

# St Joseph's Church (Bukit Timah)

620 Upper Bukit Timah Road Singapore 678116

PARISH PRIEST Rev Fr Christopher Lee Tel: 6760 0052

ASST PARISH PRIEST Rev Msgr Peter Zhang peter.zhang@catholic.org.sg

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SECRETARIAT Maggie Chia Tel: 6769 1666 sjcbt.secretariat@catholic.org.sg

ADMINISTRATION Evelyn Lau Tel: 6769 1608 sjcbt.admin@catholic.org.sg

# MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASSES (Chapel of St Joseph) Mon – Fri : 6.30am, 6.30pm Sat : 6.30am

WEEKEND MASSES Sat : 5.30pm (Sunset) Sun : 7.30am (Mandarin), 9.30am, 11.30am and 5.30pm

**CONFESSIONS** 15 mins before all weekend Masses in the Reconciliation Rooms in Church.

### OTHER SERVICES

 ADORATION ROOM

 Mon – Fri : 8.00am to 9.00pm

 Sat : 9.30am to 7.00pm

 Sun : 8.00am to 7.00pm

 Public Holidays : 8.00am to 4.00pm

COLUMBARIUM / ROSARY GARDEN / STATIONS OF THE CROSS Mon – Sun : 8.00am to 8.00pm

MEDIA CENTRE (BOOKSHOP)

Sat : 4.30pm to 7.00pm Sun : 8.30am to 1.00pm Every 2nd Sunday : 8.30am to 1.00pm, 5.30pm to 7.00pm

**DEVOTIONS Holy Hour** : First Friday @ 8.00pm in Main Church (unless otherwise stated)

Mass in Honour of St Joseph : First Wednesday @ 8.00pm in Main Church

Divine Mercy : Every Friday @ 8.00pm (except First Fri) in the Chapel of St Joseph

Garden Rosary : First Saturday after the 5.30pm Mass

Grotto Rosary : Every 13th of the month after 6.30pm Mass (weekdays only)

Holy Hour for Vocations : Every Third Thursday of the month in the Chapel of St Joseph @ 8.00pm

Blessing of Expectant Mothers: Every Fourth Sunday of the month

# Weekly Parish Bulletin • 01 June 2025 • 7th Sunday Easter (Year C)

Gate Opening Hours: 8.00am to 9.00pm

stjoseph-bt.org.sg/

facebook.com/sjcbt/

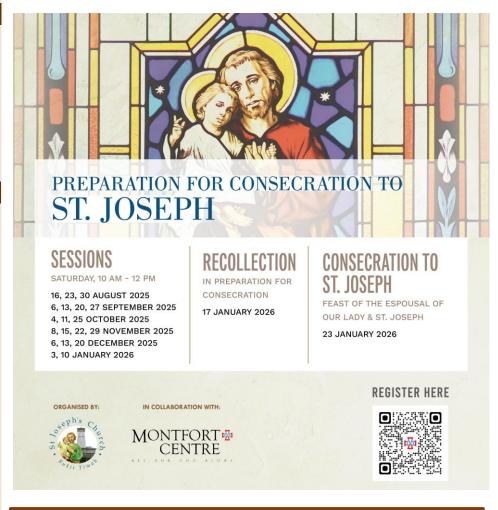
From the Desk of the Parish Priest

# **Consecration to Joseph**



In the lead-up to our 180th Anniversary, we are excited to offer the "Consecration to St Joseph" programme. This 33-day devotion is a powerful way to seek St Joseph's intercession and guidance.

Please refer to the poster for dates and registration information. We invite interested parishioners to respond to the call and sign up for this enriching experience. May it bring us closer to St Joseph's guidance and protection.



# World Social Communications Sunday

The collections over the weekend of 31 May – 1 June (7th Sunday of Easter) will be set aside for the Archdiocesan Media Apostolate.

# Our 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (2026) Series – "St Joseph: Model of All Who Work" Article 7

# Local priests who led parish growth

St Joseph's Church (SJCBT) has had 30 parish priests since 1846: 15 priests were from the Missions Étrangères de Paris (MEP), with four serving two terms, and 11 priests were from the local community. While all priests have contributed to the growth of SJCBT, the focus here is on six local parish priests who guided their flock in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

Fr Stephen Lee, who had managed SJCBT in the later years of MEP priest Fr Jean-Marie Belliot, took over as the first local parish priest between 1934-1937. Since the Swatow Catholics in Mandai commuted for half a day to attend mass at SJCBT, Fr Lee built an outpost chapel in Mandai dedicated to St Anthony of Padua. When the Brothers of St Gabriel needed funds to start the St Joseph's Trade School in 1938, Fr Lee obtained funding from Tiger Balm's Aw brothers to set up the dormitory, workshop and parochial house. He passed away on 29 November 1956.

Fr Joachim Teng served SJCBT for 23 years between 1949-1972. He also looked after several outposts of the parish, travelling around on his motorbike. The enterprising Fr Teng initiated the 'St Joseph's Farm' where the fruits and milk were sold to maintain the parish. He also started the highly popular annual Food and Fun Fair in 1952.

With a growing parish, Fr Teng began planning and fund raising in 1956 for a new 1200-seater church over two phases, including appointing himself as the building contractor to control costs. The first phase for the church wings and sanctuary was completed in 1961 and the second phase for the main body and tower was finished in 1963.

Fr Teng also helped to develop two schools: CHIJ in Chestnut Drive and St Joseph's Sino-English School. He even taught in the Sino-English School for two hours daily when the teacher left. He died on 13 February 1994 aged 83.

Fr Augustine Tay made the parish more functional between 1986-2002 by replacing the leaking roof, unreliable electrical wiring and unstable rectory. He also accomplished an initial impossible task of persuading 34 squatter families to accept church resettlement compensation and prevent the government from acquiring parish land. Despite various obstacles, Fr Tay also safeguarded our church boundary and led various projects successfully. Life-sized statues of the Stations of the Cross were erected around the perimeter of the church land in 1991. The Chapel of the Resurrection was built in 1995. A new Community Hall was built in 1997 to serve the growing congregation. A new kindergarten started in 2001. Fr Tay celebrated his Golden Jubilee Mass at SJCBT on 24 November 2024.

Three priests continued to lead SJCBT in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Fr Lawrence Yeo served between 2002-2007, Fr Edmund Chong from 2007-2017 and Fr Christopher Lee since 2017. Fr Yeo led several initiatives: the Apostleship of Prayer, the Divine Mercy Group and Christian Meditation Group.

Fr Edmund Chong, who assisted Fr Lawrence Yeo for three years, further improved the church with major renovations, such as making the church handicap-friendly, new air conditioning, better audio-visual systems, an extended sanctuary and an expanded columbarium. There was also the ground-breaking ceremony of the new St Francis Xavier Major Seminary in 2016 and the official opening of the Rosary Garden in 2017.

Fr Christopher Lee, who assisted Fr Chong till 2017, made more developments to SJCBT with assistant priest Msgr Peter Zhang: the opening of the Adoration Room, an expanded Community Hall with classrooms for catechism, the Chapel of St Joseph, the Fatima Grotto and the Garden of the Resurrection. SJCBT also responded to the Covid-19 pandemic by livestreaming our Saturday weekend Mass in 2020.

We pray that St Joseph will continue to send us wise priests to lead further parish growth.

By Peter Ling



Fr Joachim Teng was SJCBT's longestserving local parish priest between 1949-1972. He had a booming voice and did not require a microphone during homilies! He could also hear Confession in French! Known as 'The Terror of Bukit Timah', he humbly admitted that he was 'terrible with the parishioners'.

# **RCIA – New Journey**

# Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) A new journey begins...



English RCIA Commencing : Mon 30 June Time : 8 pm – 9.45 pm Venue : St Joseph AVA Room Chinese RCIA Commencing : Thurs 10 July Time : 7.45 pm – 9.45 pm Venue : St Joseph AVA Room.

Do note that RCIA is for non-Catholics only.

To register, English RCIA : go to the Church website <u>https://stjoseph-bt.org.sg/services</u> and scroll down to RCIA and download the registration forms. Chinese RCIA : please call Eileen @ 9452 4234 or Audrey @ 9154 7689

# **English RCIA**

• Interested in learning more about RCIA or registering for the program?

• The English RCIA team will be present at all Masses this weekend in the St. Joachim Room.

 Registration is open to non-Catholics seeking to join the Catholic Church

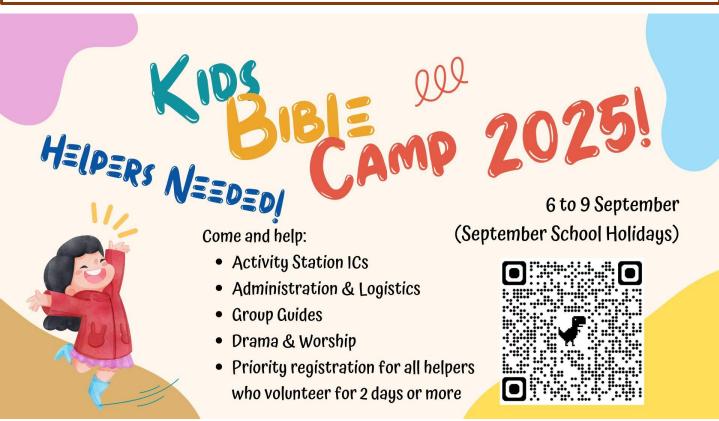


Let's share the invitation!

Invite others to discover the Lord's love and compassion. Share the 'Come and See' experience with those who might be seeking or curious – it could be a life-changing encounter.

# AROUND THE PARISH

### Helpers Needed for Kids Bible Camp 2025



Adult and Youth Helpers (Sec 1 and above) needed for the Kids Bible Camp in September! Come and help with games, art and craft, songs and drama and more! Sign up at: Http://tinyurl.com/KBC25Helper

# Ananias Training

# **ANANIAS TRAINING**

# LEARN THE ART OF ACCOMPANIMENT

### Travelling with Others the Discipleship Path

- Are you currently accompanying others on their spiritual journey?
- Do you feel called to journey with others spiritually?
- Do you have a heart for others?
- Can you listen to others with patience and compassion, and without judgement?



If so, join us for the Ananias Training to learn more about the 'art of accompaniment' and see where God may be calling you. Ananias Training is a 17-hour process structured in six sessions, designed to form parishioners with no previous training in "the art of spiritual accompaniment."

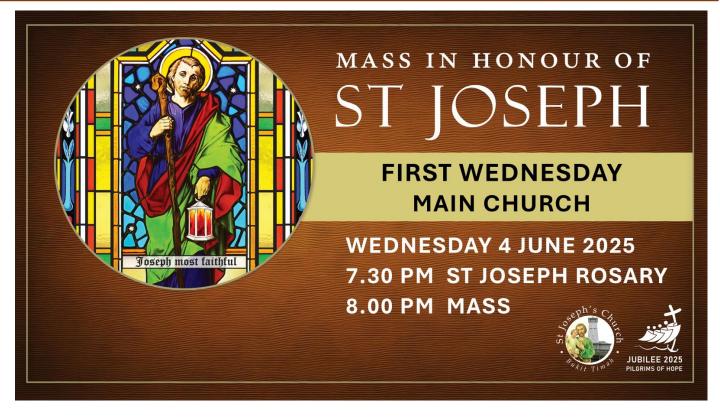
Dates: July 5, 19, Aug 2, 16, 31, Sep 6 2025 Venue: St Joseph's Church (Bukit Timah) Cost: \$35/- for workbook and materials

### Register at tinyurl.com/Ananias2

Would you like to help others grow closer to God? Sign up tor the Ananias Training which will help you better understand the thresholds of faith others are at so that you can better accompany them. Sign up at tinyurl.com/Ananias2

# AROUND THE PARISH

# First Wed Mass in Honour of St Joseph (Wed 4 Jun)



Scripture Series with Fr Ambrose Vaz (Thu 05 June)

# Scripture Series : Part X – Book of Maccabees By Fr Ambrose Vaz



Ignorance of Scriptures is ignorance of Christ. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 133)

Time : 9 am to 10.45 am
Venue : St Joseph AVA Room St Joseph's Church (BT)
Dates : May : 15 / 22 Jun : 05 / 12 / 19 / 26 Aug : 07 / 14 / 21 / 28 Sep : 04 / 18 / 25 Oct : 02 / 09 (15 sessions)

No registration required. All are welcome. Do bring along your bibles.



First Friday Mass and Holy Hour (Fri 6 Jun)

# FIRST FRIDAY HOLY DEVELOPMENT Praying as Pilgrims of Hope Mass: 7.30 pm followed by Holy Hour Friday 06 June 2025 Theme : Sacred Heart Speaker : Friar Gerard Victor

Please note that with effect from June, the First Friday Mass timing will be changed from 7.15 pm to **7.30 pm**. This will then be followed by Holy Hour at 8 pm. All go be held in the Main Church.

# Mass Timing for Public Holiday (Sat 7 Jun)



# Mass Timing on Public Holiday

Sat 07 June 8.00 am Main Church (there is no 6.30 am Mass in the Chapel of St Joseph) 5.30 pm Sunset Mass for Pentecost Sunday will

resume.

# Intercessory Prayers (Wed 11 Jun @ 8 pm)

# **St Joseph Intercessory Prayer Group**

# Intercessory Prayer Session @ Adoration Room Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month

# Upcoming :11 June 2025, Wednesday Time: 8:00-9:00pm

"First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings should be made for everyone." 1 Tim 2:1

The intercessory prayer is about uplifting the needs of the church, the needs of others as well as our personal intentions.



For this session, we will be praying for families and their needs. Consecration to the Sacred of Jesus for all families...please do invite family and friends for prayers. Please share with others and bring your rosary

Prayer thru Music (Fri 20 Jun)



Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (Fri 27 Jun)

Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

> Fri 27 June 7.30 pm Mass Main Church

(there will be no 6.30 pm Mass in the Chapel of St Joseph)



# **AVA Recruitment**



# Talks by Paul J Kim



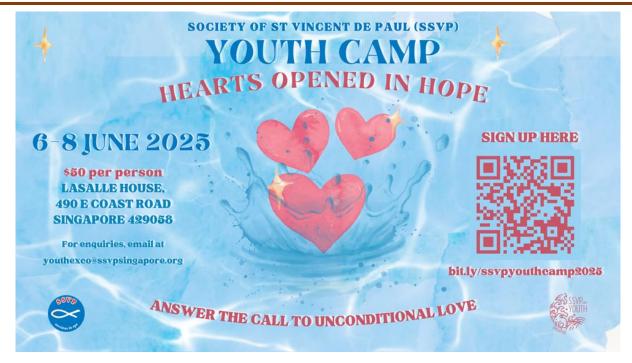
### Choice Weekend (6 - 8 Jun)

For young adults 18 to 40 (single or dating). Uncover the richness or poverty of your relationships! Date: 6 to 8 Jun (Fri evening to Sun evening) @ San Damiano

To Register: https://choice.familylife.sg/UpcomingEvents



# SSVP Youth Camp (6 – 8 Jun)



Desiring to serve and bring hope to others? Come and join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Youth Camp 2025! Seek a heart like Christ in this experiential stay-in youth camp with opportunities to meet with other like-hearted youth and to serve the Lord's beloved.

# Focolare Mariapolis 2025 (13 – 15 June)



The programme caters to all ages and includes spiritual reflections and sharing, daily Mass, games, workshops, meals, and Holy Mass. There will be separate programmes for children under 12. Parishioners who are interested can REGISTER via this link: https://forms.gle/S1HUoHJtQRBFW6j86 Please contact Michelle 9126 3335, Alve 9741 5918 Pedro 9819 5317, Edmund 8157 1937 (WhatsApp after working hours please) if you have any questions.

# Sec 4/5 Outreach (Mon 16 June)



Calling all Sec 4/5 students! Come find out what Jesus has in store for you this holiday season. There'll be prayer and fellowship so come and find rest in Jesus amidst the busy season!

For enquiries, please email Melissa at melissa.oyp@catholic.org.sg

# YCS June Camp (18 – 21 June)



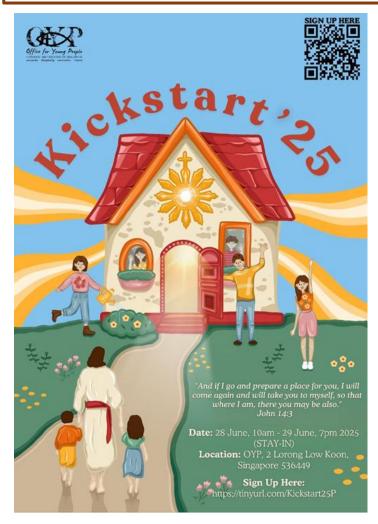
Aim: We hope that through the camp, our participants can explore what it means to be called by God, and how they may use their talents to respond to such a calling from God.

# **AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE**

# Marriage Preparation Courses (3Q)



### Kickstart '25



Beginning your university journey this year? Come join us at Kickstart25\*, a retreat with fellowship and formation for all incoming university freshmen (studying locally or overseas)! You can look forward to hearing the faith stories of other university students and learn more about the universities you are entering from the seniors who will be there to welcome you! The Lord desires much for you, young friend. Take a leap of faith to discover more!

\*This is a stay-in retreat

Date & Time: 28 June 2025 (Saturday) 10am to 29 June 2025 (Sunday) 7pm Venue: Office for Young People, 2 Lor Low Koon, Singapore 536449 Cost: \$21.80 (inclusive of 9% GST) Participant Sign up: https://tinyurl.com/Kickstart25P

For enquiries, please contact Dennis via email (dennis.oyp@catholic.org.sg) or Telegram (@jeremiahlo).

# AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

# A Spring Day for Our Dis-ease: Spirituality for Busy People (5 – 6 Jul)



# "Is this all there is to life?"

Maybe you've been running on autopilot-keeping up, pushing throughbut something still feels... missing. What if the answer isn't in doing more, but in slowing down? This weekend retreat offers a sacred pause. Discover the peace that your heart longs for.

# "A Spring Day for Our Dis-ease:" Spirituality for Busy People 5-6 July 2025

And yes, if the title sounds familiar—it's inspired by BTS. But you don't need to be a fan to join!

This retreat flows from a key Ignatian principle that God is present in all things even in pop culture. With an open heart and a sincere desire to listen to God, come see what God is inviting you to.



Maybe you've been running on autopilot—keeping up, pushing through—but something still feels... missing. What if the answer isn't in doing more, but in slowing down?

In a world obsessed with hustle and high efficiency, this weekend retreat offers a sacred pause. Through stillness, silence, and solitude, discover the peace that your heart longs for.

# Renew, Reignite & Rediscover (11 – 14 Sept)



This retreat, guided by Sr. Kriz, RC and Fr. Jerome SJ, is designed to help participants deepen their relationship with the self, others and God. Through an arrangement of rest, simple leisure activities, prayer and reflection, we hope to provide a safe space for self-discovery, self-acceptance and emotional growth as we evaluate: Why do I do the things I do?

Due to peak season (school holidays), we need to confirm registrations early for accommodation and ferry arrangements.

# AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

# Catholic Foundation Dinner 2025 (Wed 22 Oct)



HOSTED BY HIS EMINENCE, CARDINAL WILLIAM GOH

Date: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 Time: 5:30pm Cocktails & FaithWorks Art Exhibition

- 7:00pm Dinner Reception
- Venue: The Fullerton Hotel

The dinner is fully sponsored. All proceeds from table sales and contributions go towards building the **Catholic Hub**.



To purchase a table or for more information, scan the QR code or visit:

catholicfoundation.sg /cfdinner

# **BUILDING THE CHURCH TODAY FOR TOMORROW**

# **Catholic Prayer Society Lunchtime Masses**

# Lunchtime Mass in the City

Wednesdays @ 12.15pm

Commencing on 14th May 2025 International Plaza 10 Anson Road #31-06 Only U Space

Medical Alumni Association,
 College Rd, Level 1 Theatrette

# Fridays @12.15pm

ORQ BUILDING, Level 49, North Tower, One Raffles Quay