
 **Parish Office:**
6280 6076, secretariat@sfxchurch.sg

 **Little Shepherds' SchoolHouse@St Francis Xavier:**
6280 8929, sfx_kindergarten@sfxchurch.sg

Disciples
Making Disciples

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

Assistant Priest:
Rev Fr Cornelius Ching
6282 3151
cornelius.ching@catholic.org.sg

Assistant Priest:
Rev Fr Nathaniel Xavier
6280 8331
xavier.nathaniel@catholic.org.sg

Our Gifts: A Hint to our Personal Vocation

2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time
16 Jan 2022

Is 62:1 – 5
1 Cor 12:4 – 11
Jn 2:1 – 11

St Paul chided the Corinthians for being “men of the flesh”, unable to take solid spiritual food; being striven with jealousy and rivalry and behaving like ordinary men. (cf 1Cor 3:1-3) Two thousand years later we are no different, attempting and failing to find our true identity and happiness in the world instead of in God. (cf CCC27) Out of this jealousy and rivalry, we compete for recognition and adulation instead of complementing each other’s gifts, talents and charisms in agape love.

In the second reading, St Paul reminds us that there are varieties of gifts, service and working but always the same Spirit (1Cor 12:4-6). God gives us all a diversity of gifts to collaborate and complement each other in building up the Body of Christ; striving towards personal holiness. The Saints offer us perfect examples. Every Saint is gifted with different charisms for their particular mission and no two missions are completely alike. But each Saint strives towards holiness and in the process draws others to holiness in God.

The Church teaches that, like the Saints, there is a universal call to holiness as our primary vocation (*Lumen Gentium* IV), for without holiness we cannot see God (Heb 12:14). Holiness is not only for the priests and religious, but also for the

laity. The second meaning of “vocation” is our state of life vocation, where one is called either as priest, religious, married or consecrated single. The third meaning of “vocation” is our personal vocation which is God’s call and plan for one’s entire life. In responding to this call to holiness, “Finding, accepting and faithfully fulfilling one’s personal vocation is the way to respond to the universal call to holiness, for that means doing God’s will in everything and accepting whatever comes as coming from, or at least permitted by him.” (Germain Grisez, Professor of Christian Ethics, *Personal Vocation: God calls Everyone by Name*). We must be attentive to God’s voice to listen to His plan for our life, which is our unique personal vocation.

The Virgin Mary, our mother, is the perfect example of a faithful disciple and great saint who obediently listens to God, living out a personal vocation through her gifts. With contemplation and reflection, Mary meekly and patiently seeks God’s direction. She would often keep things of God in her mind, pondering over them in her heart (cf Lk 2:19, 49-51) and then faithfully, responding and accepting God’s will for her. This is clearly demonstrated at the Annunciation when even though she does not know how it is possible to remain a virgin and yet conceive Jesus in her womb, she said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” (cf. Lk 1:38) Her love of God and selflessness, enables her to act with holiness and in turn lead others to Jesus.

Pope St John Paul II encourages us to pay attention to Mary as our role model, “In listening to the Blessed Virgin, it will

be possible to rediscover her mission in the mystery of Christ and of the Church in a vital and moving way – a mission which is already found to be indicated in the Gospel, when Mary asks Christ to begin to perform his miracle, saying to the servants at the wedding banquet at Cana in Galilee, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’ (World Day of the Sick, 11 February 1997)

Over the centuries, the Church has given Mary many titles, including “Mother of God”, and “Our Lady Star of Evangelisation”. It is fitting that she was given the title, “Our Lady Star of Evangelisation” for she was not only the first to point others to Jesus at Cana (cf. Jn 2:5) but even in the present age, through her many apparitions, particularly the one at Fatima, she continues to call humanity to “conversion and penance”. Her reflective and discerning heart when she was on earth led her to be aware of her responsibility as the Mother of God, thus living out her personal vocation fruitfully, which continues today, pointing many to Jesus and giving us the perfect example of responding to the universal call to holiness.

“Finding, accepting and faithfully fulfilling one’s personal vocation is the way to respond to the universal call to holiness.”

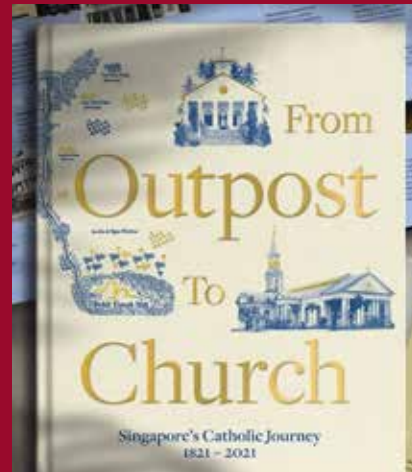
- Germain Grisez, Professor of Christian Ethics, “Personal Vocation: God calls Everyone by Name”

Announcements

For announcements in the bulletin, send your requests to mmm@sfxchurch.sg by the MONDAY before the weekend, 2359hrs

CATHOLIC 200SG COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

Drop by our Parish Centre after each weekend Mass to get a copy of commemorative book at \$30, while stocks last! Please bring the exact cash amount.



SYNODAL CONVERSATIONS

Let us, as one Church, journey together to listen to each other's faith experiences, joys and challenges. We invite all Catholics to join in the Synod conversations. Come together in small groups of 2 to 5 people to PRAY, REFLECT, SHARE and LISTEN to what God's will might be for the Church going forward. Find the conversation topics, starter questions, the steps to do this conversation and access to the submission form on www.catholic.sg/synod. May the Holy Spirit be with all of us as we begin our conversations.

GIFT COLLECTION

 This weekend, there will be a call for contributions for the GIFT (Giving in Faith & Thankfulness) programme to build a more vibrant, evangelising and missionary Church. Please give generously to support the organisations and projects of the archdiocese by making a monthly giving pledge. You can give via PayNow (UEN: 201231391K) or drop your contributions into the GIFT donation box. More info at catholicfoundation.sg

IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR MASSES IN FEBRUARY

Booking of Masses for the unvaccinated and the vaccinated will continue as per normal for February. In addition, the 20% quota for children will no longer be applicable for vaccinated Masses. This means that for February's booking, all unvaccinated children will be able to attend Masses without any restrictions.

January Mass Bookings

[HTTPS://MYCATHOLIC.SG](https://mycatholic.sg)

Tue 18 Jan, 12pm

4th booking of all weekday and weekend Masses, usual policy of 1 weekend Mass, and 5 weekday Masses per booking session.

Fully Vaccinated Masses (180pax):

- Fridays: 8pm • Saturdays: 5.30pm
- Sundays: 9am, 1pm

Things to note:

- All Masses will be held in the Main Church. Entry for 50 persons Masses will only be via the **Choir Entrance**.
- Mass bookings/cancellation may be made **1 hour** before Mass.
- Vaccinated parishioners should refrain from booking unvaccinated Mass slots.

MASSES FOR FULLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS:

Admission Criteria:

- ✓ **Fully Vaccinated**
14 days after 2nd dose of Pfizer/Moderna/WHO EUL vaccines.
- ✓ **TraceTogether**
Check in via TraceTogether token/app.
- ✗ **Pre-Event Testing**
Pre-Event Testing (PET) results for the unvaccinated will **no longer** be used as a criterion for entry into Vaccinated-Only Masses.
- ✓ **Children aged 12 years and below**
can participate in Vaccinated-only Masses. The total number of children allowed is no more than **20%** of worshippers present for the Mass.
- ✓ **Vaccination Proof**
ONLY local vaccination certificates or Health Hub vaccination proof are accepted.
- ✗ **Other Vaccines**
- Self-test Kit

For more information on the MOH guidelines, visit www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19



MASS COLLECTION

Your continuous generosity and donations will help contribute to our Parish's daily operations. You can make your offerings via the following options:

1. **PayNow** - Launch the PayNow service on your bank's app or online website. Select "Send via Unique Entity Number (UEN)" and enter "**T08CC4033J**". Proceed to check entity name - **Church of St Francis Xavier**, then key in amount. Lastly, key in the reference - Mass Collection.
2. **Cheque** - Payable to 'Church of St Francis Xavier' and write 'Mass Collection' behind the cheque. Mail cheques to **63A Chartwell Drive, Singapore 558758**.

CATHOLIC PRAYER SOCIETY: LIVING AS BLESSED DISCIPLES

The Beatitudes teach us how to live as disciples of Jesus Christ. Join us every Monday as we learn and share how to live as true disciples through our actions in the workplace and at home each day. Speaker Msgr Ambrose Vaz; organised by the Catholic Prayer Society. Registration is required.

Date: 17 Jan - 21 Feb

Time: 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/CPSTalksBlessedDisciples> or scan the QR code to register.



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2022

All Christians are invited to join in prayer and reflection during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022. Organised by the Archdiocesan Catholic Council for Ecumenical Dialogue (ACCED) and Host Churches. Please register early due to limited vacancies. All prayer services at 8pm:

- Wed 19 Jan:** Covenant Community Methodist Church
- Thu 20 Jan:** Church of St. Alphosus (Novena Church)
- Fri 21 Jan:** St. John's - St. Margaret's Church
- Mon 24 Jan:** The Salvation Army Singapore Central Corps
- Tue 25 Jan:** Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

For more info, visit www.catholic.sg/event/wpcu2022/all/

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Please submit your prayer request to www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessory-prayer. All prayer requests are kept confidential. Join us online every Monday to pray and intercede in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Date & Time: **Mon 17 Jan, 8pm**
Meeting ID: 861 5125 7252
Password: SFXIP17JAN



CHARISMATIC

The next Charismatic Prayer Meeting via Zoom is on **Mon 17 Jan, 8pm**. There will be Praise & Worship followed by a talk on 'Along the Desert Road' by Michelle Voo. All are welcome!

ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Meeting ID: 884 2477 8685
Password: HOLYSPIRIT



“What struck me was that we responded to HIS call and have been given a special task and privilege to guide our young ones. In doing so, we too have to be careful in what we say and do as the children pick up and remember. We lead by faith, word and action.”

Cathie Chua,
Children's Liturgy Ministry

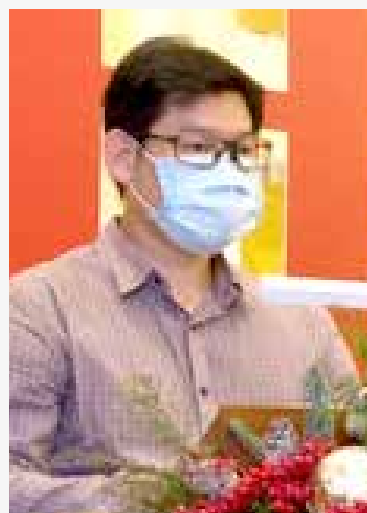


There were 2 commissioning ceremonies on 9 Jan which was also catechetical Sunday, for the catechumens in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) and all catechists in the catechetical ministry.



Catechetical Ministry Commissioning

Fr Cornelius in his homily expressed his appreciation for what catechists and all involved in spreading the good news do. He reiterated the call for more people to step forward as catechists. However, catechism is only for 2 hours a week, whereas parents spend more time with their children. He therefore reminded all parents and guardians present that they are the main catechists as their children/wards would listen, watch and imitate whatever they see and hear.



“On this day when we celebrate the baptism of our Lord, we as catechists need to remind ourselves to reject Satan through our witnessing to the children under our care. We need to depend on one another and today, I am heartened by the number of catechists present for the commissioning. God is ready to hold our hands and send us out. Today, we ready ourselves for the mission.”

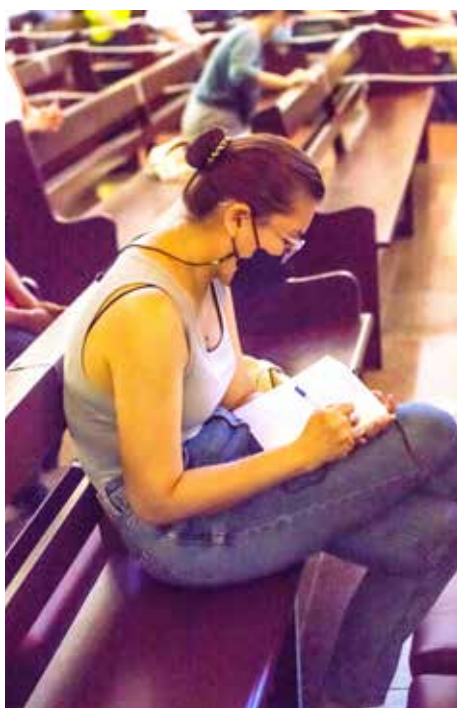
Dan Lai
Overall Catechetical Coordinator



Looking for more Information?
visit www.sfxchurch.sg



RCIA Commissioning



“The Church is indeed a big, extended family and it would need many of us to spread the good news and evangelise. But we can never do this on our own. It is only through Jesus that we can carry out this work.”

Llyod Ng,
RCIA



Mass Timings

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue & Thu:
6.30pm

Fri:
8pm*

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat Sunset
5.30pm*

Sun: 9am*, 11am,
1pm*, 5.30pm
*(There is currently
no Confession
before Mass)*

*Fully vaccinated Mass

MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

9am

HOLY HOUR

Suspended until
further notice

Opening Hours

PARISH OFFICE

For pastoral care services (e.g. anointing, funerals etc), you may contact before coming at the following hours.

Mon - Sat:
9.30am - 6.30pm
Sun: 8.30am - 1pm

ADORATION ROOM

Closed until
further notice

LIBRARY

Closed until
further notice

COLUMBARIUM

Mon to Sat:

10am - 12pm, 2pm - 4pm

Booking via

<https://tinyurl.com/SFXColumbarium>

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



For more information, please contact the Parish Office for Baptism of Infants.

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. Submit your envelopes at least one week 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