing>



CARITAS SINGAPORE: DEEPER INTO CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: NAVIGATING THROUGH GLOBAL CRISES BY FR DAVID GARCIA, OP

"This economy kills," said Pope Francis.

In addition to deep inequality, the world is facing growing fear of migrants, isolationist policies and toxic politics. Amidst all these, new technologies continue to come in waves that threaten to disrupt society. The poorest among us stand to lose the most. Join us at CANA as we explore how the Church's social teaching can give us useful perspectives on the role of the Church and how we can adopt the healthy attitude to many issues. Special attention will be given to Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical that was published during the 2008 financial crisis. For enquiries, please email Caritas Singapore at formation.cst@caritas-singapore.org

Dates: 12, 19, 26 Nov (Wednesdays) **Time:** 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Venue: CANA (The Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo St, Level 3)
Cost: \$30 **Register:** bit.ly/cstnov25



UPPER ROOM

Feeling weary towards the end of the year? Come and be still before our faithful Lord. He renews our strength and fills us with hope as we wait on Him. The community of In One Spirit (IOS), part of the SFX 1Cor12 Communion of Communities, warmly invites you to our Upper Room Session — a night of prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Bring a friend — all are welcome! Light refreshments will be served after the session. For enquiries, please contact @raphaeltheseira or @makotog on Telegram.

Date & Time: Fri 7 Nov, 8.45pm
Venue: Auditorium (Parish Centre, L3)

MONTFORT SECONDARY SCHOOL'S OPEN HOUSE 2025

Calling all Catholic Boys! Join us at Montfort Secondary School's Open House 2025! Find out how you can Ignite your curiosity, Inspire excellence, and Illuminate the world as part of the Montfort Family. We hope to see you here with us on **Sat 22 Nov, 8.30am – 12.30pm.**

Mass & Anointing of the Sick & Elderly 20 OCTOBER 2025

To many, 20 October 2025 was a public holiday and the festival of lights but to the parish of St Francis Xavier, the parish liturgical ministries and volunteers led by the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) came together to organize the annual Mass & Anointing of the Sick and Elderly.

The day was filled with excitement and joy with volunteers gathering at 9am for prayer and blessing by Father Edward followed by briefings.



There were 121 attendees and they started to arrive as early as 9.30am with family members and/or caregivers before the Sacrament of Reconciliation commenced at 10am.



The occasion was graced by 8 priests namely Fr Antonio, Fr Benedict, Fr Edward, Fr John, Fr Nathaniel, Fr Valerian, Fr Timothy, and Fr Edward Lim, OCD. The priests concelebrated Mass and anointed the sick and elderly.

During the homily, we were reminded that Christ is with us in our suffering and the importance of caregivers and their pivotal role in caring for the sick and elderly.

"This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: 'He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases.'" – Matthew 8:17



Before the Mass concluded at 12.30pm, all attendees received a sponsored set of 2 candles prepared by Catholic Aide Response Effort (CARE) and a SFX prayer card was also distributed to all who attended the Mass. The gifts and prayer cards were blessed by Fr Edward, the main celebrant.

Healing is not a journey we have to navigate alone but we come together as a community to make this event one where all attendees and volunteers can experience God's love and healing.



Testimonies & Thanksgiving

"It was a beautiful sight to see. The infirm and elderly, along with their families and caretakers received grace and forgiveness through the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing. During the homily at Mass, Father Edward preached that those who are sick are united to the Cross in a special way, deeply close to Jesus in his own sufferings.

As someone who works with the sick and elderly, I find that their suffering is a mystery, yet a beautiful one. Those who are sick teach those around them how to expand their hearts in love. In the patient bearing of their infirmities, they show us a vision of Christ.

The Mass and Anointing reminded me that no one is left without the help of God and His Church."

— Colin Chiam, volunteer

"I would like to thank the planning team and volunteers for the good arrangements and well co-ordinated Mass. I am grateful to know of this Mass and it brings hope to all who are sick and give thanks to the Lord."

— Mr Wee, parishioner

"Participating and helping in the Mass for The Sick reminded us of Christ uniting with us through his sufferings. This also helps us to remember our fellow Catholics who may not be able to receive the Holy Eucharist or participate in Mass regularly."

— Ignatius and Anne, volunteers

"The event was very well organised and I felt very peaceful at Mass."

— Helen Boey, parishioner

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

Closed on Public Holidays
after 9am Mass

BACK GATE

Mon - Sun:
5am - 11pm

Closed on Public Holidays
after 9am Mass

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

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

COLUMBARIUM

Mon - Fri:
10am - 7.30pm

Sat - Sun:

8.30am - 7.30pm
Closed on Public Holidays

IMPLEMENTATION OF TOPSIS PROGRAMME IN SFX

SFX has implemented the TOPSIS (**Threat-Oriented Persons Screening Integrated System**) programme, customised to suit our operating environment. This programme, mandated by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Singapore and supported by the Singapore Police Force, strengthens our church community's safety and security.

TOPSIS is a security enhancement programme designed to help recognise and report suspicious persons or activities, and to conduct security questioning.

At SFX, ministry members have been trained to identify and report suspicious behaviours and activities. In addition, a selected group (known

as 'Security Community') has received further training to perform security questioning when required.

Security Community

- Priests
- Parish Emergency Preparedness Taskforce (PEPT)
- Selected Ministry members from Warden, Communion Minister, Altar Server, Choir, Lector, Catechist, Children's Liturgy
- Principal & Teachers of Little Shepherd's Schoolhouse
- Sacristan
- Parish Office Staff

All parishioners also share the responsibility of keeping our church community safe. **See Something, Say Something!**

**SEE SOMETHING
SAY SOMETHING**

Call **8926 5001**

Provide details of suspicious activity

Recognise suspicious activity

Be calm but vigilant (1 Peter 5:8)

Behaviour of persons

Gender
e.g. male, female
Age
estimated
Build
e.g. tall, skinny
Skin tone
e.g. fair, asian



Colour / Length of hair
e.g. black, short
Facial features
e.g. beard, piercings
Colour / Type of clothes
e.g. blue shirt, black pants
Colour / Type of bag
e.g. grey sling bag
Other features
e.g. cap, sunglasses, tattoos

Unattended items



e.g. grey car
parked
haphazardly



e.g. black bag at
church entrance

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 JPPII 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