



Disciples
Making Disciples



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

Tattoos in Heaven?

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
16 Aug 2026

Rev 11:19; 12:1-6, 10
1 Cor 15: 20-26
Lk 1: 39-56

Will there be tattoos in heaven?

This sounds irreverent, but it exposes something deeper. We shape, decorate, preserve, or reinvent our bodies. Yet, few of us stop to ask what God intends for them.

It's easy to imagine heaven as finally leaving the body behind. The Bible says otherwise.

If God intended us to spend eternity as disembodied spirits, there would have been no need for Christ's bodily resurrection — or for today's solemnity, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In Mary's Assumption, God reveals something astonishing: when he saves us, he saves the whole person. Body and soul belong together forever.

This is a radically different vision of the human body. In Platonic thought, the body was seen as a prison from which the soul longed to escape. Today, we fall into a different error. We obsess over appearances and chase impossible beauty standards, acting as though the body belonged to us alone. Different errors, same conclusion: the body is disposable.

Christianity insists otherwise because God delights in matter (cf. CCC 299). He created it, entered it in the Incarnation, redeemed it on the Cross, and raised it at Easter. In Mary's Assumption, he reveals its final destiny.

Today's First Reading helps us understand why. John sees the heavenly temple opened and the Ark of the Covenant revealed. The ancient Ark bore God's presence among his people; Mary bore God himself, the Word made flesh. As the New Ark, it is fitting that she should already share in the heavenly glory promised to all who belong to Christ.

But Mary's Assumption is not only about her. St Paul calls Christ the "first fruits" of those who have died (cf. 1 Cor 15: 20). But first fruits always point to a harvest. Christ's resurrection is the beginning; Mary's Assumption is the first glimpse of the Church's promised future. As the Catechism teaches, her Assumption is "a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians" (CCC 966).

That promise naturally raises a deeper question: What, if anything, is worth keeping forever?

Jesus himself answers. When he rose from the dead, he still bore the wounds of the nails and the spear. Pain was gone. Death was gone. But the wounds remained — not as defects, but as radiant signs of victorious love. Heaven does not erase our story; it transfigures it.

That same promise extends to us. The resurrection is not God replacing us with improved versions of ourselves. It is God bringing to perfection the persons he created us to be. We will be recognisable — not generic versions of worldly beauty — but freed forever from disease, decay, weakness, and death (cf. CCC 999). Our God-given uniqueness is not a mistake awaiting correction. They are part of God's creative delight.

In the end, the question is not really about tattoos. Whether tattoos endure into eternity, we do not

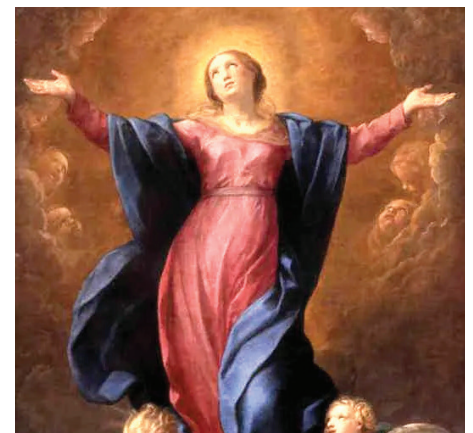
know. What matters is whether our lives are marked by love.

Seen in that light, we see our bodies in a new way. Youth is not the opposite of old age; glory is. We no longer need to despise our bodies because they age, wrinkle, weaken or fail, nor judge others by aesthetics that fade. What we see today is only the first draft of the glory God intends for us.

This hope transforms how we see those around us. The hungry we feed, the sick we visit, the elderly we honour, the vulnerable we protect — these are not temporary shells. They are persons destined for resurrection.

Every person we meet is a work God has not yet finished: the elderly man walking slowly across the road, the child living with disability, the cancer patient, the spouse whose face bears the lines of decades. We are seeing them in the midst of their story, not at its end. Their destiny is not the grave, but glory.

Mary's Assumption is the sure sign of that hope. It reveals what humanity looks like when God's work is finally complete. By the grace of Christ, may our lives be marked by the only thing that endures forever: love.



*"Youth is not the
opposite of old age;
glory is."*

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.



CARE FOR SHEPHERDS

Our priests dedicate their lives to serving God and His people. Let us care for them in return by supporting the GIFT programme's Clergy Welfare & Retirement Fund, which provides for their healthcare, welfare and retirement needs after a lifetime of service. Sign up for a monthly pledge at catholicfoundation.sg/give. Together, let us build the Church today for tomorrow.



GIFT COLLECTION

This weekend, there will be a 2nd collection for Catholic Foundation's GIFT (Giving in Faith & Thankfulness) programme. GIFT is a regular giving programme to rally support for and fund, the Archdiocese's organisations and initiatives for youth, evangelisation, catechesis, formation, and others. Please drop your contributions or GIFT envelopes into the collection boxes. Do consider signing up for a regular pledge, as it is the most reliable way of supporting the Church. Visit catholicfoundation.sg to contribute online or find out more.

SSVP COLLECTION

With your kind donations last weekend, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) was able to raise **\$510,829.25** for Friends In Need. We thank you for your generosity and continued support of our activities.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

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

INTERCESSORY

Come storm heaven with us in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on **Mon 17 Aug, 8pm - 9.30pm** at Mount Tabor Adoration Room.

ST JEROME LIBRARY: KIDS' STORYTELLING SESSIONS

As part of our Ministry Awareness Programme, we will be hosting Kids' Storytelling Sessions at the St Jerome Library on **15 & 16 Aug at 5.30pm**. Bring your little ones along and join us for a fun storytelling session!

MINISTRY AWARENESS DRIVE

Wondering how you can share your God-given gifts and become more involved in parish life? Visit the ministry booths outside JP II Hall after Mass to learn more about the various ministries in our parish!

Meet ministry members, ask questions, discover the different opportunities to serve, and find where your talents and interests can make a difference.

Featured Ministries:

1Cor12, Children's Liturgy, Infant Baptism (IB), Small Christian Communities (SCC), St Jerome Library (SJL), Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP), Wardens

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 six sessions on the Glorious Mysteries, and let your life become evidence of the Resurrection and proof of Pentecost.

Dates: (Fridays) 21 Aug; 4, 18, 25 Sep; 2 Oct
Time: 8pm - 10pm
Venue: JP II Hall
Enquiries: Raymond (9752 9723) or Ignatius (9664 2127)

BIBLICAL APOSTOLATE TEAM: SCRIPTURAL ROSARY DEVOTION

Come and pray the Scriptural Rosary with the Biblical Apostolate Team - a beautiful devotion where each Hail Mary is preceded by a verse of Scripture, drawing us deeper into the life of Christ. What makes this evening special: we will pray all four Mysteries - Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious - journeying through the entire Gospel in prayer on **Wed 26 Aug, 8pm - 10pm** at Jeremiah Room (Parish Centre, Level 2). All are welcome.

EXHIBITION ON POPE LEO'S CATECHESSES ON THE 16 DOCUMENTS OF VATICAN COUNCIL II - LAST WEEKEND



Pope Leo concludes his catechesis on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum, DV) on a theme that he began his catechesis with - that of friendship with God. Referring to DV2, Pope Leo says, "the ultimate purpose of reading and meditating on the Scriptures [is] to get to know Christ and, through Him, to enter into a relationship with God, a relationship... in which God speaks to humans as though to friends."

As this is the final weekend of the exhibition on the Pope's catechesis on Divine Revelation, do come by and "drink" from the Spirit-filled insights of our Holy Father. While there, pen the Scripture that has most sustained you and leave those Words in the "well" for a fellow brother or sister - pray that they too, may be nourished by the Scripture God has impressed on your heart!

**If you would like to have any of the exhibition boards or other exhibits, please drop by St Jerome Library from next Sun 23 August, 8am - 1pm. The exhibits are NOT for sale but you may make a donation to our parish or a charity of your choice.*

PIETA - A SUPPORT GROUP FOR BEREAVED PARENTS

PIETA is a support group for bereaved parents who come together in faith to seek God's comfort, wisdom and hope. The monthly sessions, facilitated by bereaved parents, provide a space for prayer, reflection and breaking open the Word of God. Any parent who has lost a child, regardless of the child's age or how recent or long ago the loss occurred, is welcome to join us and journey together in faith.

Date & Time: Tue 25 Aug, 7.30pm - 9.15pm
Venue: Catholic Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland Road, LG-01 (next to the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary)
Enquiries: pieta.familylife.sg or email PIETA for directions

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND 2026

ME Weekend is an enrichment programme for couples who have been married for 3 or more years. Come and experience your marriage in a new light. Register for a transformative Marriage Weekend. For more info, visit www.wmesg.org/Weekend_Reg

2026 Stay-in Weekends: 28 - 30 Aug | 2 - 4 Oct | 6 - 8 Nov | 4 - 6 Dec

CATHOLIC HUB LOGO SELECTION

As the Catholic Hub takes shape, we invite you to help discern its visual identity. Two logo concepts have been shortlisted, and we would like to hear which one best represents the Catholic Hub as a place for prayer, formation and fellowship. View the two logo concepts and make your selection by **21 Aug**. Scan the QR code below, go to mycatholic.sg/cathub-vote, or visit the myCatholicSG app.

Your feedback will help the Catholic Hub Team discern the final logo as we prepare to welcome our Catholic community to the Catholic Hub in 2027.



CATHOLIC FOUNDATION: GOD, MONEY & ME

God, Money & Me blends practical financial tools with Catholic principles, helping you build healthy habits, make values-based decisions, and experience the freedom of faithful stewardship.

Orientation: Sat 5 Sep, 10am - 12pm
Sessions: (Every Sat) 3 - 31 Oct, 9am - 1pm
Venue: Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187954
Register: catholicfoundation.sg/god-money-and-me

INTERCESSION RETREAT

Organised by the CSC Retreat Team. Have you ever felt called to pray more deeply for others but didn't know how? Do you sometimes feel helpless when those around you are suffering? Come discover how the gift of intercession can bring hope, healing and change as you learn to carry one another's burdens, intercede through various forms of prayer, and lead others in intercession.

Date: 5 - 6 Sep (Non Stay-In)
Time: 8.30am - 6.45pm
Venue: Catholic Spirituality Centre
Fee: \$109 (inclusive of 9% GST)
Register: <http://bit.ly/cscir11>



ACTS Singapore Mission Trip



One of our Parishioners, Audrey, first went to Kampot in Cambodia with ACTS in June 2025. She then volunteered in Phnom Penh in December with her son, Brendan, and again in Kampot in June 2026. Read her reflections on her experience on the mission trips here:

As I sat in the near-empty school grounds in June last year looking at the beautiful mural two young people had spent the week painting, the blazing sun finally settling to a comfortable warmth, my heart was full. I knew the way I spent June and December would forever change.

I had been blessed to teach for a week at a school in Kampot, Cambodia, together with other volunteers from ACTS (A Call to Share). Every morning, we attended Mass at the little yellow St Augustine church celebrated by the talented and dynamic Korean priest, Father Daniel Yoon. Thereafter, we split into our different groups — some venturing further into remote villages as part of the medical and dental teams; others attending to rebuild the school playground and I, together with my fellow education team members, walking to our school across the road where we would spend the day with the children under our care.

Each day, I witnessed acts of incredible kindness and selflessness by fellow volunteers as they laboured tirelessly and joyfully for the mission. And I was happy to have brought some joy and much love to the children in my class.



I have since gone for another two mission trips with ACTS and am planning to volunteer again next year. I have wonderful memories of the beautiful smiles and generosity of the Cambodians I have met and worked with; special experiences such as celebrating Corpus Christi Sunday walking in solemn procession with the locals through a tiny remote village; and attending Mass in a little gothic church up in the hills that had been mis-used by the Khmer Rouge as a military stronghold. I have also been inspired by the amazing priests and nuns I have met through these missions — people who have given up comfortable lives to serve the Lord in this foreign land.



Indeed, when I answered the Call to Share, little did I expect to receive much much more. If you are interested in volunteering with or learning more about ACTS, do visit their website. Online registration for a few of the end of year mission trips are currently still open, but do sign up quickly before they close.

Find out more about ACTS and register for the 2026 end of year Missions at: acts-singapore.com



Beyond the Pew

Bite-sized Catholic catechesis

Why is there silence after Holy Communion?

After receiving Holy Communion, the Church invites us into a few moments of sacred silence to thank Jesus, listen to Him and rest in His presence. Silence is not empty — it is a prayer from the heart.

Word Meaning

Communion comes from the Latin *communio*, meaning “sharing” or “union.” Through the Eucharist, we are united with Christ and one another.



THIS WEEK'S INVITATION

Remain in silent thanksgiving for one minute after receiving Holy Communion.



A Simple Prayer

*“Jesus, thank You for coming into my heart.
Stay with me always.”*



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

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