



Dear friends,

Its that time of year for planning for our courses and programmes for next year. Yes, already. We would love to hear from you about what you have enjoyed, what you think is still needed. This would be for all the various people in Catechetics, bible apostolate and pastoral ministry in parishes and elsewhere. We hope to continue with our one year Foundations in Ministry programme with a little fine tuning and to offer a year of deepening for all previous graduates from our Diploma two year course. Many other things will be on offer. Right now the pastoral department is really busy with requests for training that is coming in from parishes for building up their Small Christian Communities. This is what we have dreamed about for a long time. We are moving clearly and steadily towards our dream of becoming a more participatory Church which can truly be called a "Communion of Communities."

We are also delighted these past few weeks to welcome to the SPI two well known speakers. The convention on August will be a chance to hear and meet both of them. See you there. Details alongside!

Have a wonderful National Day weekend.

Yours in Christ

Wendy Louis

What's happening in AUGUST



Fr Edward Matthews & Fr John Fuellenbach, SVD @ Catechist' Seminar

Sat , 4 Aug . 11 am – 5.30pm
 Catholic Junior College
 in Whitley Rd
 Performing Arts Centre
 Don't miss this gathering of
 catechists (schools and parishes)
 and Liturgy facilitators!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Topics:

Kingdom & mission of **catechists**
Nourish & Celebrate

Free of charge.

Lunch will be provided.

Book for RCIA catechumens and newly baptized!



Rev Dr Oswald Hirmer,
bishop of Umtata, Eastern
Cape, South Africa

" Our Joy in being Catholic" is just published by a Bishop in South Africa who felt that his people did too many things without understanding the reasons behind it. He has explained many Catholic practices and customs like the use of holy water, the meaning of statues for us, saints and the crucifix. There are brief and simple explanations about praying for the dead, the feast of all Saints and also bigger questions related to the Eucharist, to Mary our Mother and to the Sacraments. This book is written by someone who has tried to make the faith understandable to ordinary people. His grasp of theology and scripture makes this book a real gem and a badly needed addition to our toolbox for RCIA and adult Religious Education in Small Christian Communities.

Co pies are available from the SPI

Some new books in the library

" The ambivalence of the sacred" by R. Scott Appleby explores the questions 'Under what conditions do religious persons become violent? Also, what makes religious persons reject violence and become agents of peace? Appleby examines the emerging cross cultural and religious coalitions that are forming to develop possibilities for peace. A fascinating study that helps us understand what is happening in our globalized world of religion and economics.

" Living Catholic Social Tradition" Cases and commentary edited by Kathleen Maas Weigert and Alexia K. Kelley has two parts. In the first part they explore with other writers what the social mission of the Catholic Church is in the great globalized cities with a special emphasis on the American context. In the second part they tell stories of groups who have been inspired to implement the social teachings and connect their faith to their lives in this area.

Media Mindfulness – Educating Teens about faith and media by Gretchen Hailer RSHM & Rose Tacatte, FSP is a new publication of Saint Mary's press and has fully developed sessions to use with teens. Some examples are: The internet, Music and the music industry, electronic games, advertising. There is a connection made to the social teachings of the church as well.

[More Details](#)

Small Christian Communities

Workshop on “Leadership & Ministry”

The Pastoral Workshop on July 7 & 8 attracted 57 participants who discovered that leadership in a Small Christian Community is not like leadership in a movement or a parish council. What is the difference? The difference is that in a Small Christian Community the leader is a facilitator of one specific ministry or role and the title always is directly attached to a specific task. For example, leadership is shared in a SCC. There will be 2 facilitating Gospel Shar



ing, 2 taking charge of the ministry to the sick, 2 taking care of the bereaved, 2 taking care of the parish project for refugees and so on. There are also the 2 who will be sent by the community to be on the Parish Pastoral Council. All these ministries are done for a limited period of time and then others take over after some training is provided. Participants were excited at the prospect of SCCs that are truly living Gospels doing the word of God in everyday life.

MARK THIS DAY IN YOUR CALENDAR – SCC DAY is on Saturday OCTOBER 13

Small Christian Community Day – Great speakers; Great fellowship.
Celebrate our love of God and neighbour, come and meet SCC members from many parishes.

DATE: OCTOBER 13

TIME: 10am to 4.00pm

VENUE: Catholic Junior College

PROGRAMME: FR TOM MICHEL SJ will talk about SCCs and Inter Religious Dialogue; The Catholic Social and Community Council will present the SCC and Social Mission; and many more exciting things. Look for updates on our website.

“ Choosing to love, choosing hope”

A day of silence & prayer.
Facilitated by
Bro Ghislain of Taizé.
Venue :
Church of the Holy Spirit
Day & Time :
25 Aug 10am to 5pm.
Contribution:
\$25

To find in silence and prayer the joy of choosing to love and the courage to hope.



Contact : spi@catholic.org.sg or register online at www.catholicspi.org or call 6858 3011

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? E-mail us at spi@catholic.org.sg or call 6858 3011

