



# SPOTLIGHT TEAM

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

# Special Highlights

~ MAY 2008 ~

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### 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

With the unprecedented sharp increase of food prices, I am sure you'll now think twice before wasting that grain of rice or crumb of bread notwithstanding the upcoming growth dividends and GST credits (not much but better than nothing:-)

As such, may I propose one practical way of saving tons of money: visit our library (**Twin Hearts Reading Room** - see page 1 for opening hours) - you save on buying expensive books and DVDs while finding timeless treasures of wisdom for FREE!

And you can even make some money by writing book reviews of the good books you've read! Submit them to Spotlight via [spotlight@bsc.org.sg](mailto:spotlight@bsc.org.sg) and if your book review (250-300 words) is published in Spotlight, you'll get a \$40 Popular bookstore voucher (generously sponsored by Patricia Ang)!

I shall start the ball rolling with a book review on the next page (of course, no voucher for me - Spotlight members and their family may submit book reviews but are not eligible for the vouchers).

### 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.*

*David Woon*



## FROM THE SHELF



### Book Review - "Christian Philosophy by Joseph M. de Torre"

by David Woon

I want to start by thanking you for reading past the title - most people would simply think "Chim (deep) stuff" and flip the page instantly. Your patience and openness would be duly rewarded... guaranteed else I'll refund your time and effort with prayers:)

Imagine sitting in a comfortable adjustable seat with a comprehensive entertainment console in front of you, and unlimited amount of good food and drinks. Would you choose to just pick up a boring book to read? The answer is obvious... I read "Christian Philosophy" for the most part of my recent 12-hour business class flight.

To be frank, I can't fully understand the content but somehow, I was captivated - just like a child who first discovers the wonders of television!

Through several brief and easy-to-read chapters, Fr. Joseph M. de Torre skillfully guides the reader through the complex World of Philosophy and Theology, and enkindles in the reader a fiery sense of curiosity and pulsating desire to read the next page, the next chapter and the reader can only be satisfied at the end of the journey (like any good thriller)! Be forewarned then!

My favourite is Chapter 22 when Fr. Torre shares the 5 ways of proving the existence of God, which would leave any atheist/agnostic speechless! These 5 ways were introduced by the legendary St. Thomas Aquinas but they were in a form that can only be comprehended by people with "permanent head damage" (Ph.D.)! Fr. Torre is able to explain them in a simple yet clear way that anyone who understands English would appreciate the thoroughness and indisputability of the arguments.

So what are you waiting for? Grab those few remaining copies at our bookshop and library now!

*(stand to win a \$40 Popular bookshop voucher when your book review is accepted for publication in Spotlight - send your review (250-300 words) to [spotlight@bsc.org.sg](mailto:spotlight@bsc.org.sg))*



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Dear Parishioners of Blessed Sacrament Church,**

During the last meeting held in March 2008, attended by Fr. Anthony, Fr Suyono and members of the Finance Committee, it was unanimously agreed that the BSC - Building Fund is now **closed for donations.**

In the last few months, we have received several generous donations, amounting to \$1,000,000/-. Therefore, it was concurred that the monies in the church account will be used to settle the outstanding debts owed to the main contractor and the various creditors involved in the building of our Church.

Parishioners donating through a Giro payment are strongly advised to inform their respective banks to halt payments to the BSC - Building Fund immediately.

The final accounts will be submitted by the Treasurer of BSC - Building Fund to the Finance Committee tentatively in May. Thereafter, the Finance Committee will ensure that this account will be audited by a nominated public accountant company and the report will be published in the Spotlight by July 2008.

We would like to thank all our parishioners and well wishers from other Churches who have so kindly and generously contributed in time and money to the successful construction of the new Damien Hall. We especially thank the various church organisations who have worked whole-heartedly to raise funds for the church by organizing the many fundraising events.

**Fr. Anthony**

## **PARISH HAPPENINGS**



Damien Building Financial Statement  
(to be pasted)



## INSPIRATION

### Step By Step

by Patricia Ang



What do babies, relationships, work and faith in the Lord have in common? We see the growth in the little ones, we see the love in relationships, we see the fruit of our labour and we see our spiritual growth in a step-by-step manner. It is a process that requires small little steps, which requires hard work, love and prayers.

I am always fascinated with babies, the way they smile at you with such innocence. Watch how a baby learns to walk and talk, it is a procedure which requires perseverance and patience, but the child learns it step by step; a child must learn how to walk before he can run.

Building a relationship is a step-by-step process too and requires lots of love, trust, sincerity and commitment. It takes time to know, understand and trust people whom we love. In any relationship, it is important to communicate and express our feelings. After graduation, most of us would spend most of our time at work. However, we should try to strike a balance between work and family; when it's time to work, work hard but after work, we should devote our time to family.

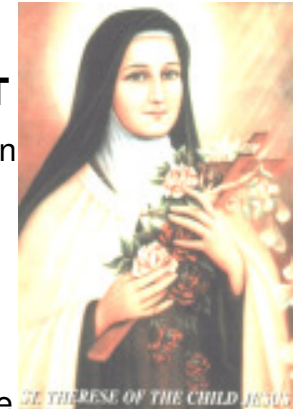
The same step-by-step concept applies to our relationship with God. Previously, I started off as a Catholic who only goes church every Sunday. It was the Alpha course that renewed my faith in the Lord and gave me the opportunity to know more brothers and sisters in Christ. I have come to know the Lord in a closer way through little steps; reading the Word of God daily is one way of knowing him; fellowship too is important as it enhances one's spiritual growth - this can be in the form of prayers or exchange of scripture sharings and spiritual articles. **S**



## HAPPENINGS

### PARISH MOVIE NIGHT

Come, watch how an ordinary girl became an extraordinary soul! - **ST. THERESA** -  
Date : Sat 31st May 2008  
Time : 7.15pm  
Place : Damien Hall



Bring your friends & relations to watch this inspiring movie. The Post Alpha Groups will be selling snacks and drinks. **FREE ADMISSION!**

### BBQ Night by BSC Alpha Open to all Parishioners...

Bring your friends & colleagues along!



Saturday, 10th May 2008 at 7pm  
at Damien Hall of BSC

Programme :  
Games & Sing along

Tickets: \$10 adults & \$6 children (below 12 years)  
Tickets are available at the church office & Alpha Leaders  
First-come-first served.

### *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 **2nd May 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!





## **PARISH HAPPENINGS**

### **BSC Parish Pastoral Meeting - 13 Apr 2008**

A total of 30 people attended, comprising members of the PPC (Parish Pastoral Council), PPC exco (Executive Committee), and Fr Anthony, Fr Suyono and Fr Remi. The parish assembly organizing committee had met after the assembly to shortlist suggestions arising from the group discussions. The criteria used was how actionable the suggestion is, and whether there is sufficient detail in the proposal for further discussion.

Attendees ranked the suggestions according to individual preference, then got together in five groups to discuss the merits of each. Finally, the people in each group picked the top two suggestions for each of the pillars of our parish vision:

#### **Faith formation:**

1. Deepening parishioners' understanding of the liturgical calendar and Mass.
2. Promote better understanding of feast days and the mass themes.

#### **Deepening prayer life (tie):**

- Parish wide Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Organize activities around Corpus Christi centred around faith formation, deepening prayer life, social service and evangelization
- Parish recollection day

#### **Social Service:**

1. Organize activities around Corpus Christi centred around faith formation, deepening prayer life, social service and evangelization.
2. Free public services

#### **Evangelization:**

1. Updating of church banners to inform the public of church events and Mass themes
2. Catechism class – encourage greater involvement of the parents.

The PPC exco will investigate how the above can be realized in the parish. **S**

## **Youth Section Vibes (see hardcopy)**

**Youth Section  
Vibes (see hardcopy)**

**Youth Section  
Vibes (see hardcopy)**



## The Power of the Holy Spirit by Thomas Ng

(main reference: Catechism of the Catholic Church - Compendium)

Some Christians have the inaccurate idea that they would be filled with the Holy Spirit simply by proclaiming the name of Jesus. The Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Holy Trinity, is distinct from the Son (though inseparable), particularly in sanctification.

The symbols of the Holy Spirit are: living water which springs from the wounded Heart of Christ; anointing oil which is the sacrament sign of confirmation; fire which transforms what it touches; the cloud (dark or luminous) in which the divine glory is revealed; the imposition of hands by which the Holy Spirit is given; the dove which descended on Christ at his baptism.

Many of us do not know the power of the Holy Spirit because we seldom implore the Spirit to come upon us directly. Jesus Himself taught us to pray: "Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you... How much more, then, will the Father in Heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:9-13). He also promised that the Father will send the Holy Spirit to his disciples (John 14:16). On Pentecost day, the Apostles were filled with the power of the Holy Spirit who enabled them to preach in different languages (Acts 2:1-4).

It was by the power of the Holy Spirit that the Blessed Virgin Mary conceived Jesus. After Jesus' baptism, He saw the Holy Spirit coming down on Him like a dove (Mark 1:10). In Luke 4:14-17, we learn that Jesus preached with the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Himself called the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, or the Spirit of Truth. Some biblical versions translate Him as the Advocate, Counselor, or Helper.

In both Old and new Testaments, we can see the power of the Holy Spirit at work. There are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. All the saints, religious, scholars and laymen are granted by the Holy Spirit with one or more of these gifts. **S**



## Holy Spirit

HOLY Spirit of God lay hands on me, and like Living Water  
Pour out continually your loving grace and power;  
Suffused with your radiant Glory, earthly things dim.  
My mind becomes illumined with light,  
In faith, I sense your Living Presence;  
My heart bursts forth with ecstatic delight,  
Singing songs of praise and love for my Lord.  
A sweet calmness prevails; I rejoice in your nearness  
And in your dearness;  
All weariness flee as I take a little rest  
In the loving arms of my God, I'm blessed.

Holy Spirit, ignite your fire in my soul  
Cleanse, pardon, make me whole;  
Through baptism, fortify and empower  
Your fruits to bear and to others, minister;  
In knowledge, the truth of salvation to impart  
That only through Christ's compassionate heart  
And His Resurrection power,  
That daily, there can be renewal  
And enduring hope of life eternal.

~ Shirley Lau ~





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CORPUS CHRISTI CELEBRATION MASS & PROCESSION

This year's Corpus Christi Celebration Mass & Procession will be held on Sunday, 25 May 2008 commencing 5pm (please note change in Mass timing). The main celebrant is Fr Albert Renckens SS.CC. The PPC Exco will be sending out formal letters of invitation to organisations for participation shortly. Please keep this date available and join the parish in this celebration.

### THE SACRED HEARTS FATHERS - 50 YEARS IN SINGAPORE

We like to thank God for our Golden Jubilee with a solemn celebration of the Eucharist at BSC on the Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Friday 30 May, at 6pm. All are welcome to join us in this celebration. A special collection will be held for the formation of young SS.CC.-ers in our seminaries at Yogyakarta.

Dinner will be held at Harbor City Restaurant, PSA Building, Alexandra Rd at 8pm. For tickets contact Josephine Lee at 91391189.

Msgr Brendan Comiskey SS.CC. retired bishop of Ferns in Ireland, has been invited to lead a Special Triduum at BSC with the celebration of Eucharist at 8pm:

- Tuesday, 27 May 2008 (Sacred Heart of Jesus)
- Wednesday, 28 May 2008 (Holy Eucharist)
- Thursday, 29 May 2008 (Heart of Mary)

**Ms Valerie Chua** (Choa Chu Kang Ave 4), winner of Spotlight's March contest, is kindly requested to email her full address to [spotlight@bsc.org.sg](mailto:spotlight@bsc.org.sg) so that the notification letter can be mailed to her.

**Baby-sitting & tuition** (all subjects except Chinese) services available in Stirling Road area. Interested, please call 6471 2940.

*"Everybody today seems to be in such a terrible rush, anxious for greater developments and greater riches and so on, so that children have very little time for their parents. Parents have very little time for each other, and in the home begins the disruption of peace of the world."*

**Blessed Mother Teresa (1910-1997)**



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

To win exciting prizes, finish the second picture of Samson carrying the huge door (**Judges 16:2-3**). Send in your entries by 11th May 2008.

*(For children 12 years & below; not for Spotlight members & family members)*

**[See Hardcopy]**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_