



# Why am I taking the kids fishing?

On Monday evening, we have about 70 signed up for fishing at Bedok Jetty. We will leave at 5pm and find a spot for all on the jetty and begin fishing till about 10pm and then return to the parish by about 11pm latest.

Strangely, this idea of planning for a fishing trip came from the children themselves! At the recent parish camp in Bintan, Indonesia, with about 120 of our children, there was one night that they had a first taste of fishing off a jetty. About 60 of them, and some for the first time of their lives, were dropping a line and a hook to try their hands at fishing.

It was an interesting experience where they could be away from the modern gadgets of hand phones, computers and game consoles. It was like going back to a more basic mode of existence where humans needed to fish to survive. Over the hours, our children were grouped into smaller groups to share a common line. They learned to speak to one another, strengthened their friendship and made new friends.

In a society like Singapore, sometimes, children need to learn and experience the simple joys of doing ordinary thing. We spent all of \$70 dollars to get the fishing reels, hooks, line and sinkers! Maybe a few more dollars to buy bait on Sunday morning. But all in, this would be a fraction of what a single game console will cost to keep them occupied.

There is this proverbial saying that goes, "when one gives a man a fish, he eats for a day, but when you teach him to fish, he eats for life."

Well, on Monday, it will be just that. We hope to be able to teach our children to fish! Not that they can fish all their lives but that they will discover as children that the good things of life need not cost an arm and a leg.

To spend a few hours just appreciating their friends and having a good time will not blow a hole in their pockets.

More so, in this season of Christmas where the pull of the shopping malls and the glitz campaign of Orchard road and every entertainment outlet will tempt us to splurge, it is all the more pertinent to teach our young that self-worth, confidence and joy are to be found within. The superficial façade of glamour and what is "in" will not be swallowed by our young and they will not fall for it hook, line and sinker!

A few parents will also be coming along... those who are a bit more enthusiastic about fishing! Well, it will be good and this will also be an opportunity for some parental bonding time. We will see how this goes and if there is enough interest, we will surely plan more of these fishing nights in the months ahead.

My hope is that our children will not only learn from the parish how to pray but also how to live. Spirituality and living are interconnected. If they do not learn early in life that much of life's resources are found within oneself, then they will search for this elusive happiness that can lead them down the wrong path.

Our faith reassures the goodness of each and every child. Our role as adults is merely to affirm this divine reality and support them as they discover new strength in themselves.

Let us pray that we can come back with some great stories of the fish that got away!

## CONTACT US

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## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

3 / 4 Dec 2011

### AT A GLANCE

#### MONDAY 5 DEC

Advent Weekday

#### TUESDAY 6 DEC

St Nicholas, bishop

#### WEDNESDAY 7 DEC

Family Movie Nite | 'My Dog Skip' | 7 - 9.30pm | St Clare Hall

St Ambrose, bishop, doctor of the Church

#### THURSDAY 8 DEC

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY

#### FRIDAY 9 DEC

St John Diego Cuahtlatotzin

#### SATURDAY 10 DEC

Advent Weekday

#### SUNDAY 11 DEC

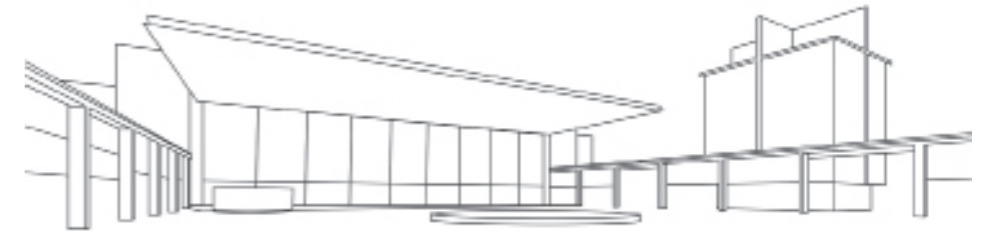
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Event

Special Notice

Liturgy Related

Outward Bound



## CHURCH OF ST MARY OF THE ANGELS

5 Bukit Batok East Ave 2, Singapore 659918 | info@stmary.sg | www.stmary.sg

Parish Office

Tel: 6567 3866 | Fax: 6562 1824

Columbarium Office

Tel: 6560 6361

### PREPARE THE WAY

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord". In Godspell, John the Baptist blows his horn and announces his cousin's coming. But Jesus is not an actor or a clown - he is the Christ, the Messiah, the one whom the prophets said would put all things back in order and the one who baptizes not just with water but with the Spirit of God.

Like John, his cousin, Jesus planted the seeds of our salvation when the two met on Jordan's bank. In God's own good time, it comes to flower. For our world, the Lord is a patient gardener, and the gardener's time is not ours. Thanks be to God! We are called to be ready for the harvest.



Second Sunday of Advent, Year B. Illustration @2001 S. Erspamer. Text, Philip J. Sandstrom, STD @1996 Oregon Catholic Press. All rights reserved.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### FAMILY MOVIE NITE (free) | 'MY DOG SKIP'

Wed 7 Dec | 7pm - 9.30pm | St Clare Hall

Games, Quizzes and Fabulous prizes to be won!

BRING ALONG YOUR FAMILY AND ENJOY THE MOVIE & company! Snacks and Refreshments to see you through the evening.....ENJOY!!!! Kindly let us know if you are coming.... call Parent Support, Family Life Ministry

96993134 | ht Wong 55@singnet.com.sg

**The canteen is closed for the holidays starting Sun 4 Dec 2011 and will resume on the Sun 8 Jan 2012.**

See page 2 for more Highlights...

**INFANT BAPTISM:**  
Sun 1 Jan | 3pm

Preparation Course:  
Fri 30 Dec | 8pm | Main Church

**Baptism Application Form:**  
Available from Parish Office, church racks or website. Submit completed form with a copy of child's Birth Certificate to Parish Office **1 week** before Baptism date.

**EUCHARIST**  
Sat: 6.55am (Morning Mass)  
Sat: 5.30pm (Sunset Mass)  
Sun: 7.30am (Mandarin), 9am, 10.45am, 12.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.15pm  
3rd Sun: 3.30pm (Indonesian)  
Weekday: 6.55am (with Morning Prayer) & 6.30pm

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**  
R1 Isa 61: 1-2, 10-11  
R2 ITh 5: 16-24  
G Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28

**NOVENA**  
To Our Lady:  
Sat, 5pm  
To St Anthony:  
Tue, after 6.30pm Mass

**ROSARY DEVOTION**  
Mon-Sat, after Morning Masses  
Family Rosary: Every Sat, 4.30pm

**RECONCILIATION**  
20 mins before Sunday Masses, or by personal appointment with priest



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Sale of Breaking Bread Hymnal 2012

If you would like a personal copy of the new hymnal for 2012, you may purchase a copy (small version) for \$9.50 at the booth in the piazza or at the piety shop. If you would like the old 2011 copy, they are available at the side entrances of the church. If you are interested, there are also many good liturgical resources, like daily Gospel reflections, on sale at the piety shop.

## NCC SECRETARIAT

Stephen Wong, Pastoral Assistant | stephen@stmary.sg

### NCC MEETINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

#### Mon 5 Dec – Fri 9 Dec

The following Neighbourhood Christian Community (NCC) will be having their meetings for the coming week:

#### **Bukit Batok Area**

Blk 267 Bt Batok East Ave 4 | Wed 7 Dec | 10.15am  
Mystical Rose NCC | Monica ☎ 9328-6862

Blk 203 Bt Batok St 21 | Wed 7 Dec | 8pm  
West Mall NCC | Raymond ☎ 9060-6050

Blk 251 Bt Batok East Ave 5 | Wed 7 Dec | 8pm  
Bt Batok East View NCC | Petrina ☎ 9691-1595

Blk 288A Bt Batok St 25 | Fri 9 Dec | 11am  
Lady of The Holy Rosary NCC | Josephine ☎ 9763-2671

#### **Bukit Gombak Area**

Blk 386 Bukit Batok West Ave 5 | Thur 8 Dec | 8pm  
Jesus in Our Midst NCC | June ☎ 9645-5469

Blk 367 Bukit Batok Street 31 | Thur 8 Dec | 8pm  
1Sam 3:9 | Joan ☎ 9743 6022

#### **Bukit Panjang Area**

Blk 654 Senja Road | Thur 8 Dec | 8.30pm  
Bukit Batok NCC | Rey ☎ 9680-4761

#### **Bukit Timah Area**

Blk 2 Jln Rajawali | Wed 7 Dec | 8pm  
Bukit Timah NCC | Sebastian ☎ 9088-6686

Jalan Bangket, Mayfair Park | Wed 7 Dec | 8pm  
May Fair NCC | Timothy ☎ 9835-9798

#### **Choa Chu Kang Area**

Blk 681 Choa Chu Kang Crescent | Thur 8 Dec | 8.30pm  
Yew Tee Branch NCC | Gani ☎ 9154-8405

Blk 683A Choa Chu Kang Crescent | Fri 9 Dec | 8pm  
Mary's Soldiers NCC | Gina ☎ 9168-3047

#### **Hillview Regency Area**

South Haven, Hindhede Walk | Fri 9 Dec | 8pm  
Hillview Regency NCC | Richard ☎ 9128-3990

Please contact the respective NCC coordinators for more details.

## AROUND ST MARY'S

### ADVENTure 2011

Will you embark on an adventure as we prepare for the birth of Jesus? Come and join the ADVENTure of weekly Gospel reflection sessions based on the Advent booklets "Jesus comes Under Our Roof" from the SPI & Caritas Singapore.

The ADVENTure starts from 1st week of Advent.

*Register to express interest or for enquiries,*

✉ nccso@stmary.sg | 🌐 www.stmary.sg

### Simbang Gabi 2011

#### Fri 16 Dec | 8pm | Main Church

All are invited to attend the Simbang Gabi. We appeal to our Parishioners to allow their Filipino Domestic Workers to join this celebration. For schedule of Simbang Gabi, please get a copy of schedule near the church Bulletin Board.

*For enquiries please contact:*

Bro. Edwin Lim ☎ 98795894

Bro. Arman F. Ardiente ☎ 81961945

Bro. Rey Magpayo ☎ 9680476

Bro. Bay Nicdao ☎ 91085219

### Pre-order your Christmas goodies now!

Five Loaves will be taking orders for their Christmas bake on the 3-4 of December. Items available for order include our Christmas log cake, fruit cake, suggee cake, gingerbread men and more. Come by our stall on the above dates to place your orders, or to pick up an order form. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to get something yummy for the season!

### The Legion Book Barrow

The Legion Book Barrow will close as usual at end of November and re-open on 1st week of March 2012 with More New Titles and a variety of books for children, adults and seniors.

In the meantime, kindly get your copy of

'Catholicism for Dummies' @ barrow special \$26.50 & other books on prayers etc..

### Want to know more about Catholic Faith?

Registration for RCIA journey for year 2012 is now open.

Register: RCIA booth | Piazza after all Masses from Sat Nov 19 to Sun Dec 11.

Catholics may register as sponsors to accompany the faith seekers.

## YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS OFFICE OUTSIDE THE PARISH

Ann Yeong, Director | ann@stmary.sg

### Venite Adoremus

#### Sat 3 Dec | 8 - 10pm | Main Church

Come, Let Us Adore.

We invite all youth and young adults to join us for an evening of music and reflection, with caroling, to prepare our hearts for Christmas on Saturday, 3 Dec, from 8-10pm at the main church.

Come with your friends!

Please register online 🌐 www.stmary.sg/adventyyao

### Help Prepare our Church for Christmas!!

#### Mon 19 Dec - Fri 23 Dec

Do you have time on your hands? Want to do something meaningful this school holiday for the parish? The Youth and Young Adults Office would like to extend an invitation to all youths to help clean up and maintain the beauty of our parish. This volunteer project will be held in the afternoons from the 19th-23rd December 2011. Youths who are interested are encouraged to indicate their date(s) of choice at the following website :

🌐 [www.stmary.sg/holidaycleanup](http://www.stmary.sg/holidaycleanup) Sign up with your friends!

## MANDARIN CORNER 堂区通

### 天使驿站@天使之后堂

邀请新移民和工友参加

圣诞联欢会

日期：2011年12月11日（星期日）

时间：下午5点—晚上8点30分

地点：天使之后堂圣佳兰中心课室B1-B3

地址：5, Bukit Batok East Ave 2

联络：黄修女9239—6226

电邮：smotachinese@gmail.com

巴士车号：61、66、157、174、178、852

### 2012年华文成人慕道班开始招生了。

开课日期是1-2-2012（星期三）晚上8点。

招募活动将从20-11-2011至 11-12-2011 共4周日在教堂外广场，

设有招募摊位，

欢迎前往询问。

### The Contemplative Dimension of Faith

#### Sat 7 Jan - Sun 8 Sun | CJC

The aim of this Seminar is to further deepen the spirit of friendship and collaboration among the different faiths in Singapore. Common Ground will focus on the contemplative practice of religion and how the shared experience of silence in meditation can enhance interreligious dialogue.

*Led by Fr. Laurence Freeman, OSB with contributions from other religious leaders.*

On Sat 7 and Sun 8 January 2012 at CJC Performing Arts Center, Whitley Road. Cost: \$50. Registration required.

*For enquiries/registration:*

✉ commonground2012@gmail.com | 📞 84113130 / 63364815

### Book of Prophet Jeremiah - by Msgr Eugene Vaz

#### 17 Tuesdays from 3 Jan till 22 May

#### 9.30am - 11.30am (or) 7.45pm – 9.45pm

Contribution: \$95 (Early bird registration: \$90)

(Register with payment before 20th December to enjoy the 'early bird' discount)

*For register :* 📞 68583011 | ✉ admin@catholicspi.org

### 天使之后堂华文组歌咏班报佳音

如果你有意邀请我们到你府上报佳音，请即刻和我们联络，

日期有：12月13，12月15，12月17和12月21日（共4天）

时间：晚上8点

为了方便，我们将根据路线来做安排到你府上报佳音的日期和时间。

任何询问请在星期二以后联络：余玉凤 9273—4183

### 预定圣诞糕点

要预定圣诞糕点吗？弥撒后请到在教堂外，

向售卖面包的五饼烘培组预订吧！