



5 December 2010

Second Sunday of Advent

Vol72 No 2

1st Reading: Is 11:1-10

2nd Reading: Rom 15:4-9

Gospel: Mt 3:1-12

Sunday Reflection by Fr. Gerry Keane, SJ

Today I would like to introduce you to one of the most intimate in the birth of Christ and yet one of the most neglected characters in the miracle of Christmas. I speak of Joseph. One who comes at the end of a biblical list that traces the ancestry of Christ, but tells us nothing of the man himself.

He was young. He was espoused to a girl by matchmakers. He was thrown into the unknown of the future by his wife telling him she was going to have a baby which he did not father. All was so bewildering and unsure, yet he stood with the consequence of whatever occurred. His future

efforts to accommodate his wife's condition were heroic.

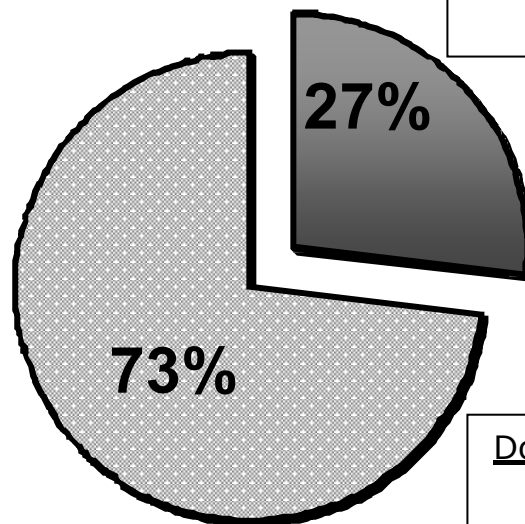
His physical efforts to lead his wife on the back of a donkey over desert, mountain and floods were heroic. What he battled in the face of daily life as he found it, thanks to the whims and fancy of political, inhumane rulers was beyond what the human expects.

In an impatient age we might be helped to calm our complaints and start believing that human effort is useless and vain without the presence of an unborn babe who comes to us patiently.

PARISH RENOVATION FUND \$892,991 OR 27.06%

Please note that after four weeks of appeal, we have received a total of \$892,991 or 27.06% of the funds we need. Thus, we are still short of \$2,407,009 or 72.94% for our Renovation Funds.

Please pray seriously on how much God expects you to donate to our Parish community needs. Fr Heng is deeply grateful to those who have responded very generously. He will personally acknowledge your donations.



Donations Received
\$892,991

Donations Needed
\$2.407 Million



- Parish Priest : **Fr. Philip Heng, SJ (ext. 12)**
- Assistant Parish Priest : **Fr. James Tan, SJ (ext. 18)**
- Secretary : **Ms. Rosalind Lee (ext. 10)**
(Mon – Sat; 9:00AM – 1PM)
- Administrator : **Mr. Jonell Ballecer (ext. 15) ***
- Pastoral Coordinator : **Ms. Ellen Tan (ext. 14)**
- Youth Coordinator : **Mr. John Lum (ext. 19)**

* Mon – Thurs 9:00AM-6:00PM • Fri 12:00NN-8:00PM • Sat 9:00AM-1PM



**GROWING IN
GOD'S LOVE
AND WAYS ...**

**50TH ANNIVERSARY
12TH FEBRUARY 2011**

A YEAR OF CELEBRATIONS

What's on This Week?

CARITAS ENVELOPES APPEAL FOR NATURAL DISASTERS:

Our Archbishop is appealing for us to support the millions of people who are displaced and suffering from the calamities of floods, typhoons, cyclones, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions etc in Asia. Please support generously through the envelopes appeal at the Place of Gathering. You may place your envelopes during the Offertory at Mass.

What's Coming Up?

CHRISTMAS HANDICRAFT FAIR

The Catholic Japanese Group will hold a Christmas Handicraft Fair next *Sunday 12 December, 9 am - 1 pm* at the Place of Gathering. All proceeds will go to the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS).

Archdiocesan News

KEEPING YOUR MARRIAGE IN GOOD SHAPE

Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend to keep your marriage in good shape. Upcoming Weekends are: 7 - 9 January, 11 - 13 February, 4 - 6 March. Register now and enjoy promotional price of \$35.00 (save \$15.00) for registration fee. Gift Vouchers @ \$35.00 are available in some Catholic bookstores for your married relatives/friends this Christmas. Visit marriage-encounter-sg.org or call Ken and Sue @ 9670-5390 for more information.

Jesuit News

PREPARING FOR THE COMING OF CHRIST

Sunday 12 December, 9.30 am - 5 pm

One-day Advent Sunday silent retreat of prayer and reflection in preparation for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Retreat Director: Fr Ponnudurai, SJ
Contribution: \$30.00

To register, contact the Secretary at 6467-6072; fax: 6468-7584 or email: cisc2664@gmail.com.
Website: <http://www.catholic.org.sg/cisc>

Parish News

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sundays, 9.45 am at St Ignatius Hall

Practices have commenced - children from the ages of 3 onwards are welcome to participate. Details please contact Marian at 9362-2784 or Genevieve at 9788-3547.

CCD - Catechism for Students in International Schools

is accepting *new students for Term 2 registration*.

Classes open for registration are:

TUESDAY classes - Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 3

THURSDAY classes - Grade 1, Grade 3 and Grade 4

There are few spaces left for Grade 6 and Grade 7.

The above classes are non-sacramental classes.

Registration for classes which prepare children for the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation are closed until next August.

The starting date for NEW students will be the week of Tuesday 25 January or Thursday 27 January. Returning students will begin on Tuesday 18 January or Thursday 20 January.

New registrations found on www.stignatius.org.sg/ccd and will be open until 9 January. There are limited places. Acceptance is based on first come first served as there are a maximum number of children per class.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL AND PRAYER MEET

Wednesday 8 December, 8 pm at St Ignatius Hall

Fr Colin Tan, SJ will be celebrating the year-end Mass.

NAMLY PLACE/GARDEN/DRIVE/HILL AND VIEW NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

Weekly reflections on Advent every Thursday evening at 8 pm starting from 2 to 23 December at the home of George and Dorothy Chow, 87 Namly Place, tel 6466-7595/ 9622-9707

YEAR-END REFLECTION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Friday 17 December, 8 - 10 pm at the St Francis Xavier Chapel (Kingsmead Hall)

Join us on for an evening of Reflection on 2010 and what it means to enter 2011 with JESUS. We begin with Rosary, followed by Reflection, Eucharistic Adoration and fellowship. Contact: gen.christ.ministry@gmail.com

FULL-TIME PARISH PASTORAL COORDINATOR

NEEDED:

Our Parish is looking for a full time Pastoral Coordinator. Those who are interested please send in your CV to email: church@stignatius.org.sg or telephone Rosalind (Parish Secretary) 6466 0625 ext 10 or Jonell Ballecer, (Parish Administrator) at 6466 0625 ext 15 for details.

@ *stignatius*

...be more connected through our parish website: www.stignatius.org.sg