



Disciples
Making Disciples



Parish Office:
6280 6076, secretariat@sfxchurch.sg



Parish Priest:
Rev Fr Benedict Chng
6288 0484
benedict.chng@catholic.org.sg



Little Shepherds' Schoolhouse@St Francis Xavier:
6011 1076, lss-cosfx.admin@catholicpreschool.edu.sg

Assistant Priest:
Rev Fr Edward Lim
6282 3151
frelim@catholic.org.sg



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

Love and Correction

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
6 Sep 2026

Ez 33:7-9
Rom 13:8-10
Mt 18:15-20

It can sometimes be difficult to explain discipline to a child. When corrected by parents, children may struggle to understand that their parents want the best for them or are trying to protect them from harm. However, from the perspective of the parents, these acts of discipline are motivated by love. This is the way God our Father also instructs us to love one another in today's readings. Though his love is infused with mercy, he also invites us to be formed and to live according to his commandments.

In the Gospel, Jesus instructs us to show that same love to our brothers and sisters. Jesus explicitly instructs his disciples on the steps to navigate fraternal correction when a brother wrongs them. His instruction challenges our human tendency to gossip about the wrongdoing. Instead, he invites us to first speak to those who have hurt us, to create an opportunity for reconciliation. Jesus' invitation to us is a difficult step to take especially when we may be hurting from the wrongdoing. We may be filled with grief or anger, making reconciliation the last thing on our minds.

As St Paul reminds us in the Second Reading, we are only called to love one another. This is especially necessary when we carry out the act of fraternal correction, even



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though our hearts are burning to seek justice instead. We need to go beyond a sense of justice alone and will the good of another, as St Thomas Aquinas defines love. We will their good when we first reach out to communicate with the person who has hurt us. In fact, this effort of fraternal correction can be seen to involve all three of the theological virtues. Alongside love, it invites us to have faith that the Lord will be present to guide us, and hope that he will open the heart of our brother and bring about reconciliation in his time.

While we are invited to address the wrong with our brother, it is a step that requires great humility and courage: humility to admit our hurt, and courage to face the possibility

that he may not respond positively. Jesus anticipates this and advises bringing along one or two others who can serve as witnesses, to help establish the matter more clearly, and support the effort towards reconciliation. If this still bears no fruit, the matter can be brought before the Church for guidance and support. Yet all of these steps must be rooted in genuine love; otherwise, parties risk descending into taking sides, gossip and causing greater division within the community.

Jesus' instruction ends with treating the wrongdoer as a Gentile or tax collector, if they still refuse to acknowledge their wrongdoing. While this may appear harsh, it recognises that the person has, for the time being, placed themselves outside the communion of the community. Yet, this does not mean abandoning them. We are still called to regard them with mercy, pray for them, and remain open to the possibility of reconciliation and healing in God's time. Every step that Jesus invites us to take in fraternal correction is therefore a directive not to give up on our brother, but to continue willing his good and helping him to see the truth. At the same time, this final step acknowledges that human effort is not enough to bring about reconciliation, and that we need to entrust the relationship to the Lord, trusting that he can bring healing in his time.

The readings today are an invitation for us to look at the relationships in our lives that may need reconciliation. Whether we are the wronged party or the wrongdoer, we need to allow mercy and love to guide our relationships back into right order. In this, the Lord will show us the way to love.

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

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE CHURCH

There will be a second collection this weekend and all funds raised will go towards the general maintenance and operation of our Parish. If you would like to donate digitally, please PayNow to our UEN "T08CC4033J" and indicate "Maintenance" in the reference. We thank you for your generosity.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

The Canteen Ministry will be serving breakfast this Sunday at JP II Hall. Do drop by for some food and fellowship. Love offerings are welcome!

CATECHISM NOTICE

There will be no Catechism session on Sun 6 Sep. Sessions will resume for Term 4 on **Sun 13 Sep**.

INTERCESSORY

Come storm heaven with us in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on **Mon 7 Sep, 8pm - 9.30pm** at Mount Tabor Adoration Room.

CANDLELIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION

Join us for the candlelight rosary procession on **Sun 13 Sep, 6.45pm**. Meet in JP II Hall. The procession will take place within the church grounds. Bring your own waxless candle and join us in prayer as we honour our Blessed Mother. All are welcome!

CATHOLIC HACKATHON

Help to ideate solutions for various archdiocesan organisations on **9 - 11 Oct**. Sign up now to be part of building the church of tomorrow with your talents! Sign up at mycatholic.sg/hackathon.

CARITAS SINGAPORE: REVIEW OF LIFE WORKSHOP - SEE-JUDGE-ACT METHOD

How can we integrate faith into everyday decisions? Inspired by Pope Leo's catechesis on *Lumen Gentium*, this session introduces the See-Judge-Act method, a practical way to discern action through faith. Used by popes and Catholic movements worldwide, the method will be explored through facilitated discussions. Join us and bring your friends and community members along! For enquiries: formation.cst@caritas-singapore.org.

MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY - THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

The tomb was not the end. It was the beginning of everything! When our Lord was taken down from the Cross and laid in the tomb, his mission appeared to end in failure. Yet, from that darkness, glorious light broke through, and he rose victorious. Our world is filled with complicated problems but God offers simple, yet powerful, solutions. Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Join LiFE Ministry for the remaining sessions on the Glorious Mysteries, and let your life become evidence of the Resurrection and proof of Pentecost.

Dates & Time : (Fridays) 18, 25 Sep, 2 Oct, 8pm - 10pm
Venue : JP II Hall
Enquiries : Raymond (9752 9723) or Ignatius (9664 2127)

EXHIBITION ON POPE LEO'S CATECHESSES ON THE 16 DOCUMENTS OF VATICAN COUNCIL II - LUMEN GENTIUM

LUMEN GENTIUM is the Latin title for the Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church. It is taken from the opening words "Christ is the Light of the Nations." Pope Leo has devoted 9 catecheses on this rich document to help us become more aware of how God has planned for the Church from the very beginning of time to draw humanity through all ages to become His One People in the service of charity and love. St Jerome Library has presented the Pope's catechesis in an exhibition outside JP II Hall starting from this weekend. Kids can have fun at the exhibition doing wordsearch and other activities! Do drop by and be enlightened and enriched!



APOSTOLATE FOR CATHOLIC TRUTH (ACT): LOVE, MARRIAGE AND THE MYSTERY OF SEX - A DAY OF RECOLLECTION FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Why do we have sexual desire? What is marriage for, and what does it point us to? What issues trouble our married or sex life? When our "love tank" runs empty, how do we refuel it and bring back the passion?

Come explore these questions through the lens of the Theology of the Body at a day of prayer and recollection — where we seek not just to be informed, but transformed by our Lord.

Date & Time : Sat 17 Oct, 9am - 4.30pm
Venue : Jeremiah Room (Parish Centre, Level 2)
Cost : Love Offering
Register : tinyurl.com/LMMS-oct2026



APPEAL FOR NEPAL FLOOD EMERGENCY RELIEF

Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives, Singapore (CHARIS) is making an urgent appeal for those affected by the recent floods in Nepal. On 26 Aug 2026, a flash flood struck Rasuwa District. More than 1,000 people have died, over 3,900 remain missing, and thousands have been displaced. Search and rescue efforts are ongoing.



CHARIS is raising funds to support Caritas Nepal and its local partners in providing emergency relief, including shelter, food, clean water, essential supplies and longer-term recovery assistance.

Donations can be made via credit card or PayNow through the CHARIS website. Alternatively, crossed cheques payable to "Humanitarian Aid Fund" and marked "Nepal Flood" on the reverse side may be mailed to:

CHARIS, 55 Waterloo Street, #07-02 Catholic Centre, Singapore 187954

For more information, please contact CHARIS at **6337 4119** or scan the QR code. Your generosity will provide critical aid to those in need.

Date & Time: Sat
12 Sep, 9am - 1.30pm
Venue: Catholic
Centre, Level 2
(55 Waterloo St)
Register: bit.ly/reviewoflife



RETRouvaille WEEKENDS

Retrouvaille is an international programme that helps troubled couples rebuild their relationships. If you are considering separation, divorce, or hoping to reconcile after divorce, Retrouvaille may be the support you need.

Date & Time : 25-27 Sep, 8pm (Fri) - 6pm (Sun)
Venue : ME House, 201 Punggol Seventeenth Avenue, Singapore 829651
Cost : \$50 per couple
Register : bit.ly/RetroWESep26



Mary's Nativity: The Dawn That Announces Christ



One of the earliest known paintings depicting the Birth of the Virgin by Giotto di Bondone, painted between 1302 and 1305

Origins of the Feast

On Sep 8, we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, during which we recall Mary's birth and role in the divine plan for our salvation. This is one of the most ancient Marian feasts. It is thought that this feast originated in connection with the Feast of the dedication of the Church of St Anne in Jerusalem in the 6th century.

Tradition holds that this is where the house of Mary's parents, Joachim and Anne, stood and where she would have been born.

A Birthday Like No Other

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is one of only three birthdays honoured in the liturgical year: the others being that of St John the Baptist and that of Jesus Christ himself.

The Dawn Before the Light

This feast gives us the opportunity to reflect on Mary's childhood and the new beginning that God brought about in her and with her. It serves as a prelude to the joy brought to all people by the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Added to this theme of joy is that of light because with Mary's

birth the darkness is dispersed and there rises in the world the dawn that announces Christ our Lord.

St Augustine connects Mary's birth with Jesus' saving work. He tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed."

Meeting Mary in Prayer

In the *Spiritual Exercises*, St Ignatius invites us to have an intimate conversation with Mary. We can think of her as a young girl full of hopeful energy, uncertain of her future but trusting in God's plans; or as Our Lady of Sorrows who has experienced and understands deep pain and suffering. Regardless, we know that she cares for and intercedes for us with the tender heart of a mother, tirelessly bringing our prayers to her son.

Bring the Feast Home

In the spirit of devotion to Mary on this day, consider having a birthday cake in her honour, light candles, sing her happy birthday and recite the Rosary or at least a few chanted *Ave Marias* in her honour!



**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER
INTENTIONS FOR THE
MONTH OF SEPTEMBER**

FOR THE CARE OF WATER

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2026

WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couples:

1. Stefan Stefanov Hadjiev & Nicole Ariel Teo Si-Min
2. Antony Makoto Gomez & Melissa Tan Hui Yi
3. Kang Kihoon & Krismir Grace Nirmalan
4. Leong Renjie Timothy & Sim Swee Lin Sarah

CONDOLENCES

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

1. Thomas Seet Chim Teck
2. Woo Khiah Cheng Richard
3. Pereira Rose Phyllis Mrs Rose Pilo
4. Peter Tan
5. Janet Marie Foo Ah Hwee
6. Veronica Tay Chin Hiang @ Tay Cheng Yang

BAPTISMS

We welcome the following:

1. Yim Xi Ze, Hadrian Raphael
2. Huang Li Ying Cayla
3. Anton Leon Le Rolland Wong
4. Matthias Xavier Lee Kai Ran
5. Liam Asher Pang Xuan He
6. Levi Ezra Pang Huan He
7. Isla Tan Le En
8. Soh Yi Han Micah
9. Therese Leora Ng Le En



The Church of St Anne was built by the Crusaders at the Bethesda Pool near the historic site of the Jerusalem Temple in the 12th century. According to tradition, this was the place of the Blessed Virgin Mary's birth and the home of her parents Saints Anne and Joachim. Since the time of the Crusaders, the birthplace of Mary has been marked in a crypt under this church. It is of significance that next to the Basilica is the historic Bethesda, the pool mentioned in the Gospel of St John (ch. 5), where the Lord Jesus healed a paralytic who had been sick for 38 years.



Looking for more information?
Visit 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
Closed on Public Holidays
after 9am Mass

BACK GATE

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

PARISH OFFICE

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

ADORATION ROOM

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

LIBRARY

Sun: 8am - 1pm,
4pm - 5.30pm

COLUMBARIUM

Mon - Fri:
10am - 7.30pm

Sat - Sun:
8.30am - 7.30pm
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



*...Where two or three
are gathered in my Name...*

T W H I C H P R T A
H H E A R T H S H T
R E A G A I N H E O
E R V R M Y W A R G
E E E E E S G L E E
P I N E N A R L N T
R T L H O Y A T A H
A N Y T H I N G M E
Y Y O U F A T H E R
G A T H E R E D H E
R T W O M I D S T S

Here is the last part of
today's Gospel reading.
See if you can find all
the words in **CAPITALS**
in the puzzle. Use the
left-over letters to fill in
the blanks.

What is Our Lord
asking us to do?

AGAIN, AMEN, I SAY to YOU, if two of you
AGREE on EARTH about ANYTHING for
WHICH they are to PRAY, it SHALL be
GRANTED to them by my HEAVENLY
FATHER. For WHERE TWO or THREE are
GATHERED TOGETHER in my NAME,
THERE am I in the MIDST of them.



Answer: Pray with others

Source: The Kids' Bulletin