

Church of the Holy Family



Information for New Parishioners

Dear New Parishioner,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to you to the Parish of the Holy Family. As a newcomer to the parish, everything and everyone might seem strange to you. This is a vibrant community with a population of 8,500. There are a variety of activities which we hope you would love to get involved in over time. We wish to make your stay with us both refreshing and rewarding.

Enclosed is a letter of welcome from the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), and information about Holy Family, listing the Ministries, Organizations & Groups (MOGs), key contacts and Mass times which may be useful to you.

I invite you to join us in the celebration of the Eucharist, in our other activities and celebrations spread throughout the year. You will surely find something to suit your style of worship, whether it is the Saturday sunset Mass, or any of the four Masses on Sunday. The Canteen, open every Sunday morning, is an ideal place to meet other parishioners over breakfast.

We are currently looking into the setting up of a '*Connect Group*' where overseas parishioners can have a common platform to get to know one another.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact myself, Lena Koh (Pastoral Council Chairperson) or any of the members of the PPC.

Again, welcome to Holy Family church community.
We hope you enjoy being part of our community!

God Bless.

Fr Patrick Goh
Parish Priest

Greetings and Blessings!

On behalf of Parish of the Holy Family, I would like to welcome you to the Parish Community. This is a very dynamic and gifted community, with many highly driven people who have a strong desire to further our faith together. It was in 1902 when some Eurasian families who were landowners joined the La Salle Brothers for Mass at their timber houses that the idea of building a church was mooted.

As the Catholic population increased, there was also a growing need to find new premises. One of the Eurasian families was Mr Sheerder who donated land in the present location to build a chapel in 1923. This later became the first Church of the Holy Family when it was designated as a parish in 1936.

The present building which was completed in 1999, has a seating capacity of 2,000 people, car park facilities, columbarium, kindergarten and function rooms. The priest residence cum office occupies a separate 2-storey building.

Today, we have a highly diverse and vibrant community of parishioners, predominantly comprising of Chinese, Eurasians, Peranakans, Indians, Filipinos and others.

In 2005, the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) was formed to assist the parish priest in investigating the needs of the parish and setting up the vision and direction for the pastoral work of the parish. The various Ministries, Organizations and Groups operate under the PPC. The PPC and its Office Bearers are elected every two years.

We encourage all parishioners to be active in the church and we hope that you will find time in your busy schedule to join any of the parish activities and ministry work.

Yours in Christ,

Lena Koh
PPC Chairperson (2013-2015)

Information about the Parish

The Clergy

There are 3 priests in residence

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Rev. Fr Patrick Goh (Parish Priest) | 6348-5842 |
| Rev. Fr Damian De Wind | 6344-8468 |
| Rev. Fr Donatien Davaine | 6346-6240 |

Mass Times

Weekdays:

6.15am (Mondays to Saturdays)

6.15pm (Mondays to Fridays)

8.30am (Public Holidays)

Weekends:

Saturday evenings (also known as Sunset Masses):

6.00pm

8.00pm (Mandarin)

Sunday:

7.15am

9.15am

11.30am

6.00pm

Novena: 5.00pm Saturday

All Masses are in English except for Saturday 8pm Mass which is in Mandarin.

Confessions will be heard 15 minutes before weekend Masses begin. Should there be any urgent need for confession to be heard outside of scheduled times, kindly contact the parish priests directly.

Children between the ages of 4 and 12 are highly encouraged to attend Liturgy of the Word with Children which is held during the Sunset Mass and the 11.15am Sunday Mass. No registration is required. During the Mass, the Priest will announce for the children to congregate at the front of the altar to proceed together to the AVA room (see map) at the adjoining Sea Avenue building. Mass readings and homily are shared with

the children during the session. After the session, the children will be led back to the church to join their families for the rest of the Mass (Liturgy of the Eucharist).

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Under the Canon Law 536, each parish is obliged to establish a PPC. The PPC is governed by the norms determined by the PPC Constitution which is approved by the Archbishop of Singapore.

The PPC comprises the Parish Priest, Assistant Parish Priests, elected members from ministries, organisations and groups (MOGs) within the parish, elected members from the general parish community who do not belong to any MOG, and specially appointed members. Members are elected for a two year term with the aim of providing input to, and facilitating implementation of, the parish vision via various activities and events. PPC members come from all walks of life and are of all ages with different gifts and talents. All parishioners are welcomed to be nominated for the PPC.

Parish Secretariat Office

The Parish Secretariat Office which handles the administrative matters of the parish is managed by 2 full-time and 1 part-time parish secretaries. The Parish Secretariat Office is open as follows:-

Mondays to Fridays: 9am to 10pm

Saturdays: 9am to 8pm

Sundays: 8am to 6pm

Tel: 6344-0046

Email: secretariat@holyfamily.org.sg

Parish Website

For more details on parish events and activities, please visit our website: <http://www.holyfamily.org.sg/>

Church Missal/Hymnal

Mass Missals and Hymnals are located at each church entrance.

The parish prayer which is said at the end of each Weekend Mass is attached to the inside of the back cover of the Missals.

In addition, the children's Mass Missal is available to help your child follow the various parts of the Mass. Kindly ensure it is returned to the bookcase at the back of the church after each Mass. Should you require a personal copy, it is available at the Katong Catholic Book Store.

Suggestions

Your presence at the parish and your feedback/suggestions is valuable to us. Please feel free to approach the priests or parish office staff directly or email connect@holyfamily.org.sg

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Catechism Classes

There are 3 types of Catechism available at this Parish. All are aimed at supplementing the religious formation children receive from their parents/school and in preparation for Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

1. *Parish classes (Sunday School)*

The parish runs weekend catechism classes for school aged children:

- Saturdays (children aged 7 to 12): 4pm-5.15pm
- Sundays (children aged 13 to 16): 9.15am-10.45am

These classes run according to the local Singapore school terms.

2. *Family catechism*

- In this programme, the parents are the catechists and take turns to teach.
- Lessons are typically held 8-9pm Friday evenings followed by food and fellowship
- Lessons not only follow the same guidelines as parish catechism but also include craft, creativity, role-plays and music.

3. *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)*

- A spiritual formation programme based on Montessori principles of education
- For children aged 3-6 years (with potential follow-on for 7-9 year olds)

For more information or to enrol your child or to offer assistance, please contact the Catechism Coordinator at Tel: 6346 5357 or email: catechist@holyfamily.org.sg

St Ignatius Church Catechism for International Students

Alternatively, if your child is attending an international school and you would like them to attend after school catechism/sacramental preparation classes scheduled according to international school terms/run by expat parents, please see the various options provided by St Ignatius parish (near Farrer MRT):

<http://www.stignatius.org.sg/groups-ministries/catechetical/ccd.php>

You may also refer to the below website for more information on Catechism:

<http://www.holyfamily.org.sg/ministries/formation-ministries/catechetical-ministry>

Getting Involved

Listed below are some of the Ministries, Organizations and Groups (MOGs) in our parish and a brief description of what they do. For more details, please do not hesitate to contact us at connect@holyfamily.org.sg.

Neighbourhood Christian Communities (NCCs)

The Neighbourhood Christian Community (NCC) is part of a New Way of being Church. It is not a church organisation, ministry or interest group. It is simply a group of Catholics, living in the same neighbourhood, coming together as a community to live and share their faith through prayer, worship, service, fellowship and mission.

All parishioners living within our parish boundaries automatically belong to such a community. Please check with the parish secretariat office as to which NCC you belong to when you submit your registration form. Or you may email to connect@holyfamily.org.sg

| Liturgical Ministries | Formation Ministries | Prayer/Devotional Groups | Service Ministries |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Altar Servers 2. Art Ministry 3. Choir 4. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion 5. Lectors 6. Liturgy of the Word with Children 7. Ministry of Hospitality | 1. Bible Apostolate Team 2. Catechetical Ministry 3. Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults | 1. Charismatic Prayer Group 2. Christian Meditation Group 3. Divine Mercy Group | 1. Canteen 2. Elders Group 3. Family Life Ministry 4. Filipino Group 5. Legion of Mary 6. Mandarin Community 7. Migrants Group 8. Ministry of the Sick 9. Peranakan Group 10. Society of St Vincent de Paul 11. Thrift Shop 12. Youth Ministry |

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers

Altar Servers assist the Priest during the celebration of Mass and Liturgy services. Besides grooming Altar Servers for their liturgical roles, the Altar Servers' Society organises retreats, camps and weekly Sports Sunday.

Art Ministry

The Art Ministry comprises art enthusiasts who design and build art work that form the backdrops and décor for each liturgical season and major feast days. The group meets at 2 Sea Avenue after 11.15am Mass on Sundays.

Choir

The choir lends their voices in praise and worship during Masses. They are:-

| Saturday | Sunday |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Genesis II - 6pm Mandarin Choir – 8pm | St. Anne's - 7.15am St David's - 9.15am Kristokos - 11.15am St Mary's - 6pm |

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Also known as Eucharistic Ministers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist the priests in the ministering of Holy Communion to the congregation during Masses.

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of God at every Mass with the objective of bringing the congregation closer to God. The group meets monthly, in fellowship and prayers.

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Facilitators for the Liturgy of the Word with Children present the Liturgy at a level that children can understand and appreciate. They aim to make the Liturgy come alive for children through visual communication such as drama, storytelling, puppet plays, etc...

On significant days on the Liturgical calendar such as Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Advent, special activities/events are also organised for the children to appreciate their significance.

Ministry of Hospitality (Wardens)

Wardens help to preserve the solemnity and tranquillity of worship. They maintain orderliness during Mass and facilitate the distribution of Catholic News, parish publications (such as bulletins and Holy Family Connection), crowd control, collection of love offerings and traffic control.

Formation Ministries

Bible Apostolate Team (BAT)

This group that gathers to study the Bible each week based on the Little Rock Scripture Study method. BAT also invites lecturers to give more in-depth lectures on individual books of the Bible during the year.

Catechetical Ministry

(Like Christ) Story-tellers and inspirers who share their faith experiences with children and teenagers, taking them on a faith journey to Christ. Kindly refer to page 7 for details.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

An opportunity to better understand and deepen the Catholic faith by journeying with individuals seeking to convert to the Catholic faith. This is a one year programme which includes weekly classes on a weekday night and coming together on Sunday mornings to attend Mass and share the Word of God.

Prayer/Devotional Groups

Charismatic Prayer Group

The Charismatic Prayer Group gathers weekly to pray, praise and worship, exercise charismatic gifts, scripture reading, reflections and personal testimonies of the Lord's

living presence. Prayer meetings are held every Friday from 8.15 to 9.45pm at the 4th floor Function Room.

Christian Meditation Group

They teach and practise a simple way of contemplative prayer. Going beyond words, thoughts and images, the meditator experiences the indwelling presence of Christ.

A few groups meet on a weekly basis at Emmaus House on Tuesdays/Thursdays at 8pm and Wednesdays at 7.30pm. Newcomers are always welcome.

Divine Mercy Group

This prayer group meets twice a month on Fridays in the Adoration Room after evening Mass.

Service Ministries

Canteen

This group of volunteers coordinates with the various parish groups which provide Sunday breakfast for parishioners at the 4th floor Function Room in the main Church building. To encourage fellowship amongst parishioners, coffee/tea is served free of charge on the first weekend of each month.

Elders Group

The Elders Group organises activities (such as outings, retreats and church visitations) for parishioners above 50 years old. They meet once a month in church.

Family Life Ministry

The Family Life Ministry provides service and support towards creating a family-oriented community founded on Christian values. Activities include preparations for Infant Baptism, wedding services and Milestone Wedding Anniversary Mass.

Filipino Group

The group was established as a support group for Filipinos who worship at our parish. The group gathers every Sunday for Bible sharing, group prayer, sharing and fellowship. Once a month, the group joins the Society of St Vincent de Paul in visiting an elderly home and entertaining them with songs and dance.

Legion of Mary

The Glory of God to be seen through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active co-operation in Mary's and the Church's work.

Mandarin Community

The Mandarin Community promotes the welfare of the mandarin speaking parishioners. They have their weekly Mass on Saturday at 8pm and a pastoral council which plans and carry out the pastoral activities.

Migrants Group

The group was set up by local and migrant volunteers under the Skills Development Training Program to provide opportunities for migrant workers to be productive, responsible citizens and attain their own level of success. Skills courses offered include nursing aid, dress-making, hair and beauty care, as well as basic computer skills.

Ministry of the Sick

The group visit and pray with the sick, aged and housebound (or in nursing homes), bringing Holy Communion to them.

Peranakan Group

The group organises annual Chinese New Year Eve Peranakan Mass, which is celebrated in the Baba Malay language in accordance with the traditions of the Peranakan Community incorporated in the Liturgy.

Society of St Vincent de Paul

The Society of St Vincent de Paul serve the poor and needy of the parish. They meet at 8pm on Mondays (except for the third Monday of each month and public holidays) at Emmaus House. The monthly second collection at weekend Masses and other donations collected, are used to provide rations and cash aid to the poor and needy.

Youth Ministry

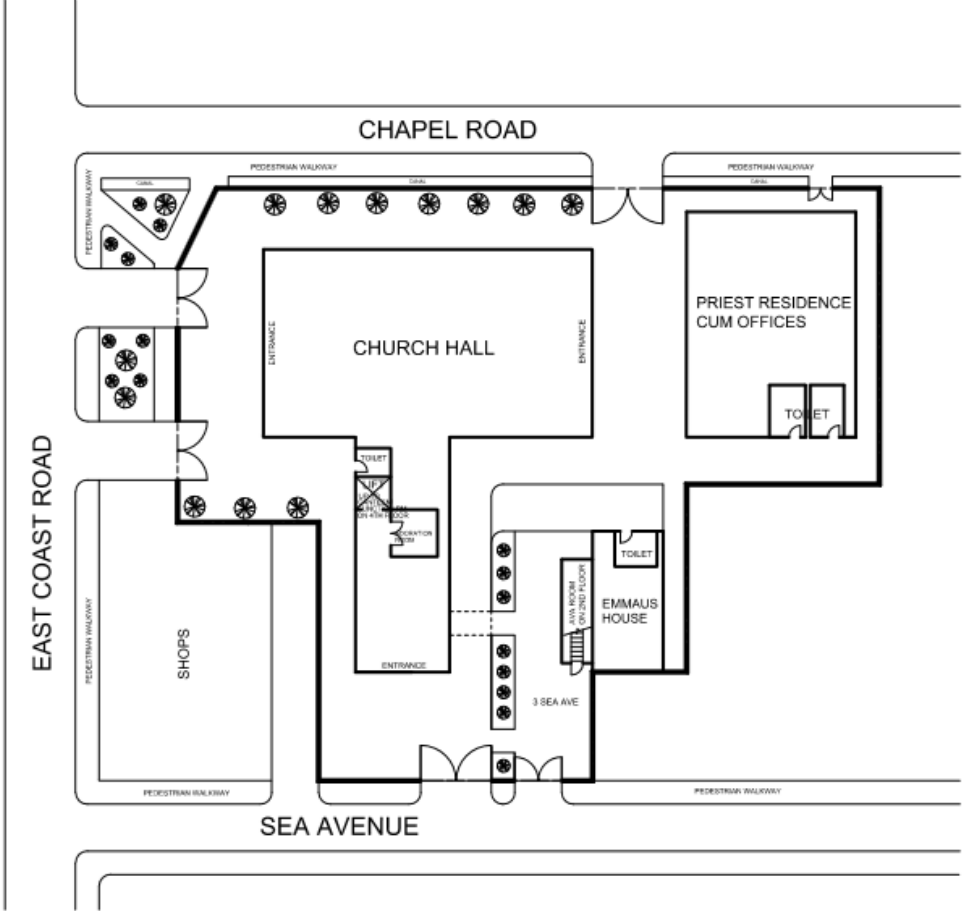
The YOUhf Community (a play on the words 'youth' + 'Holy Family') is led by a full time Youth Pastoral Coordinator as a result of the parish vision to build up the youth of Holy Family with a heart for Jesus and desire to evangelise. Strengthened by its 6 pillars of Prayer, Sacraments, Scripture and Fellowship, Discipleship and Mission, the YOUhf Community strives to respond to the call to live Christ-like, God-centred lives. YOUhf meets every Friday 7.45-10pm for community sessions.

Should there be any clarification needed on any of the above groups, kindly email your contact details to connect@holyfamily.org.sg.

We Look Forward to You Being A Part of Our Parish Community.

Church Layout

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Church of the Holy Family, Singapore
Parish Registration Form

Instructions:

- This form should be filled by the head or co-head of the family.
- **Married children** living with their parents should fill in a **separate form**.
- Relatives & domestic helpers who are living in the same home should be included under item (ii).
- No name should appear on more than one form.
- **Please drop your completed form into the parish secretariat office** or email the form to connect@holyfamily.org.sg.

Name: _____ Sex: M / F

Year of Birth: _____

Address: _____

_____ Singapore ()

Telephone: _____ (home) _____ (work) _____ (mobile)

E-mail: _____ Occupation: _____

Religion: _____ Nationality: _____

Race: _____ Languages/Dialect: _____

i. Spouse's particulars (if applicable)

Name: _____ Sex: M / F

Year of Birth: _____

Telephone: _____ (home) _____ (work) _____ (mobile)

E-mail: _____

Occupation: _____

Religion: _____

Nationality: _____

Race: _____

Languages/Dialect: _____

ii. Particulars of other family members including any domestic helpers living at the same address (if applicable)

| Full Name | Sex M/F | Relationship | Year of Birth | Religion | Marital Status |
|-----------|------------|--------------|------------------|----------|----------------|
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Please list any skills you have that could aid the parish (Please be as specific as possible)
