



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

Magnet for Grace

Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles
29 Jun 2025

Ac 12:1-11
2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18
Mt 16:13-19

The Holy Spirit guides the Church at every stage. "Like an eagle that watches its nest" (Deut 32:11), God looks after those who proclaim the Gospel.

Across the readings, a common theme emerges: seeking first the kingdom of God opens us to his power and grace. In the First Reading, King Herod imprisons Peter, intending to behead him. However, an angel simply bypasses maximum security measures to free Peter. Four shifts of guards, sentries, and double chains were no match for divine intervention. Similarly, Paul was miraculously freed from prison in Philippi. An earthquake shook the prison's foundations, opened all the doors, and unfastened everyone's bonds (cf. Ac 16:24-26). In the Second Reading, Paul expresses gratitude to God for being "rescued from the lion's mouth" (2 Tim 4:17), likely referring to that miraculous rescue.

Divine interventions are extraordinary events that manifest God's power over earthly authorities and nature. In our daily lives, God blesses us through grace, a supernatural gift that empowers us to respond to his call to live according to his will (cf. CCC 1996). Faith is our affirmative response to that grace.

Peter and Paul demonstrate extraordinary faith that defies physical punishment, imprisonment and martyrdom. Their conversion stories, however, couldn't be more different. They illustrate the diverse ways in which God's grace manifests in our lives.

Peter's journey of faith demonstrates

a gradual deepening of understanding and commitment, marked by both moments of faith and failure. He initially denied Jesus (cf. Lk 22:54-62) but he is later restored by Christ's forgiveness (cf. Jn 21:15-19). Empowered by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Peter becomes a pivotal leader of the Church.

Like Peter, when we face setbacks, we can acknowledge our human frailty, seek forgiveness and strength from God, and be renewed in grace and



**LOVING SACRIFICIALLY
LIKE JESUS IS A**

*Magnet
FOR
Grace*

faithfulness. This dynamic relationship with grace and faith allows us to continually grow, fall and rise again through God's mercy.

In contrast, Paul's conversion is dramatic and sudden. A fervent persecutor of Christians, he encounters the risen Christ on the road to Damascus (cf. Ac 9:1-19). This pivotal moment transformed him from a zealous adversary into one of Christianity's greatest advocates, apostles, and theologians.

No one is beyond God's mercy and redemption. Just like Paul demonstrated, even the most hardened hearts can be transformed through repentance and grace. God's grace is available for everyone, regardless of their sins.

The choice of Peter as the leading preacher of the Gospel to the Jews and Paul to the Gentiles demonstrates how grace works through individuals from diverse backgrounds and possessing unique talents.

Peter, a Galilean Jew with a deep understanding of Jewish law, customs, and Scriptures is well-suited to communicate the message of Jesus to his fellow Jews. In contrast, Paul, a Roman citizen of Jewish descent with a Hellenistic background, is uniquely positioned to articulate the Good News that resonates particularly with Gentile converts.

Although they minister to different groups of people, both of them lead like Jesus. Grace-filled and humble, they avoid seeking power or recognition. In conflict, especially regarding the observance of Jewish laws (cf. Gal 2:11-14), they resolved differences through mutual respect and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Their emphasis on the collective mission and the unity of the Church serves as a model for resolving disagreements.

We too receive grace to evangelise in various capacities, depending on our state. Guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit, we are called to resolve differences amicably, in unity and harmony. This approach fosters resilient marriages, nurtures loving families, and builds united communities, all in pursuit of the greater good.

Loving sacrificially like Jesus is a magnet for grace. Like Peter and Paul, when we seek the good of others, even at great personal cost, our generosity becomes a visible sign of God's invisible grace. This draws hearts upward in gratitude and thanksgiving, transforming life into cycles of endless precious grace.

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

ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT: NO MASS FROM 30 JUN – 4 JUL

From **30 Jun to 4 Jul**, our priests will be away for their annual retreat. Please keep them in your prayers. Communion services will be held in place of Mass, with Mass resuming on Fri at 8pm.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

All Mass collections for this weekend will be set aside for Peter's Pence. Contributions by the faithful will go toward financing the many activities of charity carried out by the Roman Curia (Vatican departments that support the Pope) on behalf of the Pope. Thank you for your generosity.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

The L8 cohort from Catechetical Ministry will be serving breakfast this Sunday at JP11 Hall. Do support our teens and drop by for some food and fellowship.

CATECHISM SCHEDULE TERM 3

Catechism session resumes on **Sun 29 Jun**. We look forward to interact and journey with the children in the new term.

CHARISMATIC

The next Charismatic Prayer Meeting is on **Mon 30 Jun, 8pm – 9.30pm** at the Auditorium. There will be Praise & Worship followed by inner healing and evangelisation by Martin Fernandez. All are welcome!

INTERCESSORY

Join us on **Mon 30 Jun, 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.



PHASE 2: PARISH OUTREACH INITIATIVE

Phase 2 of our Parish Outreach is underway. We kick off this phase with households who were not visited in Phase 1. You will be receiving an explanatory letter from Fr Ben this coming week.

An Ambassador assigned to your household will then call you sometime in July to update/confirm your details in the parish database. We thank you for your patience as we work towards refreshing and consolidating the parish database. This will help support future efforts to serve your pastoral needs more effectively.



PARISH RECOLLECTION

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 re-centre 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.**

Dates: Fri 25 Jul – Sun 27 Jul
Fee: \$50

Venue: SFX Auditorium (Parish Centre, Level 3)
Register: <https://tinyurl.com/SFXPR25>



SYMBOLON: THE FAITH OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Unlock the profound beauty and depth of the Catholic faith with *Symbolon: The Faith of the Catholic Church*, and delve into Catholicism's rich history, core teachings and spiritual practices.

This series, guided by the Creed, explores everything from the sacraments to inspiring saintly stories, empowering you to understand, live and share your faith confidently. The LiFE ministry will be continuing with the next seven episodes. For further enquiries, contact Brian Rezel (9789 2253) or Monica Yap (9669 6781).

Time: Fridays, 8pm – 9.30pm

Venue: JP11 Hall

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/LiFESymbolon2025>



PAUL J. KIM IN SINGAPORE 2025

Back again in Singapore. International Catholic speaker Paul J. Kim returns with his signature blend of music, comedy, and Gospel truth that's touched hearts across the globe. Married couples – strengthen your bond and faith together. Youth and young adults – navigate life, faith, and adulthood with purpose. Paul brings real talk, deep insights, and a whole lot of heart. Don't miss these powerful sessions designed just for you. Scan the QR Code or register at: bit.ly/pjks2025



FOR COUPLES

Talk 1: **Bulletproof Your Marriage**
Date & Time: Fri 4 Jul, 8pm – 10pm
Venue: Church of the Holy Spirit
Cost: \$16/pax

FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Talk 2: **A Catholic Guide to Adulthood**
Date & Time: Sat 5 Jul, 8pm – 10pm
Venue: Church of the Holy Spirit
Cost: \$12/pax



THE FEAST OF *Corpus Christi* IN ST FRANCIS XAVIER



To celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi, two processions were held after the 5.30pm Masses over the weekend. As our Eucharistic Lord was carried in procession, representatives of the various ministries bore their banners with pride while little flower girls and boys sprinkled flower petals along the path.

As people knelt and prayed, we remember Jesus' greatest act of love for us. Because of this act, we are given the grace to participate in His divinity through the Holy Sacrament itself.





Looking for more information?
Visit www.sfxchurch.sg

The Solemnity of St Peter and St Paul

A STORY OF TWO SAINTS



BIO OF St Peter

NAME: Simon (son of Jonah), Cephas, Peter
CITY OF BIRTH: Bethsaida
MARITAL STATUS: Married (Matt. 8:14)
SIBLINGS: St Andrew (Disciple)

EDUCATION: None

RELATION TO JESUS: One of the 12 Disciples

METHOD OF DEATH: Crucified upside down on a cross

PERSONALITY & CHARACTER

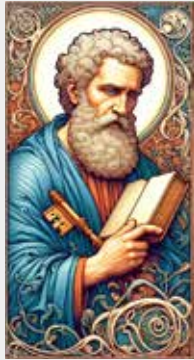
- Impulsive, yet cowardly (Matt. 14:28-30; 26:69,70)
- Hot tempered (Jn. 18:10) yet tenderhearted (Matt. 26:75)
- Insightful (Matt. 16:16) yet ignorant (Matt. 16:21-23)
- Courageous and steadfast after Pentecost (Acts 5:28-30)

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- Jesus calling him to be a fisher of men after the miracle of catching fish after a long night (Matt. 4:19; Lk. 5:11)
- Walking on water and then rescued by Jesus (Matt. 14:22-33)
- Witnessed the Transfiguration (Mk. 9:2-4) and was with Jesus at Gethsemane (Matt. 26:37-39)
- Peter declared Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of the living God, and Jesus proclaimed Peter as the foundation of the Church (Matt. 16:13-20)
- Denied knowing Jesus 3 times (Matt. 26:69,70) and was not only forgiven but commissioned to 'feed His sheep'
- After Pentecost, Peter becomes a bold preacher (preaching to hundreds at a time) and leader, who no longer feared death (Acts 2:38; 3:6,7)

There were many differences between these 2 great saints and their mission, especially how they started and in their traits, personalities and education level. St Peter started his mission in his old age and evangelised mainly to the Jews whereas St Paul was a young man when he started his mission and preached the good news to Gentiles. Due to their levels of education, St Peter was simple in his writing while St Paul wrote about complex theology and Christian philosophy.

Notwithstanding these differences, both of them were bold and courageous in their evangelical mission, pursuing their missionary work with holy zeal and boundless energy. And both were exposed to many persecutions. They both remained humble and obtained the crown of martyrdom, dying for their faith.



BIO OF St Paul

NAME: Saul, Paul
CITY OF BIRTH: Tarsus of Cilicia
MARITAL STATUS: Celibate virgin
PROFESSION: Pharisee with Rabbinic training, later a tent maker

EDUCATION: University of Tarsus, disciple of Gamaliel

RELATION TO JESUS: Never knew Jesus, later became an Apostle

METHOD OF DEATH: Beheaded

PERSONALITY & CHARACTER

- Strategic thinker, chose large cities as centres to preach
- Focused without compromise
- Communicator, maintained contact with all churches
- Well-spoken and bold, stood before governors, kings and the Council of Sanhedrim

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- St Paul meeting St Stephen and witnessing his martyrdom
- St Paul's conversion on his way to Damascus
- Being imprisoned many times (Philippi, Caesarea and twice in Rome)
- He served in three missionary voyages, in Asia, Europe, till he arrived west to Spain where he founded its church. Also served in many islands: Cyprus, Crete, Malta, Sicilia where he founded their churches



As St Augustine said, "Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one; and even though they suffered on different days, they were as one. Peter went first, and Paul followed. And so we celebrate this day made holy for us by the apostles' blood. Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labours, their sufferings, their preaching and their confession of faith."

Here is a prayer for the feast of Sts Peter and Paul:

God Our Father, today you give us the joy of celebrating the feast of the apostles Peter and Paul. Through them, your Church first received the faith. Keep us true to their teaching. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

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 - 1am
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

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

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