

Our Pilgrimage



StMichael.catholic.sg



@ChurchofStMichaelsG

3rd Mar 2019, VOLUME 54
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr C)

Liturgical Reflection

How much do you know your faith? How many times do you find yourself saying “I don’t know...” or give an uncertain answer to a question about the teachings of the Catholic Church? Jesus is telling us today that a blind shepherd, cannot lead the blind sheep. The teachers in the time of Jesus knew the scriptures and the law very well but did not follow the spirit of the Law. In other words, they did not understand what they read. Is this true for us today? Some of the faithful are exposed to the Word of God every day and for others, they only hear the Word every Sunday. Is hearing the Word of God enough? Just how much of it do you understand and how much of your understanding is passed on to others? Are you blind like the Pharisee?

Unskilled teachers hurt both themselves and others for as the teacher is, so is the disciple. The disciple cannot rise above the teacher but in time to come, with the right guidance, both will grow and the disciple will become like the teacher. Jesus, our teacher, is the best there can be. He shows us the path to life for He is the Word of Life. **In order to follow Jesus Christ, we need to be trained by Him. Spend time with the Lord and be opened to hear His Word.**



[continued on Page 2]

*‘A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,
nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.
For every tree is known by its own fruit.
For people do not pick figs from thornbushes,
nor do they gather grapes from brambles.’*
Luke 6:43-44

First Reading:

Ecclesiasticus 27: 5-8

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 91 (92): 2-3, 13-16

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 15: 54-58

Gospel: Luke 6: 39-45

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 (con't)

The word “pit” or “ditch” is used figuratively in the Bible to mean a place without strength, without light (Psalm 88), and without God (Psalm 16:10). In our blindness, we develop hypocrisy. We see the splinters and flaws in others and not the bigger plank in us. A splinter and a plank are made of the same material. Perhaps, we recognise the flaw in others because we are all too familiar with the same flaw in ourselves. Similarly, the person whose flaw we point out also sees the same flaw in us. Why then, would they come to us for advice in removing the speck? Are we too quick in playing the judge? **Who are we to judge and condemn others when God is Love and is quick to forgive us for our own mistakes and sins?**



A Lenten Arsenal

We are together with all of creation, exhorted to go forth “from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God” (Romans 8:21). According to Pope Francis, Lent is a time and season which embodies this sacramental sign of conversion. Lent is also a time for us to live more profoundly and truly, the Paschal Mystery. There are three essentials which we will need in our arsenal to help us better embrace the Graces of Lent: Fasting, Prayer, and Almsgiving.

Fasting prepares our bodies to attain to a better disposition to be filled with the Graces of the Lord. Intrinsic in the self-denial, is a training of our bodies of flesh to renounce the gluttony which causes us to try and fill ourselves incessantly with the things that do not satisfy.

Jesus is exhorting us to first remove our own plank before we can help others with their speck. He is not saying that we cannot point the splinter out, we must first ensure that we can see clearly what that is which we fail to see in ourselves, before we seek to help others. Jesus tells us “Not to judge and condemn others but to forgive and be kind to others”. **Ask Jesus to grant you sight and to show compassion to others so that you may “do unto others what you would want to be done unto you”.**

Every tree is known by its own fruit. To have good fruit such as the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), glorifies God because it gives sustenance to us and also to the people who see us wearing Christ in our hearts.

Motivating you on,

Geraldine and Marianne



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Prayer, is the constant lifeline that we have to the Lord. It charges us up and connects us directly to the source of our help. It is also a means to acknowledge the sovereignty of the Lord God, to renounce any false gods in our lives, and to leave behind any idolatry and pompous notions of self-sufficiency which obstruct us from drawing closer to God.

Almsgiving, takes us away from the selfish insanity of hoarding for oneself. In charity, we reach out to our neighbour who is equally loved by God. In almsgiving, we tap into God who is love, and we become channels of His Providence to those around us. In doing so, we also re-discover God’s immeasurable love for us.

(Source: Pope Francis 2018’s Lenten Message)

By Brian Bartholomew Tan

Tuesday With The Seniors



Tuesday mornings are never the same again at the church. It has come alive with a new club that brings the seniors together with fun-filled activities running the likes of Praise & Worship, the learning of the Ukulele, health talks, and even mahjong. The purpose of this club is to bring the seniors together and keep them healthy in body, mind, and spirit.

Youths Can Dance Too



For the past couple of Sundays, the youths in the Church Of St. Michael have been letting their hair down by dancing their hearts out. They invite you to come join them as they will cover more dance moves. Those with 2 left feet are welcome too.

Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with timbrel and harp. For the Lord takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with victory.

Psalm 149:3-4

*Get ON
YOUR
dancing
SHOES*

By: Kelly Gabrielle Lob

How to Memorise Scriptures?



March 7:
Perpetua was a young Christian noblewoman and **Felicity** was a young Christian slave. The two were arrested for their belief in Christ, during the persecution of Emperor Septimius Severus: at this time, Perpetua was a new mother, and Felicity was eight months pregnant. They were slit in the throats.

How often do you log in to your workplace devices in a day? Many of us have to lock our computers when we leave our workstations and type in passwords upon returning.

We retype the password to our devices at least 6 to 8 times on a normal day!

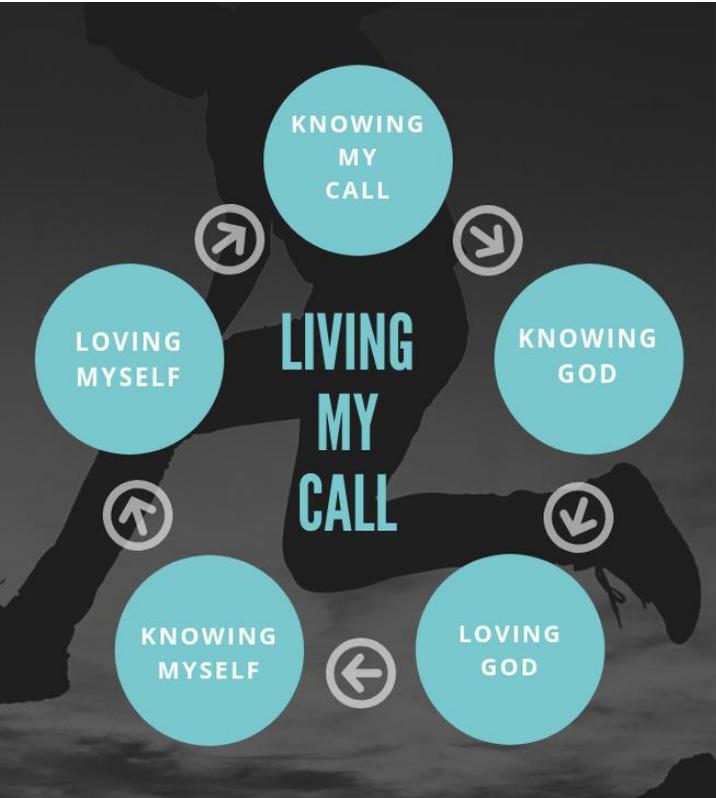
We type the same passwords over and over again. **What if we replace it with bible scripture verses?** After 5 days of retyping the same bible verses, we are sure remember it! Why not try this tomorrow?



Set your password to remember the Bible scripture verse. You could remember it after keying it multiples times a day!

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me
- Philippians 4:13

***Please remember to keep all passwords secret!** *By Julianne Danielle Lim*



RETURNING TO THE RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

READ MORE ON STMICHAEL.CATHOLIC.SG

My husband, Jeremy, and I are currently attending a 5 month catholic program called School of Mission, organised by the ICPE Missionaries in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. Being in such an environment really challenged me to come back to who God really says he is, and what this means for me.

By Pearlyn Neo

Circular about Abstinence from Meat

The Bishop's Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei decided in 2007, that abstaining from meat will no longer be the only expression of this ancient tradition of abstinence.

This is a change from the previous decision which required the abstaining from meat on all Fridays.

The removal of the abstinence from meat does not mean the obligation to abstain on Fridays is removed. Therefore, we may keep the old practice of abstaining from meat or change it with the following:

1. abstain some other food which we are fond of
2. abstain from alcoholic drinks, smoking
3. abstain from some form of entertainment
4. make a special effort to be involved in family prayer
5. taking part in the celebration of the Eucharist
6. spending time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7. praying the stations of the cross
8. fasting from all food for longer period of time than usual
9. making a special effort to help the poor, the sick, the old, the lonely

The form of abstinence can change from week to week. It is a personal choice.

Must I abstain on Fridays?

To commemorate the sacrifice of Jesus Christ annually undervalues the importance of the salvific action of Jesus Christ. One should unite oneself to the sacrifice of Jesus Christ more regularly. Failure to observe this norm does not lead one to sin and therefore **there is no need to go for confession should you forget to abstain.** Penance is a part of every Christian's life and the intention to do penance on Friday is of obligation.

Who is obliged to abstain?

All those who have reached the age of 14* are required to abstain. Unlike fasting which does not apply to those who reach the age of 60, the obligation of abstinence applies even to those beyond 60. The norm of abstinence also binds those living here or in Malaysia or Brunei.

*Canon 1251

Contact Us

Main: 6291 9272

Parish Secretariat (ext. 1)

Columbarium (ext. 3)

Email: esm.secretariat@catholic.org.sg

Address: 17 St Michael's Road,
Singapore 327976

Priests of the Parish

Parish Priest: Fr. Terence Pereira (ext. 6)

Asst. Parish Priest: Fr. John Van Dich MEP
(ext. 5)

Asst. Parish Priest: Fr. Augustine Joseph

Parish Collection

Weekend Collection

\$6,286.00

Celebrant Schedule

Date	Eucharistic Celebration	Celebrant	Preacher
2 Mar	5.30 pm	Fr. Augustine	Fr. Augustine
3 Mar	10 am	Fr. Augustine	Fr. Augustine
3 Mar	5.30 pm	Fr. John	Fr. Augustine
9 Mar	5.30 pm	Fr. Augustine	Fr. Augustine
10 Mar	10 am	Fr. Augustine	Fr. Augustine
10 Mar	5.30 pm	Fr. John	Fr. Augustine

Eucharistic Celebration

Opening Hours

Weekend Eucharist
Sat Sunset: 5.30 pm (E)
Sun: 8 am (M), 10 am (E),
5.30 pm (E)
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 Admin Office
Mon - Fri: 8.30 am to 5 pm
Sat: 8.30 am to 11 am;
2 pm to 4.30 pm
Sun: Closed

Adoration Room
Daily: 7 am to 10 pm

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

Canteen
Sun: 7 am to 12 pm

(M): Mandarin; (E) English;
(EC) Eucharistic Celebration

Notices

Weddings

Those who desire to enter into the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony 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 will take place on:

1st Sat of Apr, Jun, Aug, Sep & Oct

Registration of Pregnant Mothers

To help families prepare early for their baby's baptism, we invite pregnant mothers in their third trimester in February to register with the Parish Admin Office.

Please email to

esm.secretariat@catholic.org.sg

Maintenance Team

– Volunteers Needed

We are looking for more maintenance volunteers to be part of the Maintenance Team. Please do come forward to assist in the maintenance of the church. Please register at esm.secretariat@catholic.org.sg

Collection of Holy Palms

Palms blessed by our priests are holy objects considered to be in the service of God. Please return your holy palms to the box outside the Parish Office for burning **on Fat Tuesday (5 Mar)** and the ashes will be used for the Ash Wednesday Eucharistic Celebration.

Fat Tuesday

Date: 5 Mar, Tuesday

Time: 7.30pm to 10pm

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Get ready for the season of Lent! Start thinking about how you want to renew and grow your relationship with Jesus Christ. Come to begin the Lenten journey on Fat Tuesday.

Bring:

1. Your intentions and plans

To ask God our Father to bless them so that you may journey faithfully and grow during this period of grace

2. A meat dish

to contribute to the Fat Tuesday celebration

Register your dish:

Indicate what dish you will be bringing at the Fat Tuesday's booth (Ground floor).



Ash Wednesday – 6 Mar

Eucharist: 6.30am; 8.00pm

Lenten Reflection –

Starts 7 Mar, Mon to Sat

Time: 7.00pm

Stations of the Cross –

Begins on 8 Mar (all Fridays)

with Eucharistic Celebration at 6pm and Stations of the Cross at 7pm.

Lenten Reflection

Booklets

The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced a booklet of reflections for the season of Lent in English, Mandarin and Tamil. The theme is **“Walking by Faith in Communion”**. Please take a copy of the booklet for your household. It will also be made available online at:

<http://bit.ly/one-lent-2019>

Youths Just Wanna Dance!

We're extending our classes! If you missed the first 3 dance classes, here's your second chance. We are inviting ALL youths to come and join us. We will be covering a variety of dances so come on down and dance your hearts out with us!

Dates: 10 Mar, 24 Mar,

7 Apr, 14 Apr

Time: 12noon - 2pm

Venue: Level 3 Classrooms

CSM Seniors Club

Calling all seniors!! What age group? We encourage anyone above 50 years with time on their hands! Come join us every Tuesday from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Got a gift or talent to share?

We are also looking for helpers and those who have gifts/talents to share with our seniors!

Do contact our secretariat to give your details.

Live the Gospel in the World

This is a 2-part Formation Series facilitated by Fr David Garcia, OP. This retreat and the follow-up sessions bring participants on a journey of discovery of how we are called to live our faith more intentionally in our daily lives.

Part 1: Weekend Retreat

Dates : 30 - 31 March 2019

Venue: Lifesprings Canossian Spirituality Centre

Part 2: 3 Evening Sessions

Dates: 9, 16 & 23 April 2019

Time: 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Venue: Agape Village, 7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh

Visit Caritas Singapore website: www.caritassingapore.org or email to formation@caritas-singapore.org.

Interreligious Panel on "Communal Prayer"

12 Mar (Tue), 7.30pm-9.30pm,
Cathedral of the Good Shepherd,
Annex Building Level 3.

Speakers: Rabbi Mordechai Abergel (Chief Rabbi of Singapore), Ustaz Luqman Hakim Roslan (Youth Development Officer, An-Nahdhah Mosque) and Ms Michelle Voo (Member, ACCIRD).

Organiser: Archdiocesan Catholic Council for Interreligious Dialogue (ACCIRD)

Register name, parish/organisation and handphone number latest by 10 March at gerald.accird@catholic.org.sg



‘We cannot keep ourselves shut up in parishes, in our communities, when so many people are waiting for the Gospel!’
Pope Francis

Labourers in the Vineyard Retreat

This retreat is open to Catholics above the age of 21. Come away and allow yourselves to be encountered by the Lord! Programme includes daily Eucharistic celebration, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, talks, praise & worship, and spiritual counselling.

Retreat Master:

Rev Fr Terence Pereira,
Episcopal Vicar for the New Evangelisation

Dates: 16 to 20 May 2019

Venue: Majodi Retreat Centre,
Johor, Malaysia

Cost: SGD 200 (Includes Accommodation, Meals, Transport)

Organised by: Office for the New Evangelisation and Gloria Patri Ministries

To register visit:

www.one.org.sg/events