



FAITH IGNITE

BECCOT e-Newsletter

THE ANSWER IS THE EMPTY TOMB

by Kevin Smead

My heart is full of worry
And my mind with anxious care
The answer is the empty tomb
His body is not there

My soul is filled with fear and shame
My life is filled with dread
The answer is the empty tomb
Christ risen from the dead

The world is full of sorrows
All the cities full of woe
The answer is the empty tomb
The whole world needs to know

The youth are filled with unbelief
The schools are filled with doubt
The answer is the empty tomb
The Savior made it out

No matter what you're facing
No matter how it feels
The answer is the empty tomb
A risen Lord that heals!

WE ARE AN EASTER PEOPLE

IN THIS ISSUE

THE ANSWER IS THE EMPTY TOMB - 1

GREETINGS FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST - 2

BRO JOHN'S PASTORAL EXPERIENCE - 4

BEC IN ACTION - 6

CORPORAL ACT OF MERCY - 12

LENTEN OUTREACH - 13

HOMEBOUND VISITS - 14

BHS MALAYSIA GROUP - 15

TAMIL SPEAKING GROUP - 17

EASTER TESTIMONY - 18

EASTER TRIVIA - 19

EDITORIAL TEAM - 21





GREETINGS

FROM REV. FR. LAWRENCE NG, CDD
PARISH PRIEST

A blessed Easter to you and your family!

**WITHOUT THE RESURRECTION, THERE
WOULD HAVE BEEN NO CHURCH AT ALL**

The story of the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is so important to Christianity because it is the centre of our faith and religion, and the basis of our identity as Christians.

Through His resurrection, Jesus conquered death. The resurrection message is a message of Hope. Paul wrote that if there was no resurrection, everything we do and feel would be in vain... (1 Cor 15:14).

Suffering and death in this world is part and parcel of our lives here on earth. However, as people of Easter, we need to look further than the traumatic and painful situations that daily plague us. Often we take these events as punishment from God. We ignore the resurrection and fail to see that Jesus is our Hope during the darkest of times.

On The Road To Emmaus, while the two disciples were consumed with the past week's events, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them and revealed himself at the breaking of bread.

(Lk 24:31-32)

Today you may be in your lowest period of your life, but Jesus is still here. Jesus is willing to come to you. And it is just like Jesus to ask the question, "What's going on with you today?"

To all BEC members, remember that problems will always be there. Just know that the Lord is always with you. Even in the darkest of hours, God is at work... there is NO time when God has turned His back upon you!

Wishing you a Blessed Easter!

Love Faith
Jesus Hope



BROTHER JOHN ROBERTSON - PASTORAL EXPERIENCE -

On 23rd Nov 2022, Rev. Fr. Vincent Thomas, our Vocation Director, informed that I'm posted to St. Ignatius Church for a month of pastoral experience. I was excited but as the date drew nearer, excitement turned into anxiety, and was filled with many questions:

- What will I be doing during this pastoral experience?
- Will SIC parishioners accept me?
- Will I be able to give my best?
- Will I work with the parishioners freely or will the parishioners freely work with me?



With this excitement and anxiety, I started my experience with an evening Mass at SIC on 6th Jan, and as Jesus said 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me.' (Mt 25:35) and so did the parishioners of SIC welcomed me.

During my 1st week, some parishioners asked me 'what will you be doing while you are here? Reflecting on this question, I recalled Luke 1: 39-45 (The Visitation, 2nd Joyful Mystery).

In Malaysia, we bring a gift or 'buah tangan' when visiting someone. What did Mother Mary bring for Elizabeth to avoid going empty handed? Mary brought Jesus and Elizabeth experienced Jesus when she met Mary.

A pastoral experience is similar. As we bring Jesus to others, concurrently we too can experience Jesus from others. St. Teresa of Calcutta says 'Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.'

Did I bring Jesus to the people of SIC? The answer is 'saya tak tahu' but there are some in SIC (priests, office clerks, various leaders, and parishioners) who DID bring Jesus to me, which helped in my journey at the seminary and in my spiritual life. I strongly believe that participating in a pastoral experience is part of the life of every baptized Catholic.

Most of my time was spent accompanying Fr. Lawrence Ng as he tirelessly drove to visit the homebound, anointed the sick, perform home blessings, attended wake services and more. His actions underscored the role of a priest in making the sacraments available to the people. I recalled the words of St. John Marie Vianney, the patron saint of priests, which states 'The priest is not a priest for himself: he does not give himself absolution: he does not administer the Sacraments to himself. He is not for himself, he is for you.'

In addition, I was deeply touched by the young people whom I encountered and built friendships with. They made me part of their parish life. Our conversations over meals made me realize that young people are searching for meaning and purpose in their lives. They desire to be acknowledged and be heard.

At the end of my pastoral experience at SIC, I found myself feeling like the seventy who were sent out for a mission by Jesus (Luke 10:1-16). When the seventy returned, they returned with joy. In as much as mission touches the life of the people whom we are sent out to, I also believe it touches and changes the person who is being sent out. For me, the people of SIC did exactly that.

THANK YOU SIC AND GOD BLESS!

*I WAS A STRANGER AND
YOU WELCOMED ME*



B.E.C. In Action

SS3 ST JUDE

A gleeful night with 28 members from 12 families.

A triple joy indeed to share and grow our faith, to celebrate the birthdays of six members and 64th wedding anniversary of Joseph and Mary



TROPICANA MOTHER THERESA

Sponsored 300 sets of meals to Samaritan Home plus CNY goodies & oranges.



SS21 HOLY FAMILY

BEC members on their morning walk in DU residential park.



Dinner followed by Feb 2023 Reflection Paper at Starling Mall food court



LILY OF THE VALLEY



CNY visits to our Homebound

CNY BEC Lunch



SS4 ST MICHAEL

Welcoming the year of the Rabbit with specially prepared Yee Sang by a beloved member and a surprise birthday cake baked with love for our CC. An enjoyable evening with good bonding among members.



SS24 ST MATTHEW & LUKE



Donation of food and used items for a family at Kampung Kayu Ara

SS5 ST ANNE

BEC members reciting the Way of the Cross at SIC Riverside



SS25 ST. EMMANUEL



Members sharing during the February prayer gathering on the theme of World Interfaith.

A reminder to be humble, kind, patient and bear with one another in love.

SS7 ST. ALPHONSUS LIGOURI



After 2 long years, we had a large joint gathering to celebrate Christmas & Chinese New Year as one big family. Young, not so young and young at heart came and had good food, played catch up, had fun and laughter.



This year, our BEC has pledged to support a single mother with 3 children to pay rent for a period of 6 months to alleviate their financial burden.



DAMANSARA ST DOMINIC



这个月的主题是“合一”，我们白沙罗基信团用了一个特别的方式进行我们这个月的家庭聚会。首先我们一群人浩浩荡荡的来到一个环境优美的地点 (**Desa Park City**) 来做晨运，大家都以不同的速度跑动了起来，天空虽然偶尔飘下细雨，可是这并不能阻挡我们的团聚。

一小时后我们就移师到 **The Seven Grocer** 一起享用由秀梅姐妹精心为我们准备的爱心早餐，大家吃的不亦乐乎。在用餐的当儿也彼此分享生活，真是一个美好的共融。早餐后我们进入了重头戏，就是月省的环节，感谢**Philip**范及秀梅开放他们环境非常舒适的办公会议室给我们进行活动。活动的主题是“合一”，弟兄姐妹们都踊跃的分享自己在生活上如何与友族同胞们和平相处。

其中印象最深刻的是一位弟兄 **Daneil** 分享他在一些穆斯林国家工作的经验，他分享到与当地的回教徒在斋戒月期间一起做戒食守斋，这行为不但让身体更健康，对自己的信仰也有益处，他的分享让大家获益不浅。活动的尾声我们以一首“光荣颂”结束了我们这个月对身，心，灵都有受益的活动。





OKR ST PAUL

适逢四旬期，基信团2月份关注重点为“合一”，即无论是家庭内、社会上或者是世界里的彼此合一，更特别提及跨宗教的互相了解。值得一提的是，本月聚会不仅热络非凡，还迎来好几位回流、新加入的成员，当然还有多位小小的新生代成员随着父母一同来参与。不管怎么说，实体的面对面聚会，还是要比线上聚会更可达到“共融”、“交流”、“联谊”、“分享”，还有上达云霄的“颂唱赞美”效果。

当然，一家一菜的美食共享，也是建立情谊的重要催化剂！人说，美好的歌唱是双倍的祈祷。这次聚会，Alan杨骏如弟兄特别拎来吉他来一场“插电”伴奏，无论是开会前暖场，还是尾声的颂赞，都让在场众多歌唱好手意犹未尽，一首接一首，把祈祷的效果何止推高双倍？应是百倍！

会前祷、供奉圣经、读经和圣言反省之后，主席带领大家进入正题，他还特别播放了跨宗教的材料，让大家借鉴佛教慈济基金会如何通过救灾赈灾、医疗、教育、废料再循环等工作项目服务社会，展现大爱的精神。

无论是影片分享，或是约40位出席者的分组交流分享题材，都在提醒了我们应在四旬期间自省，省思如何才能与人保持和谐共处并活出爱，一如结束咏《活出爱》作词者盛晓玫所写：让自己成为别人祝福／耶稣的爱点燃我心中熊熊爱火／我们一起向世界活出爱。祝福大家有个祈祷效果丰硕的四旬期。

A CORPORAL ACT OF MERCY


One of the best ways a BEC can give support and love is to be there when there is a death in the family of one of its members, or a parishioner living in the vicinity. The Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC) members can help the grieving family with the funeral arrangements and prayers.

"Burying the dead is one of seven corporal acts of mercy and this service ought to be extended even if the deceased is not a BEC member" said Anthony during the Bereavement Formation held on 25th February 2023 for BEC leaders and members.

Many family members of deceased persons started participating in BEC activities upon seeing the support given to them by the BEC. Funerals give us the opportunity to grieve and show others support through the seven-day prayers.

Fr. Lawrence, while addressing the participants offered them the opportunity to witness the cremation process and coffin-lying, as part of formation training, to help overcome fear of death or deal with matters pertaining to death. "As you keep assisting or attending funerals you will be able to overcome whatever fear you may have and become familiar with the funeral rites," he said.

Among other things, the training included funeral parlour booking, mass arrangements, seven-day prayers and assisting the grieving family with the Mass and during burial or cremation.



Those interested to know more or lend a hand in this noble service can contact Stephenie at 012-3129785

Lenten Outreach

BECCOT Reps visit to 3 families at Kampung Cempaka



**Family 1: Mother with a special needs daughter
(food & provisions)**



**Family 2 : Elderly grandmother, grand daughters & sons
(adult diapers, provisions & gas cyclinder)**



**Family 3: Sickly husband & terminally ill wife.
(financial aid & a wheelchair)**



LENT HOMEBOUND VISITS



BAHASA MALAYSIA GROUP



Komuniti Umat Bahasa Malaysia, (KUBM) SIC Petaling Jaya, telahpun memulakan misa yang pertama kalinya selepas 2 tahun "lockdown" akibat penularan wabak Covid-19. Misa Bahasa Malaysia diadakan hari minggu pertama setiap bulan.

Pada 2 March lalu, upacara "Commissioning" telah dilakukan keatas semua perkhidmatan liturgi termasuklah pembacaan, pemazmur, koir dan warden. Selepas selesainya misa, jamuan diadakan di cafeteria untuk mengeratkan lagi hubungan antara sesama umat dan paderi paroki justeru dapat menarik lebih ramai lagi umat yang be kerja atau belajar terutamanya yang datang dari Sabah, Sarawak dan Indonesia.

Untuk maklumat lanjut, hubungi Mary (016-2851873)



**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF
ADULTS (RCIA) BM GEREJA ST
IGNATIUS KELANA JAYA (SIC)**

Kelas setiap Hari Ahad .
Tempat: Bilik 1-4 Costantini Community Centre
Masa: 2pm-4pm

Untuk maklumat lanjut hubungi:
Mary (0162851873)
Eric (01229724130)

Inisiasi Kristian Dewasa (IKD) SIC PJ terdiri daripada 9 orang katekumen dan 3 orang pembimbing. Berpandukan buku dan ajaran gereja agar para katekumen lebih memahami dan mendalami iman mereka. Mengambil masa selama setahun setengah untuk menyediakan para katekumen untuk betul-betul bersedia dan menerima sakramen untuk menjadi penganut agama Kristian Katolik.

Umur yang sesuai untuk mengikuti IKD ini adalah dari yang berusia 15 tahun keatas dan yang belum menerima sakramen lengkap gereja Katolik.

TAMIL SPEAKING GROUP

“Now you together are Christ’s body; but each of you is a different part of it.” Cor 12:27

The Tamil speaking group of St Ignatius Church and BEC Damansara Kayu Ara St Anthony of Padua consists of 270 members. We support various parish activities including multi-lingual parish celebrations, wedding and funeral masses. We help liaise with visiting priests who are Tamil-speaking. We have a Tamil Youth group to help Tamil speaking youths on their journey of faith.

In January, 56 members attended the District Ponggal celebration at the Church of Divine Mercy and recited the Divine Mercy Chaplet in Tamil before the Mass. There were many cultural and musical activities to mark the joyous occasion, with the highlight being the boiling of milk in an earthenware pot to cook the sakkarai ponggal or sweet ponggal.

February saw a continuation of our monthly BEC gatherings. In March our Tamil speaking group began the holy season of Lent by animating the multi-lingual Mass and Rosary on Ash Wednesday.



EASTER TESTIMONY - MAURICIA HELENA RCIA 2022/2023

My testimony with Christ started 14 years ago. I was having depression before I accepted Christ due to failure in my previous relationship & bearing a 6-figure debt. It almost led me to bankruptcy. Of course, I questioned God's plan for me.

Being baptised as a Methodist, Jesus has always been my Provider, my Healer & my Saviour. It was only at the end of 2019, that I had a strong calling from Mother Mary to convert to a Catholic. She had also answered my many prayers and helped clear my debts.

I had made a commitment to register with RCIA. However, there were many obstacles prior to conversion and one of them was a promise of prospective career that will hinder me from attending RCIA classes in SIC.

I struggled for many months, and while attending a Sunday mass, God showed me a clear sign to quit my promising career. With peace in my heart, I resigned from my career, and never looked back.

The whole journey is smooth with Him. I am glad that I am able to be in the RCIA journey & will be baptised at the 2023 Easter Vigil Celebrations.

I have become happier & healthier after I left the world behind me by putting the CROSS in front of me with no regrets.



EASTER TRIVIA

Submit your answers with your name, BEC, contact number and email to sicfaithignite@gmail.com. The first 3 correct winners will get a prize.

- 1** What was the colour of the robe that the soldiers mockingly put on Jesus before his crucifixion?
 - A. Red
 - B. White
 - C. Black
 - D. Purple

- 2** Easter consists of ___ days and ends on _____.
 - A. 40, Good Friday
 - B. 50, Palm Sunday
 - C. 50, Pentecost
 - D. 40, Easter Sunday

- 3** Jesus was betrayed for 40 pieces of silver.
 - A. True
 - B. False

- 4** What is the Sunday before Easter known as?
 - A. Holy Sunday
 - B. Last Sunday in Ordinary Time
 - C. Palm Sunday
 - D. Misson Sunday

- 5** Jesus said "My God, My God, why hast thou _____ me".
 - A. forgiven
 - B. forgotten
 - C. forsaken
 - D. fortified



- 6** I told the women at the tomb not to be afraid and that Jesus had risen; who am I?
- A. Mary Magdalene
 - B. Angel
 - C. Joseph of Arimathea
 - D. Martha
- 7** What does Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday & Good Friday respectively commemorate?
- A. Jesus' entry into Bethlehem, Last Supper & Easter
 - B. Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, Last Supper & Crucifixion
 - C. Welcome to Jerusalem, Eucharist & Crucifixion
 - D. Passion Sunday, Holy Thursday & Passover
- 8** What fragrant spices did Nicodemus bring as a burial custom for Jesus' body ?
- A. Myrrh & aloe
 - B. Aloe & frankincense
 - C. Frankincense & myrrh
 - D. Myrrh & anise
- 9** Three things Catholics are encouraged to do to prepare for Easter?
- A. Prayer, Feeding the Poor, Donations
 - B. Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving
 - C. Fasting, Almsgiving, Sacrifices
 - D. Almsgiving, Hold Psalms, Fasting
- 10** We are an Easter people and our song is?
- A. We Have Decided to Follow Jesus
 - B. Hosea
 - C. He Lives!
 - D. Alleluia!



NEWS FOR TODAY APRIL 4, 2023

JESUS LIVES!

EYEWITNESS REPORTS THAT TOMB WAS FOUND EMPTY



EDITORIAL TEAM

Juliana Tan
Jacqui Holloway
Elias Yee
Cynthia Martin
Rachel Campos

Advisors :
Rev Fr Lawrence Ng, CDD
Rev Fr Martin Then, CDD
Jo Lee (BECCOT Chairperson)

Articles and written contributions can be sent to
sicfaithignite@gmail.com