





St Joseph's Church (Bukit Timah)

Weekly Parish Bulletin • 04 May 2025 • 3rd Sunday Easter (Year C)

 620 Upper Bukit Timah Road
Singapore 678116

 Gate Opening Hours:
8.00am to 9.00pm

 stjoseph-bt.org.sg/

 facebook.com/sjcbt/

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Christopher Lee
Tel: 6760 0052

ASST PARISH PRIEST

Rev Msgr Peter Zhang
peter.zhang@catholic.org.sg

ASST PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Lourdusamy Prasanna
lourdusamy.prasanna@catholic.org.sg

SECRETARIAT

Maggie Chia Tel: 6769 1666
[sjcibt.secretariat@catholic.org.sg](mailto:sjcbt.secretariat@catholic.org.sg)

ADMINISTRATION

Evelyn Lau Tel: 6769 1608
sjcibt.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

From the Desk of the Parish Priest

Happy Feast Day!

My dear parishioners, our patron Saint St Joseph has faithfully watched over our community for 179 years and we give thanks for his patronage and protection.

On his Feast day, let us reflect on the virtues of this humble and dedicated man. We pray for all workers, that they may find dignity and fulfillment in their labor.

May St. Joseph's example inspire us to work with integrity, diligence, and compassion. May we strive for justice and fairness in the workplace, and may our efforts contribute to the common good.

On behalf of the priests of the Parish, I would like to extend our deepest appreciation to all those who have worked tirelessly for the success of our Feast Day celebrations, from the Masses to the flowers to the food and fun fair; and for all the logistics work done behind the scenes. Without your selfless dedication, our Feast Day would not have proceeded so smoothly.



I would also like to thank Archbishop Emeritus Dato John Ha for joining us for our Feast Day celebrations. It has been a great privilege for us to have him here. His homilies on the fidelity of St Joseph resonates with us all.

We have much to give thanks for and we look forward to your support for our 180th Anniversary celebrations.

St Joseph, continue to pray for us and keep watch over our community.

10th Sacerdotal Anniversary – Fr Lourdusamy Prasanna



Still on a celebratory note, please join me in congratulating Fr Lourdusamy Prasanna as he celebrates his 10th Sacerdotal Anniversary on 04 May.

We rejoice in the gift of Fr Prasanna's priestly ministry. Ten years of serving God's people with love, compassion, and dedication. May the Lord continue guiding and inspiring you. May He bless you with good health and keep you in His care.



REMEMBERING POPE FRANCIS & INSTALLATION OF HIS SUCCESSOR

Remembering Pope Francis



REMEMBERING OUR DEAREST HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS

1936 - 2025

*Eternal Father, welcome our beloved
Holy Father into the radiance of Your heavenly kingdom.
May he rest in the peace of Christ, and may his legacy
of faith and love continue to inspire the Church.*



Sun 04 May marks the last day of the 9-day mourning for our Holy Father, Pope Francis. During this nine-days of mourning (knowns as the Novendiales), we have offered prayers for our Holy Father at all Masses. May his soul rest in peace. Please do continue to pray for him.

Pray for the Conclave (Wed 07 May @ 7.30 pm)

Cardinal William Goh has appealed for our prayers as the College of Cardinals enter into the Conclave on 7 May to elect a new Pope. He highlighted that "it is urgent and important that you all pray for us so that we can discern what kind of Pope the Church needs in this present day".

The Conclave will be held within the Sistine Chapel. After each vote, the ballot papers are burned. If white smoke is emitted from the chapel chimney, it will mean that a new Pope has been selected. Let heed His Eminence's request to pray fervently so that the Cardinals will "be guided by the Holy Spirit to elect a good, holy, compassionate, wise and strong pope who will not only be a Shepherd after the heart of Christ, but also courageous in defending the deposit of Faith handed down to the Church through the ages."

On Wed 07 May, we will gather as usual for our First Wed Mass and this Mass will be dedicated to for this purpose. We will have our Rosary to St Joseph at 7.30 pm followed by Mass. Please join us in prayer as we each have a responsibility to pray for the successor of St Peter.



Mass for the Election of a New Pope

Date : Wed 07 May 2025
Venue : Main Church

7.30 pm : St Joseph Rosary
8.00 pm : Mass

There will be no 6.30 pm Mass in the Chapel.

2025 Feast Day Masses (03 and 04 May)
Theme : Joseph, Most Faithful

Sat 3-May 5.30 pm (Sunset Mass)
Sat 3-May 7.30 pm (Tamil)
Sun 4-May 6.00 am (Stallholders)
Sun 4-May 7.30 am (Mandarin)
Sun 4-May 9.30 am
Sun 4-May 11.30 am -
Celebrant : Archbishop Emeritus Dato John Ha
Sun 4-May 5.30 pm



NB : No 6.30 am Mass on Sat 3 May

The Great St Joseph Celebration



Food & Funfair
Sunday 4 May

- All transactions strictly by coupons only. You can purchase your coupons from the Parish Office (Tue – Sat from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm) or on the actual day.
- Food stalls from 7 am to 2 pm
- Game stalls from 9 am to 2 pm

Candles in Honour of St Joseph

You can offer your prayers/thanksgiving by lighting a candle to St Joseph. Your love offering is appreciated.

No Parking

Please note that there is **NO** parking in the Church compound on Sun 4 May. Parishioners are strongly advised to take public transport.

St Joseph's Church in Bukit Timah (SJCBT) managed six outposts for a hundred years through Missions Étrangères de Paris (MEP) and local priests because of evangelical opportunities in other locations in Singapore and Johore.

The first outpost was in 1862 in Boo Koo Kang, five kilometres from Bukit Timah. Chinese Christians, who found Bukit Timah not conducive to plant muscatel nuts, ventured into Boo Koo Kang to farm banana, indigo and sugar cane. Parish priest Fr Augustin Perie also bought land opposite Johore as he saw an opportunity to reach out to Chinese settlers in Malaya from the outpost. Naming the outpost Sainte Marie, he built a chapel, a hall for catechism classes and a room for MEP missionaries to rest before spreading the faith in Johore. Fr Perie visited the outpost on Thursdays for catechism and on Sundays to celebrate Mass. The chapel was destroyed within a year, with secret societies blaming a pagan for burning the grass nearby.

The second outpost was naturally in Johore. Since some SJCBT Chinese Christians had settled in Johore because of the better soil condition, Fr Perie looked for his flock in Pontian in 1864, but he faced numerous problems such as continued threats from secret societies and lack of commitment from his original supporters. The Chinese pagans did not want to join the mission because Fr Perie forbade gambling and opium. When Fr Perie left the outpost and SJCBT in 1865 to evangelise in another Johore location, Ayer Hitam, parish priest Fr Jean-Marie Remes managed SJCBT and the Pontian outpost. Fr Remes built a proper chapel in 1867, dedicating it to St Francis Xavier. Fr Perie returned to SJCBT and Pontian between 1868-1870 but returned to France in 1870 for medical treatment. Between 1870-1873, parish priests Fr Marie Francois Issaly and Fr Elisee Delouette looked after the outpost but when Fr Issaly died from illness, Fr Delouette closed the outpost in 1873.

The third outpost was the St Anthony of Padua Chapel in Mandai Village, where Fr Stephen Lee from the Town Mission had obtained land to house migrant Swatow Chinese Catholics in 1927. Teochew-speaking parish priest Fr Romuald De

Rozario supported the outpost by financing a catechist, a sacristan and two teachers. After the war, parish priest Fr Joachim Teng visited the outpost on Sundays. With Mandai baptisms reaching 242 between 1951-1960, Fr Teng built a larger church in 1960 from funds donated and it became a separate parish in 1965. In 1994, the Church of St Anthony was built in Woodlands due to government resettlement plans.

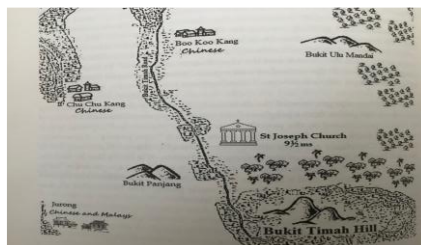
The fourth outpost was in Tuas Jurong. Many Chinese settlers had shifted from different parts of Singapore to the Tuas fishing village to make a living in the 1940s. Since it was too far to travel from Jurong to Bukit Timah, the community requested for a Catholic priest. Fr Rozario visited the Jurong Catholics from 1944 and celebrated monthly Masses in 1948. From 1949, Fr Teng looked after the outpost and in 1958 obtained land for a chapel. He dedicated the chapel to Our Lady of Fatima and handed the parish over to the Franciscan Friars, who then developed the St Francis of Assisi parish and the St Mary of the Angels parish.

The fifth outpost was the Seletar Naval Base Chapel, Our Lady Queen of Peace, which became the Church of the Star of the Sea as an outstation of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes (COLL). There was shared jurisdiction for this outpost: SJCB looked after the Chinese Catholics while COLL served the Indian Catholics. From 1947 to the 1950s, first under Fr Rozario and then Fr Joachim Teng, SJCBT recorded baptisms from Naval Base.

The sixth outpost was the Tengah Air Base chapel, St Michael and All Angels. Fr Teng looked after the spiritual needs of the Catholics there between the 1940s and 1960s but the chapel was abandoned when British forces pulled out in the 1970s.

SJCBT had helped to spread the Catholic faith to different locations in Singapore and Malaya!

By Peter Ling



An old map
showing SJCBT
and some outposts.

EASTER ACTIVITIES

Easter Family Activity



The Family Formation team has put together an activity pack for your family this Easter season. Please collect it from the Welcome Desk after the English masses on the weekend.

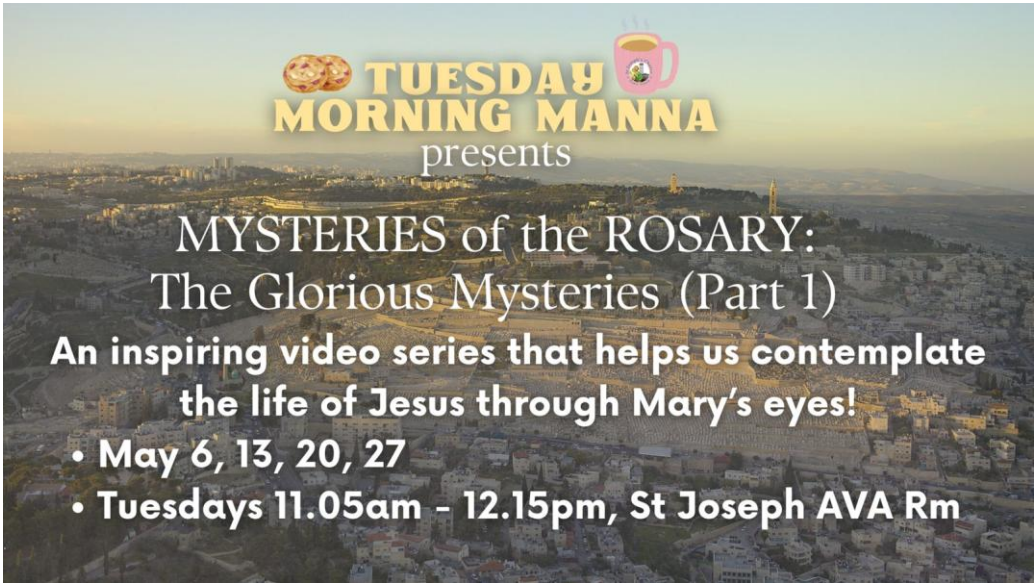
Easter Breaking of the Word

Join the Faith & Bible Reflections community as we reflect and share on the Sunday readings this Easter season starting in May. We will be using the ONE booklet. Join our Whatsapp Community to be updated: <https://tinyurl.com/sjcbtbible>



- Tuesdays 8-9.45pm ONLINE
- Wednesdays 9-10.45am ONLINE

Tuesday Morning Manna (commencing Tue 6 May)



Join us for Part 1 of this inspiring video series filmed in the Holy Land, as we reflect on the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary this Easter season. No registration required.

AROUND THE PARISH

Prayer thru Music (Fri 23 May @ 8 pm)



Prayer thru Music ©

(brought to you by SAHOP)



- ❖ Praise & Worship
- ❖ Scripture Reading
- ❖ Intercessory Prayers
- ❖ Spiritual Talk
- ❖ Community Bonding

Rev Fr Terence Kesavan

Head of Academics (SFXMS)



JUBILEE 2025

Pilgrims of Hope in Community



23 May 2025 (Friday) 8PM
@ Level 3, St Mary, AVA Room
Parish Community Hall

e-mail:sahop.sjcbt@gmail.com



Infant Baptism (Closing date for Registration : 15 May)

2025 Infant Baptism Schedule

- Parents seeking Baptism for their infant or child, please visit our website: St. Joseph’s Church, Bukit Timah.
- Please download the ‘Infant Baptism Registration’ form (located under Services>Sacraments>Baptism) and submit the completed form along with the relevant documents to the Parish Secretary at : sjcbt.secretariat@catholic.org.sg



RITE OF BAPTISM @ 1:30PM	PREPARATION SESSION 1 @1:30PM (Zoom) For parents and godparent	PREPARATION SESSION 2 @1:30PM (St Joseph AVA Room) For parents and godparent	CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATION:
13 JULY 2025	1 JUNE 2025	29 JUNE 2025	15 MAY 2025



MYANMAR & THAILAND

Emergency Relief Fund: Urgent Aid for Hope & Survival

Small Gifts, Miraculous Impact

FUNDRAISING APPEAL

go.charis-singapore.org /MMTHrelief

CHARIS
Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives Singapore



Applications are now open!

Forms are available from the CTIS Office or go to www.ctis.sg to download a copy.

Closing date : 14 June 2025

Information night : 8 May @ 8 pm at CTIS Bukit Timah.

For enquiries, please call 6902 8700

Ark of the Covenant Exhibition (1 – 31 May)



Ark of the Covenant
Byzantine ICON Art Exhibition
结约之柜 拜占庭圣像画展

Iconographer from Taiwan **Theresa Tung 董兰芝**

All Are Welcome!
Do invite your non-believer friends

1st – 31st May, 2025
at Carlo Catholic Services
225B Queen St. S188552

Programmes include:

- Group Guided Tour
- ICON Art Workshop
- Mandarin & English Talks

Organisers & Event Details :



Encourage Community Open Session (Tue 6 May @ 7.30 pm)

EnCourage Community
Open Session



No Storm is Too Big
There's room in our boat.... Come!

6 MAY 2025 - TUESDAY - 7.30 PM to 9.30 PM - LIMITED SPOTS

If you are a parent or family member of a loved one who is same sex attracted or identifies as LGBT, the EnCourage community invites you to join us for an intimate evening of conversation & sharing over simple food & drink.

EnCourage is a Roman Catholic apostolate that provides pastoral & spiritual support for parents & family members of loved ones who are same-sex attracted or identify as LGBT

To register, scan QR code or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/yckhznr>

Registrations close on 2 May 2025

Venue will be disclosed upon confirmation of registration



Treasure 17 (9 May @ 7.45 pm)

TREASURE 17

catholic encounter retreat for young working adults
(21-35 years old)

**9 MAY, FRI (7.45PM) TO
12 MAY, MON (6PM) 2025**

Full stay in at OYP (2 Lorong Low Koon)
Cost: \$163.50 (incl 9% gst)
Sign up: tinyurl.com/oyp-treasure17

Have you ever longed to simply rest in the Father’s love? Sometimes, all it takes is one word—“Abba!” A cry from the depths of your heart, and He hears you. He sees you. He calls you His own. No matter where you are in life, God is waiting to lavish His love, mercy, and freedom upon you. Come and encounter Him in a personal way at Treasure #17, a stay-in Catholic Encounter Retreat specially for young working adults (ages 21–35) in Singapore.

From Shifting Sand to Solid Ground (17 – 18 May)

From Shifting Sand to Solid Ground

A Midlife Retreat by Sr. Bubbles, RC

Dates: 17-18 May 2025

Venue: La Salle House

*We need to walk on shifting sand
to find a home on Solid Ground.*

A Cenacle programme

The retreat will evoke significant questions during this life transition: Who am I? How have my relationships impacted me? How would I like to live meaningfully and fruitfully? While the approach to this retreat is psycho-spiritual, the call at this life stage is essentially to undertake a spiritual journey towards a more intimate relationship with self, others and God.

True or False Devotion (Mon 12 May @ 9.30 am)

MONTFORTIAN EXPERIENCE | DAY OF RECOLLECTION

TRUE OR FALSE DEVOTION

Mon, 12 May 2025
9.30am to 12.30pm
Craft materials included

Montfort Centre
624 Upper Bukit Timah Road
Singapore 678212



MONTFORT CENTRE
ALL FOR THE HOLY SACRAMENT

This month of May, come together for a short recollection as we celebrate the month of Mother Mary and Mother's Day.

In a world filled with counterfeit devotions, it's crucial to distinguish between what's true and what's not when honoring Mary.

Through guided craftwork and reflection, this recollection invites us to recognize and avoid false devotions, while guiding us to choose the most perfect and sanctifying path—one that glorifies God and pleases Him most.

Register at: <https://www.montfortcentre.org/events-1/true-or-false-devotion>

CHIJ Our Lady Queen of Peace (Fri 23 May)



Come discover the OLQP CLOVER experience!

CHIJ Our Lady Queen of Peace

OPEN HOUSE 2025

Friday, 23 May 2025 | 3.00pm to 4.30pm

<https://go.gov.sg/olqp2025>



CHIJ Our Lady Queen of Peace provides students with a holistic educational experience and Catholic faith formation anchored in a Christ-centred, values-driven environment.

Come visit our Open House on Friday, 23 May 2025 (3.00 pm to 4.30 pm) to learn more about our educational experiences. We look forward to sharing 170 years of IJ education, tradition and legacy with your daughters. You may register for our Open House at: <https://go.gov.sg/olqp2025>



<https://go.gov.sg/olqp2025>

CJC 50th Anniversary Homecoming Dinner (Sat 31 May)



CJC 50TH ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING DINNER

31 May 2025 (Saturday) | 6:15PM

Come join us and celebrate fifty years of
faith, friendship, and fearless spirit!

Casual Dining at The CJ50 Table of Plenty • Alumni Performances • Retro Night with DJ Aldrin



Tickets



SSVP Youth Camp (6 – 8 Jun)

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SSVP)

YOUTH CAMP

HEARTS OPENED IN HOPE

6-8 JUNE 2025

\$50 per person
LASALLE HOUSE,
490 E COAST ROAD
SINGAPORE 429058

For enquiries, email at
youthexco@ssvpsingapore.org



SIGN UP HERE



bit.ly/ssvpyouthcamp2025

ANSWER THE CALL TO UNCONDITIONAL LOVE



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



Focolare Mariapolis 2025

ONE FAMILY IN GOD

13-15 June
Majodi, Johor



Join us for three days of being One family in God, where we gather with joy with intergenerational activities, moments of reflection and sharing!

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.

Marriage Preparation Courses



This course, spanning over 6 half-day sessions on weekends, is designed to help couples build strong foundation for a lasting fulfilling marriage.

2025 DATES

CLOSED 09 Feb - 16 Mar

Q2 04 May - 08 Jun

Q3 20 Jul - 31 Aug

Q4 05 Oct - 09 Nov

Scan to Register!



Couples intending to celebrate your union in the Catholic Church are encouraged to attend MPC as early as possible before your wedding date

For more info : www.mpcsingapore.com

