



SPOTLIGHT TEAM

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Rev. Anthony Hutjes

CHIEF EDITOR

David Woon

EDITOR

Jenny Mok

WRITERS

Andrew Juniper Lee

Thomas Ng

Patricia Ang

LAYOUT ARTIST

Lynn Tessa Tay

ARTISTS

Anastasia Tania

Karen Goh

PHOTOGRAPHER

Ian Carnegie

WEB ADMINISTRATORS

Charmaine Misquitta

Albert Shurgalla

PRODUCTION

Joseph Low

Jeffrey Teo

Carol Teo

Marian Yeo

Martha Lim

Mary Ang

Rose Khoo

Katherine Tan

Elizabeth Lye



Submission Date: 15/08/2007
Binding Date: 30/08/2007

Email your articles to:
spotlight@bsc.org.sg

Please include your name, contact number and address. The editorial team reserves the right to edit any letters or articles for publication.

Special Highlights

~ AUG 2007 ~

FROM DAVID'S DESK

* A word from our chief editor 2

IN RETROSPECT

* Sing Praises to the Living God 2

* Our Father Who Art in Heaven 4

PARISH HAPPENINGS

* Alpha Happenings 6

* Housebound Mass 8

* Census Taking & Parish Mission 12

* Damien Hall Building Fund Updates 13

* New Fr Damien Centre - Handle with Care 14

YOUTH SECTION - VIBES 9

RELAX LEH

* Contest 15

* Let the Games Begin Backpage

使命宣言

我们，圣体堂区共融团体，愿成为基督圣体活的标记，尽力担当主基督祂舍己牺牲生命，为今日世界所付出的爱之标志与媒介。

MISSION STATEMENT

As the parish-community of the Blessed Sacrament, we want to be a living expression of the Holy Eucharist, by trying to become both a sign and an instrument of Christ's life-giving and self-sacrificial love in the world of today.

Rev. Anthony Hutjes (priest-in-charge)
Rev. Suvono Gerardus (assistant priest)
Rev. Remi Liando (assistant priest)





FROM DAVID'S DESK

I was not surprised when I learnt that a particular best-selling book series sold more than 325 million copies and were translated into 65 languages; its final highly anticipated book was recently released (shame on you if you don't know what I'm talking about!).



But after some googling, I discovered a triumphantly astounding fact: The Bible sold about 6 billion copies and was translated into more than 2,400 languages (there're about 6,500 languages in the world).

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Spotlight is to help create a closer communion of parishioners and to support faith formation through inspired articles and drawings via the Spotlight newsletter and the BSC Website.

Now wouldn't that spur you to want to know the Bible far more better than the life of a teenage wizard who doesn't exist reality?

David Moen



IN RETROSPECT

Sing Praises to the Living God

by Patricia Ang

In life, we are praised for doing things well and admonished for doing things wrong. And when we are admonished, we tend to grumble, complain and even curse and swear. Yet, have we ever taken the time to praise our Lord for the many blessings he has given us in our lives? Praise is our response to God for what He has done, is doing and will do. When we praise God from our heart, God delights in our sincere praise.

Praise brings the release of our burdens and it takes the focus off ourselves and our problems and puts it in God's hand which always makes us feel better. Praise is a spiritual weapon. Praising God defeats the devil and the forces of evil. Shouting praises or singing can often break the power of fear and help us to get rid of doubt and disbelief.

For the past half year, a friend lent me a few Don Moen compact discs. It was indeed spiritually fulfilling as I listened to the songs in them. As I sang along with the music, I find that it is another good way for me to give glory to our Lord and spending time with HIM.

When we praise God, we gain more and more strength, our faith increases and the things that are coming to defeat us are dissipated as we praise Him.

"O my Strength, I sing praise to you; you, O God, are my fortress, my loving God." (Psalm 59:17).

At every opportunity, let us find time to praise and worship God. Gradually, praise becomes so natural that it flows out of us without a deliberate decision on our part. We find ourselves singing and thanking God as an automatic response to our awareness of His goodness, mercy and grace.

In Hebrews 13:15, "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise - the fruit of lips that confess his name."

We need to apply the Scripture to our everyday lives, to ensure that we praise God at every opportunity we get. We need to tell people about all the great things He's doing for us; we need to thank Him; we need to tell Him we love Him.

"Lord, I Love you. Thank you so much for everything you are doing in my life. Lord, I praise you for taking care of my family today. Lord, I praise You for working everything out for my good in every situation." S

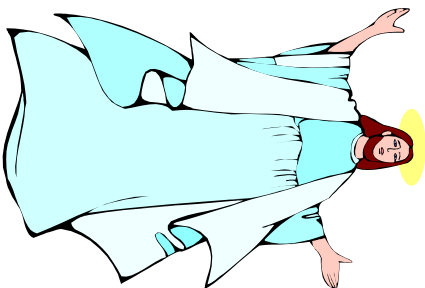


IN RETROSPECT

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN

by Andrew Juniper Lee

We begin the Lord's Prayer by acknowledging God as Our Father. My online search on Abba led me to a September 1999 article Getting to Know God as Father at <http://www.americancatholic.org/Newsletters/YU/ay0999.asp>



The six teenagers who had jointly reviewed the article concluded with the following three things to remember about God Your Father:

1. God the Father in the Old Testament is also the Abba of the New Testament.
2. It's up to you to grow close. God the Father has never moved away. Any distance you experience is because you have backed away.
3. You are on a journey. You will grow closer to God the Father. Begin today to keep that happy ending in mind. God the Father is with you on the journey yet he is also the end of your journey – your final destination.

There're almost 500 matching documents on "Our Father" in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. I'd like to quote only four.

The first phrase of the Our Father is a blessing of adoration. For it is the glory of God that we should recognize him as "Father," the true God. We give him thanks for having revealed his name to us, for the gift of believing in it, and for the indwelling of his Presence in us. (2781)

We can adore the Father because he has caused us to be reborn to his life by adopting us as his children in his only

Son: by Baptism, he incorporates us into the Body of his Christ; through the anointing of his Spirit who flows from the head to the members, he makes us other "Christs." (2782)

When we pray to "our" Father, we personally address the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... When we pray to the Father, we adore and glorify him together with the Son and the Holy Spirit. (2789)

The baptized cannot pray to "our" Father without bringing before him all those for whom he gave his beloved Son. God's love has no bounds, neither should our prayer. Praying "our" Father opens to us the dimensions of his love revealed in Christ: praying with and for all who do not yet know him, so that Christ may "gather into one the children of God." God's care for all men and for the whole of creation has inspired all the great practitioners of prayer; it should extend our prayer to the full breadth of love whenever we dare to say "our" Father. (2793)

Finally, I quote from the Catechism of the Council of Trent: "When we invoke the Father and when each one of us calls Him our Father, we are to understand thereby that from the privilege and gift of divine adoption it necessarily follows that all the faithful are brethren and should love each other as such."

Yes, this Christian love or agapé is the clarion summons of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to you and me, as our Parish Mission draws nearer: "I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you, you also must love one another." (John 13:34) **S**

"Whenever we find that our religious life is making us feel that we are good - above all, that we are better than someone else - I think we may be sure that we are being acted on, not by God, but by the devil."

- C. S. Lewis (1898-1963) Writer



HAPPENINGS

Report on the Alpha Monthly Gathering (July)

by Gabriel Chew

At the moment I am currently attending RCIA classes at BSC. When my sister Janice, invited me to join her for the Alpha Monthly Gathering, I was hesitant. But after some persuasion, I finally agreed to accompany her. I am glad to report that I enjoyed the gathering and learned quite a lot.

The evening began with the Potluck Fellowship Meal. There was a good spread of delicious food contributed by the Alphians. Altogether, there were about sixty people present. I certainly enjoyed the different types of food laid out on the long table.

After the meal, we all watched a video talk given by Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio on the topic: "The Real Presence of Christ at Mass." It lasted about 25 minutes. In his talk, Dr. D'Ambrosio explained clearly that Jesus is really and truly present at Mass in the following ways:

1. In The Congregation
2. In His WORD
3. In the Priest
4. In the Blessed Sacrament

From the 'warm up' before we watched the video, I realized that many of us present had the idea that Jesus was ONLY present in the Blessed Sacrament. I am sure the talk was quite a good 'eye opener' for us.

After the talk, we all got into groups of 7 or 8 people to discuss what we had learned through the talk. From the lively exchanges, I think many of us learned a few 'new things' about Jesus' Real Presence at Mass. I was glad that with the little knowledge I have of the Catholic faith, I was able to join in the discussion.

What I liked most about the evening, was that I could sense the closeness and warm feelings the Alphians had for one another. I will try my best not to miss the next Alpha Monthly Gathering set to be held on Sat 11th Aug 2007.

Finally, I wish to thank God for giving us a nice Hall to have our gatherings.

THE 10TH ALPHA COURSE

The Alpha Course at BSC resumes once again. It begins on Thursday 16th August 2007 and subsequently for 10 Thursdays.

Every session begins with a meal at around 7.15 pm, followed by a Video Talk by Rev. Nicky Gumbel at 8pm and group discussion to round off the evening. It ends promptly at 10 pm.

Do attend this Alpha Course as it gives an opportunity to explore the meaning of life. Friends and relations, especially non-christians are most welcome.

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE.

Alpha Monthly Gathering - August

Date: Sat 11th August 2007

Time: 7.15 pm

Venue: Hall

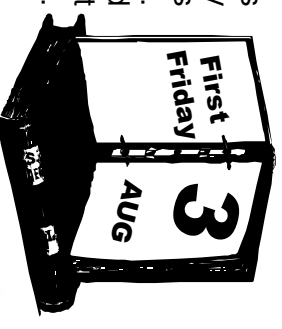
Highlight: Video Talk - The Power of the Eucharist (Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio) "*How to get more out of the Mass*"

POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP MEAL.

Do bring your friends and relations along to get more out of the Mass.

Vigil In Honour Of The Sacred Hearts

Our monthly vigil in honour of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary will be held on the first Friday of the next month, on **3rd August 2007**. It starts at 9pm on Friday and ends at 6am the next day. Mass will be held in church at **10:30pm** followed by the vigil. You are most welcome to attend part of it, even if you cannot join the whole vigil. Hope to see you there!





ANNOUNCEMENTS

BSC CELEBRATES NATIONAL DAY WITH OUR DEAR HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS

DATE: Thursday 9th August 2007

TIME: 11am to 1pm

PROGRAM: Mass followed by Lunch and Fellowship

If you know of someone who would like to attend, please register at the church office or call 64740582 or email spotlight@bsc.org.sg for more details. The last day for registration is Wed 1st August. Car owners who would like to provide transport, kindly leave your name and contact number with the church office. To date, response from car owners is not too encouraging... Please volunteer by Wed 1st August - thank you in advance! God bless you all.

Catholic Census 2007

The first census of Catholics for the archdiocese of Singapore will be conducted during the sunset Mass and all Masses on 25 and 26 August 2007 respectively. There will be a follow-up (for those who miss the census) on the following weekend (1 & 2 September).

Why is the census needed?

- To find out the demographic and social makeup of Catholics in Singapore
- To identify what Catholics want from their parish and the archdiocese
- To improve parish life by finding out what spiritual and pastoral services Catholics want

- To get accurate information on the Catholic community in Singapore

Who should take part in the census?

All Catholics aged 12 and above. A person may not fill in a census form on behalf of another person not attending Mass on the census day.

Who is conducting the census?

The Catholic Research Centre of Singapore (CRCS), commissioned by the Archdiocese of Singapore.

How do Catholics benefit from the census?

From the census, each parish will receive data which indicates the makeup and concerns of parishioners as a whole. This information can be used to improve the spiritual and pastoral programmes of the parish.

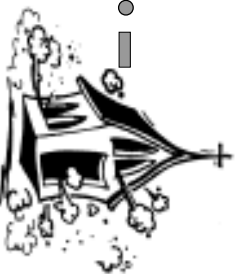
How do I participate?

The census is anonymous. Just fill in a census form (English & Chinese) during the homily period at Mass. Pencils will be provided and can be kept as a souvenir. If a someone is unable to read or write, you may help to fill in the form on their behalf.

How can I find out more?

The CRCS Administrator is Ms Grace Tien (6488 0478). Our parish representatives are Anthony Thng and Marcus Cho (from PPC and PPCExco respectively).

Youth Section Vibes (see hardcopy)



PARISH HAPPENINGS

**New Fr. Damien Centre -
Handle with care!**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As you would have observed, the Fr. Damien Centre has begun operation partially from 1st July 2007.

The hall, canteen and 4th storey rooms are open for use. Some of you already have used the rooms for your meetings or classes or celebration in the hall and running of Sunday canteen. Very soon all the rooms will be available for use when the kindergarten moves back to their newly renovated building.

We are very blessed to have a nice 5 storey building (including attic and basement for storage) to cater for all our activities. While all of us are happy and excited about this new building, we are also saddened by some irresponsible individuals who have littered the rooms, hall and canteen. One of the meeting rooms was littered with french fries and sachets of chilli sauce. Stained marks of drinks were seen on the floor, there were even scratch marks on the doors. Chairs and tables were in disarray at the canteen after their use.

We would like to highlight to you that it is everyone's duty to take good care of the new Fr Damien Centre to complement our church which is now a heritage property. We are proud to belong to this parish but the building would only glow with brightness and beauty with caring and loving people inside. We thank God for the gift of Fr Damien Centre.

Damien Hall Building Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Official Opening of the new Fr Damien Centre is on 22nd September 2007 with Sunset Mass, followed by procession to the Fr Damien Centre and the blessing of the building. In celebration of this special day, there will also be a parish dinner held at the new hall on that evening. Tickets for the parish dinner will be on sale from mid-August'07.



**Relax
Lehi!**

Congratulations to Ivan Ang, Jas Aira San Diego, Aires Julien San Diego! You are our winners for last month's Relax Spotlight contest! To win exciting prizes, unscramble the words below and complete the verse, and send in your entries by 12 Aug 07.
(For children 12 years & below; not for Spotlight members & family members)

(see hardcopy)

Name: _____ Age _____

Address: _____