

for patients with life-limiting illnesses and supports their families. This year, the hospice with increased facilities to care for more patients, wishes to raise more funds to continue its mission. The Assisi Fun Day, to be held at SJI International School on 18 Jun '17, is their fundraising event. They will be at our Church of Sts Peter & Paul on the weekend of 25 & 26 Mar '17 during the Saturday sunset and Sunday morning masses to sell their Fun Day coupons @ \$10 each. Please give them your generous support. For more information, please call Ms Lillian Lee @ 6832 2880 or email lilian.lee@assisihospice.org.sg

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR THE FAMILY - (1) What the Catholic Church teaches about Divorce, Separation and Annulment: 4 Mar '17 (Sat), 1.00pm - 4.30pm, at St Peter's Auditorium, Catholic Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland Road, Singapore 549102. Register at <http://catholicfamily.org.sg/dsa2017> (2) **Understanding Same-Sex Attraction. Providing Friendship, Parental or Pastoral Guidance:** 25 Mar '17 (Sat), 9.00am - 1.00pm at St Peter's Auditorium, Catholic

Archdiocesan Education Centre, 2 Highland Road, Singapore 549102. Register at <http://catholicfamily.org.sg/ssas>

FAMILY LIFE SOCIETY - recruitment of volunteers for a good cause - Family life is looking for volunteers for its Pregnancy Crisis Service; Para-Counselling@Parishes; and Facilitators and Presenters for its Made For More Sexuality Education programmes. Interested? Email: volunteer@familylife.sg or call 6488 0278.

Calling all who are entering or are already Polytechnic to come for SHINE! (Open also to post-secondary to private diploma students). Come & bonf with fellow catholic friends and discover how you can be the light of Christ in your campus: **SHINE COMBINED TERTIARY RETREAT 2017** - Theme: "God is ligh, and there is no darkness in Him at all" 1 John 1:5. Date: 14 - 17 Mar '17 (Tue - Fri) Venue: Office for Young People, 2 Lor Low Koon, S(536449). Cost: \$40.00. For registration & details: <http://oyp.org.sg/shine2017/> or OYP website at www.oyp.org.sg

Sunset Mass	: 5.30pm
Rosary	: 4.30pm (Saturday)
Sunday Masses	: 8.30am (Mandarin), 11.00am (English), 2.00pm (Cantonese), 4.00pm (English)
Weekday Masses	: 7.20am and 5.30pm
Interspersory Prayer	: 7.15pm (English, Thursday)
Infant Jesus Devotion	: 5.30pm (Thursday, followed by Mass)
Divine Mercy Devotion	: 12.30pm (Sunday Mandarin)
Sion Adorers - Holy Hour	: 7.45pm - 8.45pm (Saturday)
Hour of Mercy	: 3.00pm daily
Counselling @ SPP	: 7.00pm - 9.00pm (Monday, call church secretariat 6337 2585 for appointment)
Adoration Chapel	: 8.00am - 9.00pm (Mon to Sat), 8.00am - 7.00pm(Sun)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be administered from 5.00pm - 5.20pm on weekdays and Saturday at the makeshift confessional at the baptistery (back of the church). On Sunday, it will be available 30 minutes before each mass.

Parish Priest: Rev Fr JOHN CHUA OCD (email: hkchuajohn@yahoo.com), **Asst Parish Priest:** Rev Fr EDWARD LIM, OCD, **Priests in Residence:** Rev Fr TOM CURRAN, OCD, Rev Fr GREGORY HON, OCD, Rev Fr JOSEPH KOH, OCD and Fr JEFFREY TAN, OCD, **General-Delegate:** Rev Fr THOMAS LIM OCD, **Parish Secretary:** Ms Martha Loh, **Parish Clerk:** Ms Jannie Lui, **Liturgical Co-ordinator:** Alex Wong, alexdominic@gmail.com

Church Donations - Please make your cheque payable to:

- (i) Church of Sts Peter & Paul - for contributions/donations for General Operations & Maintenance of the Church;
- (ii) Carmelite Fathers - for contributions/donations to the SPP Friars Community, Friars Formation;
- (iii) Soc of St Vincent de Paul (Conf St Peter) - for donations to the Society of St Vincent de Paul for the poor and needy.

Church of Saints Peter & Paul: 225-A Queen Street, Singapore 188551

Tel: +65 6337 2585 Fax: +65 6334 5414 email: sts_peternpaul@singnet.com.sg www.sppchurch.org.sg



READINGS: Sunday Missal (Year A) Pg 508

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: In God alone is my soul at rest.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MON 27 February - SAT 4 March 2016

MON: SIR 17:20-28, MK 10:17-27 **TUE:** SIR 35:1-15, MK 10:28-31 **WED:** Ash Wednesday **THU:** DT 30:15-20, LK 9:22-25 **FRI:** IS 58:1-9A, MT 9:14-15 **SAT:** IS 58:9B-14, LK 5:27-32

SPP Ministry Day

Extract from: (Part 2 of 2)

POST-SYNODAL

APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION

CHRISTIFIDELES LAICI

OF HIS HOLINESS JOHN PAUL II

ON THE VOCATION AND THE MISSION OF THE LAY FAITHFUL

IN THE CHURCH AND IN THE WORLD

[...]

CHAPTER II

ALL BRANCHES OF A SINGLE VINE

The Participation of the Lay Faithful in the Life of Church as Communion

[...]

The Apostolic Commitment in the Parish

27. It is now necessary to look more closely at the communion and participation of the lay faithful in parish life. In this regard all lay men and women are called to give greater attention to a particularly meaningful, stirring and incisive passage from the Council: "Their activity within Church communities is so necessary that without it the apostolate of the Pastors is generally unable to achieve its full effectiveness"(100).

This is indeed a particularly important affirmation, which evidently must be interpreted in light of the "ecclesiology of communion". Ministries and charisms, being diverse and complementary, are all necessary for the Church to grow, each in its own way.

The lay faithful ought to be ever more convinced

of the special meaning that their commitment to the apostolate takes on in their parish. Once again the Council authoritatively places it in relief: "The parish offers an outstanding example of the apostolate on the community level, inasmuch as it brings together the many human differences found within its boundaries and draws them into the universality of the Church. The lay faithful should accustom themselves to working in the parish in close union with their priests, bringing to the Church community their own and the world's problems as well as questions concerning human salvation, all of which need to be examined together and solved through general discussion. As far as possible the lay faithful ought to collaborate in every apostolic and missionary undertaking sponsored by their own ecclesial family"(101).

The Council's mention of examining and solving pastoral problems "by general discussion" ought to find its adequate and structured development through a more convinced, extensive and decided appreciation for "Parish Pastoral Councils", on which the Synod Fathers have rightly insisted(102).

In the present circumstances the lay faithful have the ability to do very much and, therefore, ought to do very much towards the growth of an authentic ecclesial communion in their parishes in order to reawaken missionary zeal towards nonbelievers and believers themselves who have abandoned the faith or grown lax in the Christian life.

If indeed, the parish is the Church placed in the neighborhoods of humanity, it lives and is at work

through being deeply inserted in human society and intimately bound up with its aspirations and its dramatic events. Oftentimes the social context, especially in certain countries and environments, is violently shaken by elements of disintegration and de-humanization. The individual is lost and disoriented, but there always remains in the human heart the desire to experience and cultivate caring and personal relationships. The response to such a desire can come from the parish, when, with the lay faithful's participation, it adheres to its fundamental vocation and mission, that is, to be a "place" in the world for the community of believers to gather together as a "sign" and "instrument" of the vocation of all to communion, in a word, to be a house of welcome to all and a place of service to all, or, as Pope John XXIII was fond of saying, to be the "village fountain" to which all would have recourse in their thirst.

The Forms of Participation in the Life of the Church

28. The lay faithful together with the clergy and women and men religious, make up the one People of God and the Body of Christ.

Being "members" of the Church takes nothing away from the fact that each Christian as an individual is "unique and irrepeatable". On the contrary, this belonging guarantees and fosters the profound sense of that uniqueness and irrepeatability, in so far as these very qualities are the source of variety and richness for the whole Church. Therefore, God calls the individual in Jesus Christ, each one personally by name. In this sense, the Lord's words "You go into my vineyard too", directed to the Church as a whole, come specially addressed to each member individually.

Because of each member's unique and irrepeatable character, that is, one's identity and actions as a person, each individual is placed at the service of the growth of the ecclesial community while, at the same time, singularly receiving and sharing in the common richness of all the Church. This is the "Communion of Saints" which we profess in the Creed. The good of all becomes the good of each one and the good of each one becomes the good of all. "In the Holy Church", writes Saint Gregory the Great, "all are nourished by each one and each one is nourished by all"(103).

[...]

Group Forms of Participation

29. Church communion, already present and at work in the activities of the individual, finds its specific expression in the lay faithful's working together in groups, that is, in activities done with others in the course of their responsible participation in the life and mission of the Church.

In recent days the phenomenon of lay people associating among themselves has taken on a character of particular variety and vitality. In some ways lay associations have always been present throughout the Church's history as various confraternities, third orders and sodalities testify even today. However, in modern times such lay groups have received a special stimulus, resulting in the birth and spread of a multiplicity of group forms: associations, groups, communities, movements. We can speak of a new era of group endeavours of the lay faithful. In fact, "alongside the traditional forming of associations, and at times coming from their very roots, movements and new sodalities have sprouted, with a specific feature and purpose, so great is the richness and the versatility of resources that the Holy Spirit nourishes in the ecclesial community, and so great is the capacity of initiative and the generosity of our lay people"(105).

Oftentimes these lay groups show themselves to be very diverse from one another in various aspects, in their external structures, in their procedures and training methods, and in the fields in which they work. However, they all come together in an all-inclusive and profound convergence when viewed from the perspective of their common purpose, that is, the responsible participation of all of them in the Church's mission of carrying forth the Gospel of Christ, the source of hope for humanity and the renewal of society.

The actual formation of groups of the lay faithful for spiritual purposes or for apostolic work comes from various sources and corresponds to different demands. In fact, their formation itself expresses the social nature of the person and for this reason leads to a more extensive and incisive effectiveness in work. In reality, a "cultural" effect can be accomplished through work done not so much by an individual alone but by an individual as "a social being", that is, as a member of a group, of a community, of an association, or of a movement. Such work is, then, the source and stimulus leading to the transformation of the surroundings and society as well as the fruit and sign of every other transformation in this

regard. This is particularly true in the context of a pluralistic and fragmented society-the case in so many parts of the world today-and in light of the problems which have become greatly complex and difficult. On the other hand, in a secularized world, above all, the various group forms of the apostolate can represent for many a precious help for the Christian life in remaining faithful to the demands of the gospel and to the commitment to the Church's mission and the apostolate.

Beyond this, the profound reason that justifies and demands the lay faithful's forming of lay groups comes from a theology based on ecclesiology, as the Second Vatican Council clearly acknowledged in referring to the group apostolate as a "sign of communion and of unity of the Church of Christ"(106).

It is a "sign" that must be manifested in relation to "communion" both in the internal and external aspects of the various group forms and in the wider context of the Christian community. As mentioned, this reason based on ecclesiology explains, on one hand, the "right" of lay associations to form, and on the other, the necessity of "criteria" for discerning the authenticity of the forms which such groups

Source: http://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_jp-ii_exh_30121988_christifideles-laici.html

PARISH NEWS

SPP MINISTRY DAY - The Priests, PPC Ex-Co and the organising committee would like to thank all the Ministries for participating in the Ministry Day last weekend. A big thank to the groups with booths and those who performed. We would also like to thank all our parishioners and visitors for visiting the booths, showing interest and giving support to the performers and the sale of food and drinks. For parishioners who like to join any Ministry, please approach the Ministry directly or contact the Church Office for information.

ASH WEDNESDAY - 1 Mar '17 English Mass: 7.20am & 5.30pm. Mandarin Mass: 7.30pm. The faithful is reminded to note that Ash Wednesday is a day of penance to be marked by fasting and abstinence (one full meal or 2 half meals).

WAY OF THE CROSS - held every Friday during Lent at 5.30pm. Evening mass will follow after prayers.

take in the Church.

First of all, the freedom for lay people in the Church to form such groups is to be acknowledged. Such liberty is a true and proper right that is not derived from any kind of "concession" by authority, but flows from the Sacrament of Baptism, which calls the lay faithful to participate actively in the Church's communion and mission. In this regard the Council is quite clear: "As long as the proper relationship is kept to Church authority, the lay faithful have the right to found and run such associations and to join those already existing"(107). A citation from the recently published Code of Canon Law affirms it as well: "The Christian faithful are at liberty to found and govern associations for charitable and religious purposes or for the promotion of the Christian vocation in the world; they are free to hold meetings to pursue these purposes in common"(108).

It is a question of a freedom that is to be acknowledged and guaranteed by ecclesial authority and always and only to be exercised in Church communion. Consequently, the right of the lay faithful to form groups is essentially in relation to the Church's life of communion and to her mission.

MASS WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING

- 4 Mar '17 (Sat), Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, Main Church 2.00pm - Praise and Worship. 2.25pm - 4.00pm Mass followed by prayers for healing. Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Tom Curran. For enquiries, please email praiseatworksg@yahoo.com or call 9817 0152. Organised by SACCRE and Praise@Work

ALTAR SERVERS MINISTRY - We are in a very urgent need for Altar Servers as the number is decreasing at a rapid pace. Altar Servers are urgently needed for all masses. We will be very glad if Primary and Secondary School students are willing to help out at the masses. To sign up as a member of the Altar Servers Ministry, please go to sppaltarservers.tumblr.com/SignUp. We will greatly appreciate your service to our church.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

ASSISI FUN DAY 2017 - Assisi Hospice is a Catholic charity with a mission of caring