



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
Marian Yeo
Martha Lim
Mary Ang
Rose Khoo
Katherine Tan
Elizabeth Lye
Stella Ko

Submission Date:15/06/2008

Binding Date:26/06/2008



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

~ JUN 2008 ~

FROM DAVID'S DESK

* A word from our chief editor 2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* Concluding Report of Damien Centre Fund 3

* General announcements and Vigil 6

INSPIRATION

* Choices in Life 4

PARISH HAPPENINGS

* Faith Music Centre 7

* Parish BBQ Night 8

YOUTH SECTION - VIBE 10

IN RETROSPECT

* The Catholic Mass is biblical 12

POETIC MOMENTS (WISDOM) 14

RELAX LEH (CONTEST) 15

CHINESE SECTION 16

TWIN HEARTS READING ROOM (LIBRARY)

- Saturday 4-5.30pm & from 7-8pm

- Sunday from 8.30am-1.00pm & from 6.30-7.30pm

- Weekdays (Mon-Fri) from 9-11am

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，尽力担当主基督衲舍己牺牲生命，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. Suyono Gerardus (assistant priest)

Rev. Remi Liando (assistant priest)





FROM DAVID'S DESK

My family and I participated in Singapore's first national "Family Day Out" on 24 May because I won 7 tickets to the DUCKtour, an amphibious touring adventure around the Marina Bay area. I was elated because the tickets were worth more than S\$200 and it was a fun family outing!



Upon deeper contemplation, I became a little concerned:

1. The fact that the government intervened showed that there is a pretty serious problem.
2. If we had to be told or incentivised to spend more time with our family, it's time we re-examine our life priorities...
3. The "Family Day Out" event certainly wouldn't solve the abovementioned issues because it focused only on getting the family together physically but not emotionally.

How should we Christians respond to such a family crisis in our society? Here's my take: since it's a multifaceted problem, it would thus require a multifaceted approach:

1. **Physical:** Be a shining light of family bliss by spending quality time with our families.
2. **Emotional:** Share your closeness with your family with your friends or through online forums and blogs (check out my blog on family matters: <http://becosfamilymatters.blogspot.com>).

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.

3. **Spiritual:** Pray that families would realise and appreciate the priceless gift of the Family.

David Woon

Concluding Report of Fr Damien Centre Building Fund

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dear Friends & Parishioners,

The Fund Raising Committee was formed in Aug 2005 with the sole objective of raising funds to finance the rebuilding of the old Damien Hall. The Committee was formally dissolved in Apr 2008 as there was no further need for any fund-raising campaigns.

By the grace of God, the church is in a financially sound position and is able to absorb the difference between the construction cost (being finalised) of the Damien Centre and the accumulated donations, which now stands at \$3,046,492.87 (inclusive of fund-raising activities)

Below is the final statement of income receipts for the month of April 2008:

Donations

- Parishioners & Benefactors: \$543,572.38
- Giro Scheme: \$5,626.00
- Santa Maria Choir: \$1,000.00
- El Shaddai: \$300.00
- Chinese Bible Sharing Grp: \$200.00

Fund Raising Activities

- 2nd collection at masses: \$6,756.55
 - Sale of '2008' Calendars: \$370.50
 - Sale of Divine Mercy Candles: \$81.00
 - Jumble sale: \$532.75
 - Proceeds from Sunday Canteen: \$1,878.30
- (Breakfast served by Peranakan C'ttee, El Shaddai, Welcomers, CNG & LoM (Philipinos))

Total for April 2008: \$560,317.48

Thank you for all your support!



Choices in Life

by Patricia Ang

Our lives are not made up by the dreams that we dream but by the choices that we make. Often we will have plenty of choices in life and usually we have a choice between “Do we do things our way or God’s way?”

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed.” (Proverbs 16:3) In his heart, a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps. In 1 Corinthians 6:20, Paul reminds us that we have been “bought at a high price”. God cleansed us from our sins by buying us with the high price of His own life. Let us live to bring glory to God.

Why do we work? Do we work for a living or do we feel passionate about our work, where we can use our gifts and talents to make a difference in what we do? Is there a feeling of joy, service and fulfilment at work?

For the past few weeks, I was feeling the stress at work. There were too many things to look into and there were deadlines to be met: sourcing pictures for collateral materials and website, overseeing interviews for the corporate video, arranging for dates for road shows, and fund-raising for community service project. There was hardly a moment to catch a breather or time to talk to colleagues or friends.

Yet by God’s grace, I managed to survive and perform the tasks diligently and professionally; it is by praying, listening to praise and worship songs and constantly asking Lord to bless me with strength, wisdom and good health.

“My soul finds rest in God alone. My salvation comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation He is my fortress. I will never be shaken.” (Psalm 62:1-2)

The people that we allow into our inner circles are choices that will affect us. People whom we encounter occasionally don’t affect us that much, but those we spend a lot of time with do. We should make sure we surround ourselves constantly with people who are positive and full of faith.

On weekends, after a hectic week of work, I make a choice to relax and spend time with my family and close friends. I make a point to bring my mother out for a meal weekly. Recently, I also visited the Peranakan Museum, Labrador Nature Reserve and Qianhu Fish Farm which had been a refreshing change for me.

It is also joyful catching up with close friends over coffee and meals. Over the years I realised that it takes 2 people to maintain a good friendship. I am very thankful for my friends from my secondary school days with whom I am still in contact. Over the years, I have met fair-weathered friends and those who take one for granted and which I eventually chose not to keep in contact with them.

The decision to be a Spotlight writer has been one that has truly fulfilling. In order to write the articles, I started reading the Bible, Daily Bread, keeping a book of biblical quotations, attending courses like Alpha and Cafe to know more about the faith and reading books by Billy Graham, Joyce Meyer and John Maxwell. It is a commitment to spend time with God and also to constantly improve my writing.

Have you set your mind to pursue the purpose of God passionately or are you pursuing your own plan and expecting God to bless it? Anytime you are doing your best to serve God, you are never wasting your time. God is faithful and He will always bring a reward to those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6). **S**

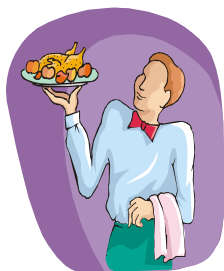


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements

Canteen by His Vineyard

His Vineyard, a young adult group from our parish, will be selling delicious food accompanied by music at the canteen on 1 June. All proceeds for this canteen will be used for their first Weekend Retreat in August.



A Life Worth Living

This is a 9-part course by Nicky Gumble who explores the new life in Christ as presented by St Paul in Philippians. The course is especially meant for those who have done the Alpha course and for those who are beginning to read the Bible. It is an excellent introduction to the benefits of biblical study and it is particularly helpful in the teaching on attitudes, ambition and generosity. For those who are interested to register or know more about the course, please contact Anne at 92395562 or email her at sentdoux@singnet.com.sg

Date : 26 June 2008 (for 9 Thursdays)

Time : 7.00 – 9.30pm

Venue : Blessed Sacrament Church – Damien Hall

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 **6th June 2008**. 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!

**First
Friday**

6

JUN

**(Faith Music Centre-
see hardcopy)**



HAPPENINGS

PARISH BBQ NIGHT - SAT 10TH MAY 2008

by Richard Lowe

Our parish has not had a BBQ Night for quite a long while. And so, the Post Alpha Group took the initiative to organize one on Sat 10th May 2008. Coincidentally, it happened to be the Feast Day of Blessed Father Damien and the eve of Mothers' Day.

The evening began with Rev. Fr. Anthony welcoming everyone. He was glad to see such a large number of parishioners (about 100). After that we had an Ice Breaker followed by a short session on learning a simple folk dance. Then it was time to try the spread of food ordered and also those barbecued by our kind helpers. Well, the food was given the thumbs up. The only complaint was that there wasn't enough satay!

To commemorate the Feast Day of Blessed Father Damien, we had a short 10-minute presentation on his life on PowerPoint. After the presentation, we had a simple quiz. Token prizes were awarded to those who gave correct answers. Those present certainly showed interest in Blessed Father Damien's life.

In order not to forget all mothers present, we had a special segment on "Model Mothers". We managed to coax about 20 mothers to come up on stage. They were then given a lovely hat and a shawl to sashay and parade on stage as if they were Super Models. It was great fun and all of them were very sporting. Unfortunately, we could only award prizes to the top 3 super model mums!

Another item was sing-along the karaoke way. Almost everyone joined in the singing, especially when we dedicated a good 10 minutes to nursery rhymes. It was so good to be young again, even if only for a brief moment!

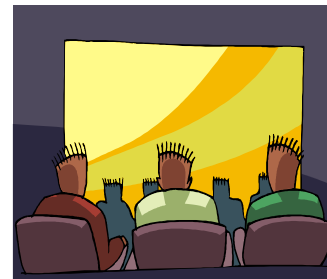


The Post Alpha Group would like to thank those who turned up to support this event. We do hope that all of you enjoyed yourselves. Let's not forget to thank the Good Lord for giving us this time together in fellowship, good fun and good food. **S**

POST ALPHA GROUPS MONTHLY GATHERING

We will not meet for any spiritual input for this month.

But we will be coming together to sell snacks and drinks for the movie night which has been postponed to:



Sunday: 15th JUNE 2008
Time: 7.15 pm
Place: Damien Hall
Movie: St. Theresa
(FREE ADMISSION)

Please bring your friends and relations to watch how an ordinary girl became an extra-ordinary soul!

**Youth Section
Vibes (see hardcopy)**

**Youth Section
Vibes (see hardcopy)**



The Catholic Mass is Biblical

by Thomas Ng



When I was still young, I had not done any research on the Bible and the biblical interpretations of the texts that support our Catholic Faith. I really did so when I encountered a Christian fundamentalist who commented that the Catholic Mass is not biblical at all; it focuses only on the priest and the bread wafers, and not on God's Word (the Bible). How I wish I could meet the same fundamentalist now and tell him the following:

The entire Catholic Mass from the beginning to the end is completely based on and founded in the Bible. Every prayer and response we say during the Mass is based on the Word of God. The Church, led by the Holy Spirit, formed the liturgy of the Mass. Of course, some of the phrases have to be refined well to suit the prayers or readings.

For example, in Revelation 19:9: "Blessed are they who are called to the marriage supper of the lamb." It is thus very appropriate for the priest to recite: "This is the lamb of God; happy are we (those) who are called to His table."

Again, in Matthew 8:8: "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed." After the priest says: "This is the lamb of God...", it is very inspiring when we humbly respond: "Lord, I am not worthy to receive you; but only say the word, and I shall be healed."

Here are more examples where biblical verses are used in the Mass:

- In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)
- Amen. (1 Chronicles 16:36)

- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. (2 Corinthians 13:13)
- The Lord be with you. (Ruth 2:4)
- Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth. (Luke 2:14)
- Blessed be God forever. (Psalm 89:52)
- May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands. (Psalm 50:23)
- Lift up your hearts; we lift them up to the Lord. (Lamentations 3:41)
- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (Colossians 3:17)
- Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. (Mark 11:9)
- Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. (1 Corinthians 15:3-5; Revelation 22:12)
- Lord, you are holy indeed, the fountain of all holiness. (2 Maccabees 14:36)
- Through Him, with Him, in Him. (Romans 11:36)

The Mass, celebrated in countless languages around the world, numerous times a day, with the same readings, is indeed biblical and universal! **S**

"The Blessed Sacrament is indeed the stimulus for us all, for me as it should be for you, to forsake all worldly ambitions. Without the constant presence of our Divine Master upon the altar in my poor chapels, I never could have persevered casting my lot with the lepers of Molokai."

Blessed Damien of Molokai (1840-1889)



**POETIC
MOMENTS**

Wisdom

Earthly wisdom is about the perishable
 Wealth that diminishes
 Self-centredness that is myopic
 Popularity that is whimsical
 Fame that is short-lived
 Pleasure pursuits that can morally corrupt
 but

The sound wisdom of GOD is about eternal truths
 Love that grows with nurturing and forgiving,
 True friendship that's loyal and lasting;
 Kindness that gives life hope and meaning
 Moral Integrity that supports upright living;

Reverence for God's awesome power and authority,
 Faith in God's plan for salvation through Christ;
 Obedience to God's will and commandments, above all
 Wisdom that sees things from God's perspective

Let the WISDOM of God be our guiding star
 To steer us in our life's journey;
 To look beyond the transient, to follow
 The guidance of The Holy Spirit that enables us
 One day to see the face of God and live.

~ Shirley Lau ~



Congratulations to **Clarence Tan, Justin Tan & Tammy Tan!** You are our winners for last month's Spotlight contest!

To win exciting prizes, tell us which pipe to turn off to stop the stream of water. Send in your entries by 8th June 2008. (For children 12 years & below; not for Spotlight members & family members)

[See Hardcopy]

Name: _____ Age _____

Address: _____