



St Joseph's Church

(Bukit Timah)

Weekly Parish Bulletin • 02 Feb 2025 • 4th Sun Ordinary Time (Year C)

620 Upper Bukit Timah Road
Singapore 678116

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
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SECRETARIAT

Maggie Chia Tel: 6769 1666
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ADMINISTRATION

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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

CONFESIONS

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

**COLUMBIARIUM / 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



Gate Opening Hours:
8.00am to 9.00pm

stjoseph-bt.org.sg/

facebook.com/sjcbt/

From the Desk of the Parish Priest

Feast of The Presentation of the Lord



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Mary and Joseph, obedient to Jewish law, participated in two rituals after Jesus' birth: Mary's purification and Jesus' dedication in the Temple. This event, the Presentation of the Lord, is celebrated 40 days after Christmas, demonstrating their faithful adherence to tradition

The Presentation of the Lord commemorates the Temple encounter between Simeon, Anna, and the infant Jesus. Simeon proclaimed Jesus as the world's Savior,

foretelling the sorrow that would affect Mary. Anna shared her testimony, giving thanks and speaking about the child to those awaiting redemption.

Saint Joseph's presentation of Jesus in the Temple inspires us to become temples of the Lord ourselves. Reflect on your soul's need for purification and surrender to God. As Christ dwells within you, pray that His presence shines through, allowing others to encounter Him through you.

The Feast of the Presentation is also called "Candlemass" due to the tradition of lit candles, symbolizing Jesus as light to the world. It's also known as the "Feast of the Holy Encounter," marking the sacred meeting between Jesus, Simeon, and Anna in the Temple

Blessing of Candles

Blessing of candles will take place at the 11.30 am and 5.30 pm Masses.

The blessed candles can be collected after these two Masses. If you are unable to attend the Mass, then you can collect them from the Parish Office the following week.



Catholic News is available this weekend.

Inside: first ordination at Novena Church in 27 years, the resting place of our previous archbishops, and how to suggest names for the new Tengah church. Pick up your copy today at the entrances of the Church.



People enriching our parish history

Various people have enriched our parish history – missionaries, naturalist, benefactors, royalty, religious congregations, teachers, seminarians and politicians.

As early as 1846, Mgr Dominique Lefebvre, the Vicar Apostolate of Cochin China, passed through Singapore and donated some money towards the building of the Kranji chapel. In 1848, Mgr Emmanuel Verrolles, Vicar Apostolate of Manchuria, visited the chapel and wrote about the poor but admirable catechumens and the sick but zealous Fr Anatole Mauduit, our parish founder. On 8 May 1853, Mgr Jean Baptiste Boucho, Vicar Apostolate of Malaya, blessed the new church in Bukit Timah.

Famous naturalist Russel Wallace, who stayed with Fr Anatole Mauduit for several weeks in the 1850s, gave us a good account of the Chinese Catholics and their interactions with Fr Mauduit. The poor Chinese, who cultivated and sold vegetables, respected Fr Mauduit for leaving the comforts of home to spread the faith in a harsh and dangerous country. They trusted Fr Mauduit as a ‘true friend’ because he shared with them the little rice and money that he had. He also taught children catechism in his small school, discussed religion with his flock in the evenings, counselled those in distress and visited the sick.

In the 1860s, parish priest Fr Augustin Perie hosted three visits of important visitors, hence affirming the evangelical significance of the Bukit Timah church. The first visit in 1862 was a delegation of two bishops (from Pekin and Gadara), two provicars (from Cambodia and Singapore), eight missionaries, several Sisters of Charity, Fr Jean-Marie Beurel (head of Missions Étrangères de Paris in Singapore) and the British Constable of Bukit Timah. The second visit in 1863 was a gathering of important people from Town and Bukit Timah to a dinner on St Joseph’s Feast Day to raise funds for a new presbytery. Fr Perie raised \$3000 to build his priest house with rooms for sleeping, dining, resting, catechism, the catechist and a school master. The third visit, in December 1869, was by Prince Alfred (Duke of Edinburgh and second son of Queen Victoria) and his contingent comprising the Governor and the colony’s top officials. Fr Perie wrote: *“I welcomed him and gave him the assurance that the Queen, his mother, had no more loyal*

subjects than the Christians of Bukit Timah.”

The presbytery that Fr Perie had built in the 1860s became an interim home for new arrivals of the St Gabriel Brothers and the Franciscan Fathers through the generosity of Fr Joachim Teng (parish priest from 1949-1972). Fr Teng also made it a ‘Young Teachers Home’ for trainee teachers from Malaya who taught in seven schools in Singapore, including Boys’ Town English School. The trainees (some became school principals and one was Member of Parliament Lawrence Sia) were part of the parish community – exchanging ideas, shouldering hardships and sharing happiness. Fr Augustine Tay, parish priest between 1986-2002, also had invited overseas Chinese seminarians studying at the Punggol Seminary in the 1990s (including our Mgr Peter Zhang) to stay at the parish house during study breaks and join him for the Chinese New Year reunion dinner.

Politicians had also enriched our parish community. In 1957, Minister of Education Mr Chew Swee Kee officially opened the primary school convent. In 1964, Fr Teng worked alongside Singapore’s Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew and his Political Secretary Mr Lee Khoon Choy in the Bukit Panjang Goodwill Committee Fund Raising Event. In 1968, Minister for Social Affairs Enche Othman Wok opened the Girls’ Town of the Sisters of the Holy Infant Jesus in Chestnut Drive with Archbishop Michel Olcomendy. In 1996, Minister Without Portfolio Mr Lim Boon Heng graced the 150th Anniversary Exhibition of our parish with Archbishop Gregory Yong. On 8 September 2022, Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, with his wife Mdm Ho Ching, attended the Archdiocesan Celebration of the Cardinalate Appointment of His Eminence Cardinal William Goh, who celebrated the Thanksgiving Solemn Mass at our church.

We also salute many other people who have enriched our parish history in various ways.

By Peter Ling



Left: Fr Joachim Teng (right) in 1964 with Mr Lee Kuan Yew (left). Right: Cardinal William Goh in 2022 with Mr Lee Hsien Loong and Mdm Ho Ching.



First Wed Mass in Honor of St Joseph (Wed 05 Feb)



MASS IN HONOUR OF
ST JOSEPH

**FIRST WEDNESDAY
MAIN CHURCH**

WEDNESDAY 5 FEB 2025
7.30 PM ST JOSEPH ROSARY
8.00 PM MASS

 **JUBILEE 2025**
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Scripture Series : The Book of Judith (Commencing Thu 6 Feb)

Scripture Series : Part VIII – Book of Judith
By Fr Ambrose Vaz



*Ignorance of Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.
(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 133)*

Time : 9 am to 10.45 am
Venue : St Joseph AVA Room
St Joseph's Church (BT)
Dates : 06 / 13 / 20 / 27 Feb
06 / 13 / 20 Mar
(7 sessions)

No registration required. All are welcome.
Do bring along your bibles.

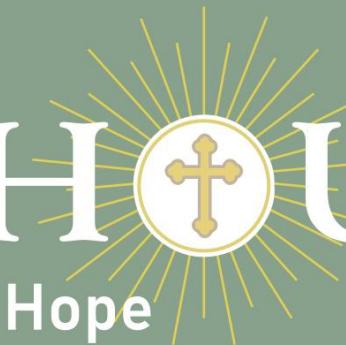


Come join Fr Ambrose Vaz as he journeys through the Book of Judith.
All are welcome. You can attend any of the sessions. Just bring along your bibles.

First Friday Mass and Holy Hour (Fri 7 Feb @ 7.15 pm)

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

Praying as Pilgrims of Hope



Mass: 7.15 pm followed by Holy Hour

Friday 07 Feb 2025

Theme : Holy Family

Speaker : Sr Elizabeth Sim



Children's Mass (Sat 8 Feb @ 5.30 pm)

CHILDREN'S MASS



**SAT 8 FEB
5:30PM
MAIN CHURCH**

*THERE WILL BE ROSARY AT
4:50PM LED BY THE CHILDREN
FROM THE LEGION OF MARY
JUNIOR PRAESIDIUM.

Children aged 6 – 11 who are interested in joining the Little Praisers choir, can contact Simon @ 9139 6399.

Commencement of Secondary Catechism (Sun 09 Feb @ 9.30 am)

Commencement for Secondary Catechesis	Sunday 09 Feb 2025
Time	9.30 am
First Day Assembly	Parish Community Hall

Mass for the Sick (Sun 09 Feb @ 5.30 pm)

Mass for the Sick Sun 09 Feb @ 5.30 pm Mass



The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be administered to those who are **suffering from grave illnesses or greatly weakened by old age.**

Bible4Beginners (Tue 11 & 18 Feb @ 8 pm via Zoom)

You have unread messages from God.

73,000



Explore the most important book in history.

**Bible4
BEGINNERS**

FAITH & BIBLE
REFLECTIONS



Bible4Beginners

- Speaker: James Nichols, Director, Archdiocesan Biblical Apostolate Singapore
- Tuesdays Feb 11 & 18
- 8.00pm - 9.45pm
- Online via Zoom

Learn about the Bible, its origins, authenticity, structure, and how it can play a major part in your faith journey, bringing you closer to God.

Please register at: <https://tinyurl.com/BibleBasics2025>

Infant Baptism (Closing Date : 15 Feb)

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:
6 APRIL 2025	2 ND MARCH 2025	30 MARCH 2025	15 FEBRUARY 2025

Holy Hour for Vocations (Thu 20 Feb @ 8 pm)

**Holy Hour for Vocations
Thu 20 Feb 2025
Time : 8 pm
Venue : Chapel of St Joseph**

The seminarians from St Francis Xavier Major Seminary will be leading the Holy Hour every third Thursday of the month to pray for Vocations.

Please come and join them to pray for vocations to the priesthood!



Prayer thru Music (Fri 21 Feb @ 8 pm)



Prayer thru Music ©

(brought to you by SAHOP)



JUBILEE 2025

Pilgrims of Hope in Community

- ❖ Praise & Worship
- ❖ Scripture Readings
- ❖ Spiritual Talk
- ❖ Community Bonding

**“The role of music
in the Catholic Church
and it’s connection
with God”**



e-mail: sahop.sjcbt@gmail.com



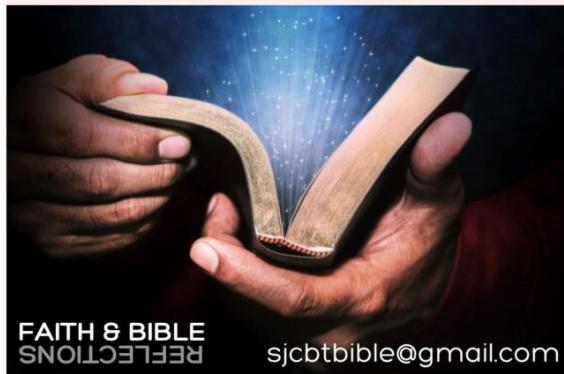
Rev Fr Valerian Cheong
(Rector – SFXMS)

**21 February 2025 (Friday) 8PM
@ Level 3, St Mary, AVA Room
Parish Community Hall**

Praying with Scripture (Tue 25 Feb @ 8 pm via Zoom)

PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE

**TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25, 8.00-9.45PM,
ONLINE VIA ZOOM**



FAITH & BIBLE
REFLECTIONS

sjcbtbible@gmail.com

Learn how to pray with the Bible using the ancient method of Lectio Divina.

Facilitated by Pastoral Teams Coordinator, Jane Lau, and the Faith & Bible Reflections Community.

Learn how to pray with the Bible using the ancient method of Lectio Divina, which means 'Divine Reading'. Through contemplating and 'chewing' on the Word of God, we can learn to hear God's voice speaking more clearly to us.

Please register at: <https://tinyurl.com/BibleBasics2025>

My Personal Moral Compass (Commencing on 3 Feb)



**My Personal
COMPASS**

with Fr David Garcia, OP

Navigate moral issues in 10 sessions.

COURSE DETAILS

3 FEBRUARY - 14 APRIL 2025	
MONDAY	
TIME 8:00 TO 9:30 PM	Fee \$100
VENUE CANA AT CATHOLIC CENTRE 55 WATERLOO ST, LEVEL 3	

SCAN ME NOW

NO CLASS ON 31 MARCH

QR Code

Get introduced to the basics of morality, which are applicable to all and not just Christians. Come and build an ethical foundation so you can journey towards fulfilling your potential as a person made in the image of God.

Lead Like Jesus (Commencing 15 Feb)

LEAD LIKE JESUS (LLJ)

Date: 15 & 22 Feb 2025 OR

15 & 29 Mar 2025

Time: 9am - 5:30pm

Venue: Agape Village,
7A Lor 8 Toa Payoh, MPR1 (#03-09)

Cost: \$200/- (lunch & tea breaks
for 2 days & workbook included)



CATHOLIC
LEADERSHIP
CENTRE

Register at: www.catholicleader.sg

Effective leadership - whether on the job, in the community, at church or in the home - starts on the inside. Knowing who we are, and to whom we belong to. One deals with one's relationship to Christ. The other with one's life purpose.

A foundational module based on the servant leadership modelled by Jesus Christ, exploring the 4 domains of leading like Jesus: the heart, head, hands and habits.

Inner Healing Retreat (13 – 16 Feb)

Come and Encounter Jesus...

...who heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds
(Psalm 147:3)

REQUIREMENT:
ATTENDED PRAYER
EXPERIENCE RETREAT
(PER)

SEMI - SILENT,
STAY-IN RETREAT
THUR 8.30am
til
SUN 6.30pm

REGISTRATION STARTS
20 DEC 2024

Details And Registration
Scan for details •


Fee \$320
(excluding 9% GST)

Conducted By
JULIANA KOH
& CSC RETREAT TEAM



Talks •
Prayer Sessions •
Wounds & their Effects •
Healing of Past Wounds •
Healing of Relationships •
Healing of Emotional Wounds •
Pray-over for Healing & Empowerment

IHR #05



CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY CENTRE
Encountering God • Healing Hearts • Empowering Lives

CER PER IHR IR TR BR



INNER HEALING RETREAT

FEB 13 - 16 2025

Little Shepherds' Schoolhouse @ St Joseph's Church Open House (Sat 15 Feb)

Little Shepherds' Schoolhouse **OPEN HOUSE**

Sat 15 Feb 2025 | 9am - 12pm



**LSS @ St Joseph's
Church
(Bukit Timah)**



**LSS @ Church of Our
Lady Star of the Sea
(Yishun)**



**REGISTER
YOUR VISIT!**

[www.tiny.cc/lssopen
house15feb2025](http://www.tiny.cc/lssopenhouse15feb2025)



**LITTLE
SHEPHERDS'
SCHOOLHOUSE™**

Catholic Preschool Education (Singapore) Ltd.



Every child a joyful learner



FRIENDSGIVING: Praying Our Friendships (21 – 23 Feb)



Friendship is a sacrament of God's love and a gift. In this uniquely crafted retreat, you are to bring a friend (could be a family member, a colleague, etc) and celebrate this gift together. You will also discover how Jesus continues to draw you into a deeper friendship with Him.

Register early using QR code

Landings



Thinking about starting your journey back to the Church in 2025?

Are you searching for a journey back to the heart of the church?

It's time to answer the call.

Landings, a reconciliation ministry built for returning Catholics, is conducting a 10-week programme at two locations:-

Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (OLPS) on Tuesday evenings, 8pm - 10pm beginning 4th March 2025 –

Cathedral of the Good Shepherd (CGS) on Friday evenings 7.30pm - 9.30pm, beginning 7th March 2025 - 30th May 2025 with a weekend Retreat.

Recover the faith that never left you!

Register to find out more here: <https://landings.typeform.com/comehome>

Building Trust (Commencing 8 Mar)

BUILDING TRUST (TRU)

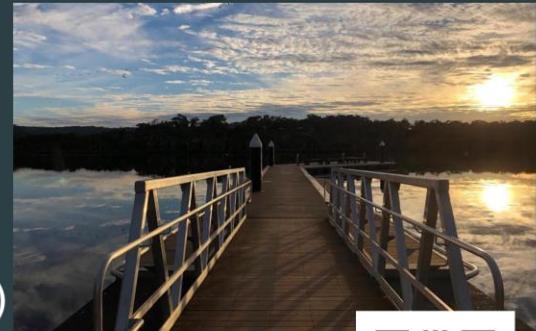
Date: 8 Mar 2025 OR

12 Apr 2025

Time: 9.30am - 3:30pm

Venue: Agape Village, 7A Lor 8
Toa Payoh, MPR1 (#03-09)

Cost: \$100/- (lunch included)



Register at: www.catholicleader.sg



CATHOLIC
LEADERSHIP
CENTRE

Through conversations and interactive group activities, participants will develop a shared understanding of trust and take personal responsibility for how they can develop deeper levels of trust at an interpersonal and group level.

Quieting The Soul (7 – 9 Mar)

Take some time out with the Lord as He invites you to "come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." [Mark 6:31]

This is a 3-day silent retreat suitable for beginners and busy people.

Register early using QR code.



Creating Safe Spaces (22 – 23 Mar)



Creating Safe Spaces

in Communities and Religious Institutions

WHEN: 22-23 March 2025; 9:00-5:00 pm

WHERE: La Salle House Conference Room

Facilitated by Fr. James Gascon, SJ

Who should attend?

Leaders and members of Church ministries/Catholic organisations

Persons who accompany others
teachers, mentors, catechists,
facilitators, etc.

A Cenacle-organized workshop





This two-day workshop seminar introduces Safeguarding as Charism and Spirituality, starting with its theological and spiritual foundation. Abuse and all its forms will be defined. The dynamics of victimization and offending will also be explored. This workshop is highly recommended to all holding leadership positions in the Church.

As Pope Francis insists, "We are a sign that the ministry of safeguarding belongs to all of us as it is part of the Church's ministry, indeed of evangelization itself," and without safe spaces and interior freedom from the heart, our Church will never be safe where the Gospel is freely proclaimed.

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.



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.mpcsg.com



CSC

CELEBRATES JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Patroness of CSC, pray for us

RETREATS: CER CONVERSION EXPERIENCE RETREAT:

Encounter the living God, conducted by William Cardinal Goh

PER PRAYER EXPERIENCE RETREAT:

Grow in your prayer life

IHR INNER HEALING RETREAT:

Experience the healing love of Jesus

IR INTERCESSION RETREAT:

Experience the power of intercessory prayers

HR HOPE RETREAT(Young Adults):

Overcome hopelessness; Live in hope

BR BREATHE (Youth in the Spirit Seminar):

Encounter the love of God & learn to live a life filled with the Holy Spirit

2nd SAT VIGIL: COME AS YOU ARE

"In those days, he went onto the mountain to pray, and he spent the whole night in prayer to God."

(ref Luke 6:12)

4th SAT MASS with HEALING SERVICE

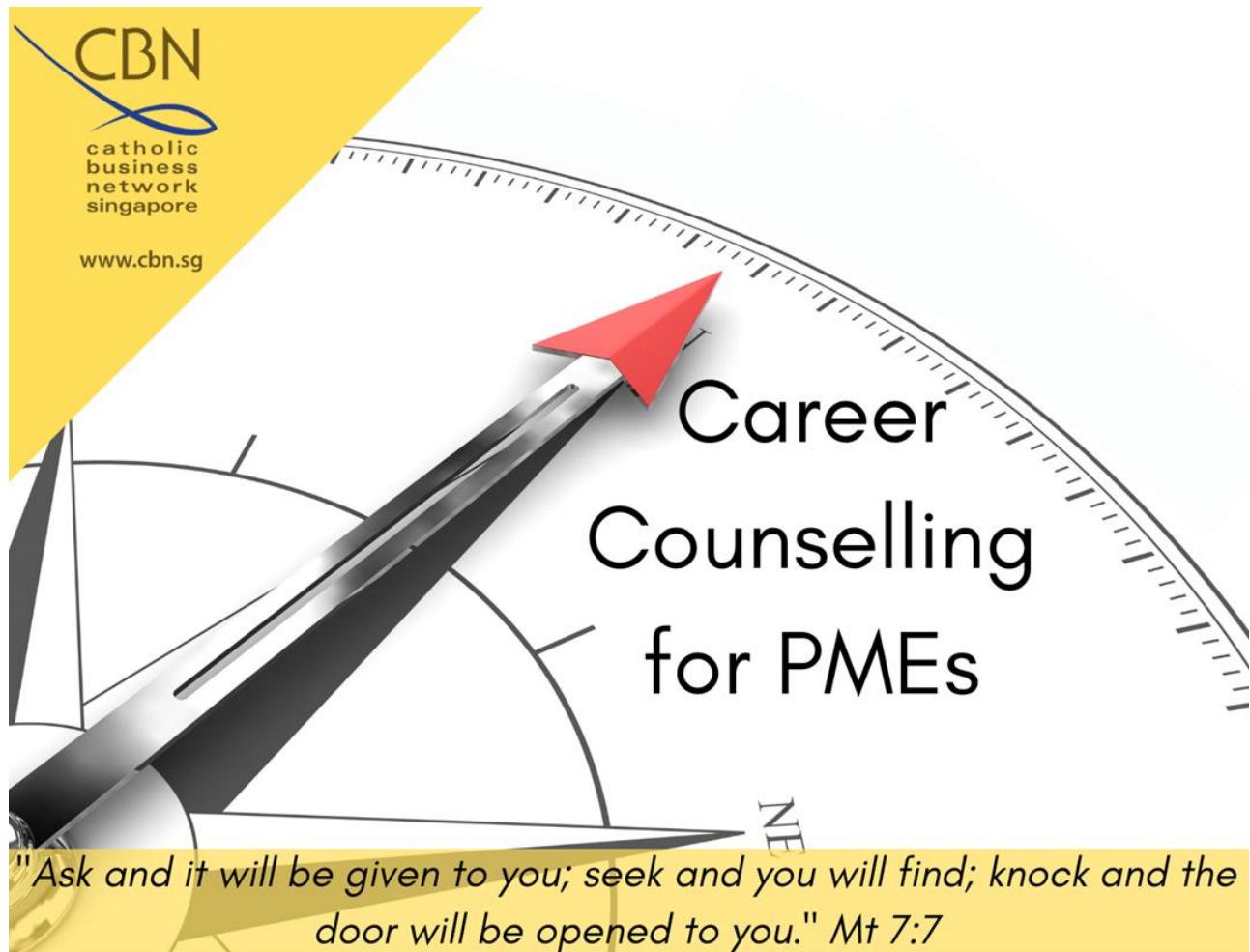
"Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest."

(Matthew 11:28)

FRIDAY GROWTH: HOLY SAINTS WITNESSES OF HOPE, SHOW US THE WAY

Make friends with the Saints and see their fullness of life and hope in all circumstances

JAN	ST THOMAS AQUINAS ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA ST PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS
FEB	ST BERNADETTE & OUR LADY OF LOURDES ST MAXIMILLIAN KOLBE SEVEN FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER
MAR	ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF MARY ST OSCAR ROMERO ST JOHN BP DE LA SALLE ST MAGDALENE OF CANOSSA
APR	ST GIANNA BERETTA MOLLA ST LOUIS GRIGNION DE MONTFORT ST CATHERINE OF SIENNA
MAY	ST CARLO ACUTIS ST DAMIEN OF MOLOKAI ST RITA OF CASCIA ST PHILLIP NERI BLESSED NICHOLAS BARRE
JUN	MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH ST ALOYSIUS GONZAGA ST JOSEMARIA ESCRIVA
JUL	ST MARIA GORETTI ST LOUIS MARTIN & MARIE AZELIE GUERIN ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA
AUG	ST ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGUORI ST DOMINIC ST PETER JULIAN EYMAND ST MONICA & ST AUGUSTINE
SEP	OUR LADY OF SORROWS FR PIUS OF PIETRELCINA ST THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS
OCT	ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ST TERESA OF AVILA ST JOHN PAUL II
NOV	ST LEO THE GREAT ST GIUSEPPE MOSCATI ST GIACOMO ALBERIONE
DEC	ST FRANCIS XAVIER ST JOHN OF THE CROSS ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST



CBN
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Career
Counselling
for PMEs

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Mt 7:7

- ✓ CAREER EXPLORATION
- ✓ CAREER TRANSITION
- ✓ WORKPLACE WELL-BEING
- ✓ JOB SEARCH STRATEGIES

Sessions conducted via Zoom



Scan the QR Code to Register

There will be a nominal charge of \$10 to cover administrative costs. All PMEs are welcome