



THE MANNA

Church of St Francis Xavier

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Disciples
Making Disciples



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

God, Country and Mission

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
18 Oct 2026

Is 45:1, 4-6
1 Th 1:1-5
Mt 22:15-21

The Gospel reading today contains a well known line that helps resolve a tricky dilemma in our worldly life — “...give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar — and to God what belongs to God” (Mt 22:21). Jesus’ answer to the Pharisees was telling in the way he adroitly avoided falling into the trap they had laid when they asked him: “Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” (Mt 22:17). If he replied that it was, he would anger many Jews who hated the Romans for their occupation and taxation. Even worse, he would be seen to have renounced his faith, for the Romans worshipped their kings as deities. If he answered to the contrary, he would have to face the consequences of being disloyal to the ruler of the land.

How should we interpret his response? It is as relevant to us now as then as we too are often confronted by the conflicting pull between God and country. Our Lord’s response was unequivocal. As citizens we have a duty to build a peaceful and harmonious society, obeying the law of the land and discharging our civic responsibilities. It is only when we live in such a community that we will be better able to use our God-given talent to achieve our Lord’s purpose. But our first and foremost duty is to God



*“...there is no life
when we claim to
be self-sufficient
and live as islands:
in these attitudes,
death prevails.”*

POPE FRANCIS, FRATELLI TUTTI

because he is the ultimate sovereign whom “men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing” (Is 45:6).

There is no dilemma. Caesar was owed what he was due as represented by the image in the coin circulating at the time. It is our civic duty to pay taxes and uphold the law. But God’s image is everywhere, in our own person as he created us in his likeness. We owe him everything. In other words, you can give your money to Caesar, but you have to give your whole life to God. The two are interlinked — our obligation to help our brothers and sisters as part of a shared humanity on earth will better enable us to form a closer relationship with God and fulfill the mission he has set for us. We cannot

achieve one without the other.

This is a central message in Pope Francis’ encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti*, in which he urged us to take cause to build a better world rooted in the values of the Gospel. “No one can experience the true beauty of life without relating to others, without having real faces to love. This is part of the mystery of authentic human existence. Life exists where there is bonding, communion, fraternity; and life is stronger than death when it is built on true relationships and bonds of fidelity. On the contrary, there is no life when we claim to be self-sufficient and live as islands: in these attitudes, death prevails.” (Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* para 87).

Today, as we celebrate World Mission Sunday, which was established 100 years ago in 1926 by Pope Pius XI, his message is especially relevant. It is a day when the entire Catholic Church comes together in prayer and sacrificial giving to support its missions around the world, particularly in challenging places where persecution and poverty are rampant and where the Church is still young and fragile.

Every one of us is a missionary bearing witness to God to spread his message and doing our part as citizens of the world to build a better society for humanity. In his message three years ago to this date, Pope Francis called on all of us to “make other hearts burn with the word of God, to open the eyes of others to Jesus in the Eucharist, and to invite everyone to walk together on the path of peace and salvation that God, in Christ, has bestowed on all humanity.” (Pope Francis, World Mission Sunday, 2023) This is our mission.

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

MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION

All Mass collections on the weekend of 17 – 18 Oct (29th Sunday in Ordinary Time) will be set aside for the Church's missionary work to spread the Gospel. The total amount collected will be placed at the disposal of the Pontifical Mission Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

GIFT CONTRIBUTIONS

This weekend, being the third weekend of the month, there will be a second 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, including the Catholic Hub building project. Please drop your contributions or GIFT envelopes into the collection box, or sign up for a regular pledge, as it is the most reliable way of supporting the Church. Give now at catholicfoundation.sg/give.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

The L7 Catechetical Ministry will be serving breakfast this Sunday at JPil Hall. Do drop by for some food and fellowship. Love offerings are welcome!

COMING TOGETHER FOR THE CATHOLIC HUB

The Catholic Hub represents a shared vision for our Church to walk in communion and to accompany every person on their lifelong journey of missionary discipleship. Together, let us build the Church today for tomorrow. Sign up for a monthly GIFT pledge to support the mission of the Church through the Catholic Hub and other initiatives at catholicfoundation.sg/give.

INTERCESSORY

Come storm heaven with us in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on **Mon 19 Oct, 8pm – 9pm** at Mount Tabor Adoration Room.

ALL SAINTS' DAY AND ALL SOULS' DAY

Mass schedule for All Saints' Day (Day of Obligation)

- **Sat 31 Oct (Vigil):** 5.30pm
- **Sun 1 Nov:** 7am, 9am, 11am, 5.30pm

Come to Mass dressed as your favourite Saint! Children and families are invited to celebrate the saints and be inspired by their faith and holiness.

Mass schedule for All Souls' Day

- **Mon 2 Nov*:** 6.30am, 6.30pm

*Blessing of niches at the Columbarium will be after each mass

Please submit your Mass intentions by **Tue 27 Oct**.

Forms are available outside JPil Hall, or submit digitally via <https://tinyurl.com/SFXMassOfferings>.

As the list needs to be compiled and printed, we're unable to include submissions after the deadline. Thank you for your understanding.



CHARISMATIC: LIFE IN THE SPIRIT - GROWTH SERIES

Discover the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Strengthen your faith and purpose.

Mondays, 8 - 9pm (Hosea Room, Parish Centre Level 2)		
19 Oct	Fruit of the Spirit - Galatians 5:22	Speaker: Mike Arents
26 Oct	Worship in the Spirit	Speaker: Roderick Lim
2 Nov	Spiritual Warfare	Speaker: Fr Karolus Huar

BIBLICAL APOSTOLATE TEAM: WHY DO I HAVE TO GO TO CONFESSION?

Confession can feel daunting, but it is one of the greatest gifts Christ left his Church — a place to encounter his love and mercy, not his judgment. Join SFXBAT as we unpack what Confession really is, why it matters, and how it draws us closer to the Father's love.

Date : Sun 25 Oct
Time : 9am - 10.30am
Venue : Jeremiah Room (Parish Centre, Level 2)
Enquiries : <https://tinyurl.com/2026WhyConfession>



MASS AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK & ELDERLY 2026

We invite all who are unwell as well as the elderly to this special Mass with the Sacrament of Anointing. Come receive the "special grace on the Christian experiencing the difficulties inherent in the condition of grave illness or old age" (CCC 1527). Family and friends are also welcome to join in this special Eucharistic celebration. Physical registration forms are available in Church and the Parish Office. Return completed forms to the Parish Office by **Mon 2 Nov**.

Date & time: Mon 9 Nov, 11am - 12.30pm (Be seated in church by 10.45am)
Venue : Main Church (63A Chartwell Drive, Singapore 558758)
Enquiries : Melissa (9363 6516)

Programme:
9.45am: Registration
10am – 11am: Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
11am – 12.30pm: Mass and Anointing

Register : <https://tinyurl.com/SFXMFTS2026>



OYP: OUTREACH FOR SECONDARY 4 & 5 STUDENTS

Graduating from Secondary School this year, or know someone who is? OYP welcomes all who are graduating to join us for a time of prayer with the Lord and get to know fellow Sec 4 & 5 students! For enquiries, please email Melvin (melvin.oyp@catholic.org.sg).

Date : Sat 21 Nov
Time : 10am - 1pm (registration opens at 9.45am)
Venue : Catholic Centre (55 Waterloo Street, #08-01, Singapore 187954)
Register : tinyurl.com/SecOutreach26Nov

CTIS: CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGY (SEMESTER 1)

Application is now open for Semester 1, 2027. The Catholic Theological Institute of Singapore (CTIS) caters to students who wish to deepen their knowledge of the Christian faith in the context of the Church and the world of today. Classes are held on weekday evenings, with both physical and online (Zoom) options available. Please check with the CTIS office for the mode of upcoming classes. Apply by **Sat 12 Dec**.

Info Night Session:

Date & Time : Fri 6 Nov, 8pm

Venue : St Ignatius Room (B1), SFX Seminary, Bukit Timah

Register : Download forms from www.ctis.sg;
physical forms are available at the CTIS office

Enquiries : 6902 8700

CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY CENTRE: BREATHE YOUTH RETREAT

Calling all youths and young adults aged 16 to 30! The Catholic Spirituality Centre is organising BREATHE, a four-day stay-in retreat. It's a time to step away, encounter Christ, and be renewed in joy and faith. Registration is now open. Visit the booth outside JP11 Hall after Mass to find out more, or scan the QR code to register. Registration closes on **30 Nov**.



Date : Fri 4 Dec - Mon 7 Dec (stay-in)

Venue : St Clement Hall, 2nd floor
(1261 Upper Serangoon Rd, Singapore 534796)

Cost : \$160

Register: bit.ly/breathe4



SSVP COLLECTION

With your kind donations last weekend, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) was able to raise **\$10,783.60** for our Friends In Need. We thank you for your generosity and continued support of our activities.

EXHIBITION ON POPE LEO'S CATECHESSES ON THE 16 DOCUMENTS OF VATICAN COUNCIL II - LUMEN GENTIUM: "HOLINESS AND EVANGELICAL COUNSELS IN THE CHURCH."

Pope Leo reflects on the universal call to holiness, reminding us that holiness is God's gift of grace and that all the baptised are called to grow in holiness by practising virtue and imitating Christ. He also invites us to look to Religious life, where the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience offer a prophetic sign of God's Kingdom here on earth. Visit the exhibition outside JP11 Hall, complete the activity and redeem a Catholic-themed bag charm at St Jerome Library. Open **Sundays, 8am-1pm**.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2026



One in Christ, United in Mission



This year marks the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday, a celebration established by Pope Pius XI to encourage prayer for evangelisation, support missionary vocations and sustain the Church's missionary work throughout the world.

In his message for this centenary, Pope Leo XIV invites the Church to reflect on the theme "One in Christ, United in Mission." He calls all the faithful to renew their missionary spirit, remaining united in Christ and working together to share the Good News with all people.

The Holy Father reminds us that our mission begins with our relationship with Christ. Just as branches draw life from the vine, our union with the Lord nourishes our faith and enables us to bear fruit. This communion with Christ also draws us into communion with one another, strengthening our ability to witness to the Gospel.

Pope Leo XIV emphasises that Christian unity is not an end in itself. Rather, it is a witness to the world, so that others may come to know Christ through the love, reconciliation and fraternity they see among his disciples.

A Mission Rooted in Love

Evangelisation is more than proclaiming the Gospel in words. It means making God's faithful love visible through our daily lives, our relationships and our service to others. Inspired by Christ, every baptised person has a part to play in the Church's mission, according to their vocation and gifts.

The Pope also expresses his gratitude to missionaries who leave their homes and familiar surroundings to proclaim the Gospel, often in challenging circumstances. Their dedication reminds us that the



ONE IN CHRIST
UNITED IN
Mission
100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

mission of the Church reaches beyond geographical and cultural boundaries, bringing the love of Christ to those who have yet to encounter him.

Our Part in the Mission



World Mission Sunday invites each of us to participate in this mission through prayer, practical support and the witness of our lives. We may not all be called to serve in distant lands, but we can all contribute to making Christ known in our families, workplaces, parish communities and beyond.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2026

As we celebrate this centenary, let us respond generously to the Holy Father's invitation to walk together in faith, united in Christ's love. May our prayers and contributions sustain missionaries, especially those serving the poorest and most vulnerable, and help bring the light of the Gospel to every corner of the world.

Read the full message: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/mission/documents/20260125-giornata-missionaria.html>



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

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 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



Sing 2 the Lord... a math puzzle

Figure out the answers to the math questions and use the answers to find the right words to fill in the blanks in today's Psalm.

Sing to the _____ a new _____;
 $4+4=$ _____ $1+4=$ _____

_____ to the Lord, all you _____.
 $4+2=$ _____ $6+3=$ _____

Tell his _____ among the _____;
 $3+4=$ _____ $1+1=$ _____

among all _____,
 $2+1=$ _____

his wondrous _____.
 $2+2=$ _____

2 nations

6 sing

3 peoples

7 glory

4 deeds

8 Lord

5 song

9 lands

Answers: words are in this order: 8:Lord, 5:song, 6:sing, 9:lands, 7:glory, 2:nations, 3:peoples, 4:deeds

Source: The Kids' Bulletin