

Our Pilgrimage



6th Jan 2019, VOLUME 46
Epiphany (Year C)



StMichael.catholic.sg



@ChurchofStMichaelsG

Liturgical Reflection

We come together as the Church today to celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany. In our entrance antiphon, the Church declares that "The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power." Indeed, this is nothing less than *all* the preparations of Advent fulfilled to perfection. Epiphany is the crown, the liturgical peak, of the season of Advent and Christmas.

Epiphany, which is celebrated either on January 6 or the Sunday between January 2 and January 8, is taken from the Greek *epipháneia*, which means *manifestation*. Today, we celebrate the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world - the revelation of the young Messiah as the light of the nations.

"I AM the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
(John 8:12)

We are reminded in today's antiphon for the *Magnificat* at Vespers, "Three wonders mark this day we celebrate: today the star led the Magi to the manger; today water was changed into wine at the marriage feast; today Christ desired to be baptized by John in the river Jordan to bring us salvation, Alleluia," that this Solemnity encompasses three mysteries which speak of how Christ is to be revealed to the world: to the Magi, those who would seek Him, through His miraculous and healing work, and by Baptism.

[Continued on P2]

*'And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of
Judah;
since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'*

Matthew 2:6

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 71(72): 1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Second Reading: Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12



OUR LOGO

The two 'C' stand for the Christ (outer circle) encompassing the community (inner circle).

Christ Jesus is always present in his Church. The golden stylised sword represents the community rooted in the word of God ready to move as represented by the wings spread out to bring the Kerygma as represented by the cross to everyone.

- The colours are that of the Archangel
- The sword and wing represent the Archangel who is always there as our guardian.

VISION

A vibrant loving community of **disciples making disciples** for the Kingdom of God

MISSION

To Create moments of God encounters

To Form Disciples in Christ

To Nurture community spirit through the Word of God

Liturgical Reflection (cont)

Jesus, the Christ Child, is first encountered by the shepherds of Bethlehem (Luke 2:8-20). In Jesus's time, shepherds were outcasts who were equivalent to tax collectors. This is in contrast to the time of Abraham, when shepherding was a respected occupation in the Jews' nomadic lifestyle. However, when the Jews migrated to Egypt and settled in Palestine, they shifted from a nomadic society to an agrarian one. As shepherding became less important, over time, it too became less accepted. Christ manifested himself not to the scribes and religious leaders, but to the humble shepherds first, because He came "not to call the upright, but sinners" (Mark 2:17).

Christ is next revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. The Magi have long been regarded by the Church as the first fruits of the Gentiles. Coming from both far and wide, the Magi symbolise all the peoples of the earth summoned by the coming of Christ. We as Gentiles are affirmed, at this feast of **universal salvation**, that Christ has truly come to save each one of us.

Praying the Genealogy of JESUS

We give thanks for our sharp-eyed reader Sharlyn who spotted the following error in the article, "Praying the Genealogy of Jesus" in Vol 44 of Our Pilgrimage:

It was actually Tamar's **Father-in-law** whom she seduced by disguising herself as a harlot by the road, not her father as written in the article.

The Editorial Team apologises for any confusion caused.

God has sent His only begotten Son to redeem the whole of mankind.

At Epiphany, God becomes visible to the Gentile world. Today, Jesus manifests a new kingdom, to which the starlight of faith guides all wise men. ***Will you allow the spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ to dwell in your heart and be the visible sign of God's love for us in you?***

Be renewed with the Spirit of the Lord this Christmas season with pure hearts and with Jesus dwelling in our hearts, so that we may truly know the meaning of Christmas - His coming to redeem us. Only then, will we be able to celebrate His birth, His presence fully, with loving hearts, with our loved ones, relatives, friends, fellow brothers and sisters in Christ and our neighbours.

The manifestation was made to the gentiles. We are called to be heralds of Jesus Christ. What have you done on your part to announce Jesus Christ to the non-believers?

The shepherds, sometimes considered the lowest in society and the magi considered the elite of society are both included in the manifestation. Do you have biasness when proclaiming Jesus to others?

What do you need to do in order to bring the Spirit of the Lord to others?

At Epiphany, Jesus manifests/appears to all, do you see the Lord Jesus Christ? Do you see Jesus in the poor, the hungry, the lonely?

2. Will you welcome Jesus into your hearts?
3. Will you accept His Peace and Love? Do you share His Peace & Love with others?

*With Love, Peace and Joy of the Lord,
Patrick & Philip*

Christmas Octave 2018

The Church of St Michael had 8 days of Christmas Octave Celebrations with the overarching theme of *Hark the Herald Angel Sing*. All the ministries chipped in to help out with the celebrations over the 8 days.

Day 1 of the Octave featured **The First Noel** organized by the Youth. The word, “Noel” means ‘news’ or ‘shout for joy’. The celebration on Christmas Day highlighted the joy of the birth of our Lord as how the shepherds rejoiced as they left after visiting the manger.

Day 2 of the Octave was organized by the Lectors and the theme for that day was **Santa Claus is Coming To Town**. The person Santa Claus is derived from Santa Nicholas, or St. Nicholas. He was a Bishop of Myra who gave money to the poor in secret. The parishioners learnt the origins of Santa Claus and the real meaning of the things we do during Christmas as we prepare our hearts for Jesus’s arrival.

Day 3’s Jingle Bells Rock was organised by the Wardens. Does anyone know that the song Jingle Bell Rock has little or nothing to do with Christmas other than representing a festive time of gaiety. The true meaning of Christmas is empty without our Lord himself.

Day 4 featured **I Saw Mummy Kissing Santa Claus** led by the Catechists. The true meaning of Christmas is replaced by present day adaptations such as Daddy dressing up as Santa Claus and highlighting materialism rather than spiritual direction and providing material and spiritual food for those who really need Jesus. The night saw the Catechism children putting up a skit.

Day 5’s theme **Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer** was led by Comms. This song is very familiar to us and it has nothing to do with the real meaning of Christmas. The song however reminds us that Jesus did come for those who were overlooked by society. The Comms team sang their hearts out and did a reflection which explored the 7 misfits in the Bible and the origins of Rudolph.

Day 6 featured **Christmas isn’t Christmas** by the Choirs. Christmas has to begin with our hearts open to Jesus. There was the singing of Carols and the powerful sharing of how Christmas is different for the choirs this Christmas.

Day 7 - Feliz Navidad was organised by the Youth. Christmas enables us to have a new beginning as Jesus’s birth was the beginning of our salvation. There was P&W, talks and thanksgiving testimonies for the blessing in the year.

Day 8 was centred around **Mary Did You Know** by EMHC. There was a rosary procession and the singing of carols. There was an activity impressed upon the participants to trust the Lord in all things. What a way to start 2019! ☺

Please do flip over to see a selection of the glorious pictures from these 8 days. For more pictures do visit: <https://bit.ly/2F6CdL5> or scan:



By Kelly Gabrielle Lob
Pictures provided by the Parishioners of St. Michael

Christmas Octave 2018



Christmas Octave 2018



Christmas Octave 2018



Meet the Parents session

Fr Terence would like to meet the parents of children and youth attending Pri 1 to Sec 3 Catechism.

Date: Friday, 11 January 2019

Time & Place: 8pm, Worship Hall

Primary 1 Catechism Registration

Come register your child on the following weekends (ground floor)!

• 5-6 Jan/ 12-13 Jan 2019

Saturdays: 4.30pm to 7pm

Sundays: 9.30am to 12noon

For enquiries, email

thomassinnappen@hotmail.com

Starting dates for Catechism Classes:

• **Primary 1 to 6:** 20 Jan 2019

Time: 8am to 9.30am

• **Sec 1 to 4:** 19 Jan 2019

Time: 3pm to 5pm

Preparatory Session for 2 February

Infant Baptism – 26 Jan, Sat

To prepare for your infant's baptism on 2 Feb, please register with the Parish Admin Office by 15 January.

Registration of Pregnant Mothers

Moving forward, there are some changes to infant baptism. To help families prepare early for their baby's baptism, we invite pregnant mothers in their third trimester in January to register with the Parish Admin Office. We shall be in touch on the preparatory sessions. Please email to esm.secretariat@catholic.org.sg

Admin Assistant (full-time)

We are hiring an Admin Assistant (full-time). Pick up forms at the Parish Admin Office. Closing Date: 12 Jan

Hear ye CSM seniors!!

Just for you a Seniors Club blossoms!!
Commencing Tuesday 12 Feb 2019
and every Tuesday thereafter. Come and enjoy the activities. Together Seniors pray hard and play hard!

Day: Tuesdays

Time: 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Eucharist Explained – 13 Jan, Sun

Come and understand the signs and gestures of the Eucharist.

Lunch/refreshments provided.

Time: 12.15pm to 5pm

Venue: Worship Hall

Evening Brew – 18 Jan, Fri

Relax with drinks & get answers to any aspect of our faith and practices.

Do send in your questions to esm.secretariat@catholic.org.sg

Time: 7.30pm to 10pm

Venue: Outside St Michael's Room

Burning Bush – 20 Jan, Sun

A process where participants will deepen their understanding of their baptismal calling. Come and learn to walk as a disciple of the Lord and to live our lives according to the Word of God.

Time: 2pm to 5pm

Venue: St Thomas Room

Register: esm.secretariat@catholic.org.sg

Weddings at Church of St Michael

Those who desire to enter into the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at Church of St Michael will have to book their wedding dates one year in advance. The booking will be confirmed only when the necessary documents are signed.

Infant Baptism

1st Saturday of Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Sept & Oct

Parish Collection

Weekend Collection \$6235.00

Celebrant Schedule

Date	Eucharistic Celebration	Celebrant	Preacher
05 Jan	5.30 pm	Fr. John	Fr. John
06 Jan	10 am	Fr. John	Fr. John
06 Jan	5.30 pm	Fr. John	Fr. John
12 Jan	5.30 pm	Fr. Terence	Fr. Terence
13 Jan	10 am	Fr. Terence	Fr. Terence
13 Jan	5.30 pm	Fr. John	Fr. Terence

Eucharistic Celebration

Opening Hours

Weekend Eucharist
Sat Sunset: 5.30 pm
Sun: 8 am (M), 10 am, 5.30 pm
 Confession: 30 mins before EC

Weekday Eucharist
Mon - Fri: 6.30 am & 6 pm
Sat: 6.30 am

Eucharist on Public Holidays
 7.30 am only

Holy Hour
 7.30 pm, 1st Fri of the month only.
 Followed by Eucharist at 8.30 pm
(except during the period of Lent)

Parish Office
Mon- Fri: 8.30 am - 5 pm
Sat: 8.30 am - 11 am
Sun: Closed

Adoration Room
 Daily: 7 am - 10 pm

Columbarium
 Daily: 7 am - 7 pm
 Prayers: every 3rd Sun of the month only.
 9 am (M) & 11.30 am (E)

Canteen
 Sun: 7 am - 12 pm
 (M): Mandarin; (E) English

Contact Us

Main: 6291 9272
 Parish Secretariat (ext. 1), Columbarium (ext. 3)
 Email : csm.secretariat@catholic.org.sg
 Parish Priest: Fr. Terence Pereira (ext. 6)
 Asst. Parish Priest: Fr. John Van Dich MEP (ext. 5)
 We are at: 17 St Michael's Road, Singapore 327976

Down Memory Lane (DML) 7

Charity Dinner Show: DML is Caritas Singapore's biannual fundraising to support the work of our 27 member organisations who serve the vulnerable in our community. ***Chill with us on Saturday, 2 March 2019 at One Farrer Hotel!*** We will re-ignite and re-create the 70s and 80s with nostalgic pop-rock music. Call 6338 3448 or email dml@caritas-singapore.org

(1) At Home Retreat: Journey from Ashes to Easter: a 10-week program on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola to know Jesus more intimately.

Tues Mornings: 26 Feb to 30 April,
Time: 9.30am to 11.30am

Venue: LaSalle Centre - St. Patrick's School – [490 East Coast Road](#) **OR**

Tues Evenings: 26 Feb to 30 April,
Time: 7.30pm to 9.30 pm

Venue: CANA - Catholic Centre, [55 Waterloo St](#) *Contribution:* \$250.00

(2) Time With God (TWG) - Women's Group: Come gather in a safe space for weekly mornings of prayer, reflection & sharing for women. To confirm session: 92985808

Wed Mornings: Starting 23 Jan
Time: 9.30 am - 11.30 am

Venue: La Salle Centre, [490 East Coast Road](#) *Contribution:* Love Offering

Register: At Home Retreat or TWG

Contact: 97223148 / 92985808
 Website: www.cenaclemission.com
 Email: cenaclemissionsingapore@gmail.com