

> ADVENT.

*I ive-streamed:

We begin the new church year with the season of Advent, which is characterised by themes of longing, waiting, and anticipation of the coming of Christ. The liturgical colour for this festive period, purple, symbolises penitence and preparation; as such, we have spotlighted the purple blooms of Crocus sativus, from which saffron is derived. Read more on p.4 and on Facebook.

Mandarin - 5.30pm (Glory Sanctuary) **Sunday services w/ Holy Communion**

English - 8.15am (Christ Sanctuary), 11.15am* (Christ Sanctuary & online) Mandarin - 10am (Glory Sanctuary) Tamil - 5.30pm (Community Hall) Indonesian Fellowship – 11am (C205) Filipino Service – 1.30pm (Bethel Auditorium)

> Junior Church & Teen Encounter Details on pg 2

for all other service details, please refer to inside pages

THIS WEEKEND'S SERMONS

SAT, 03 DEC 2022

2.30pm (Heartbeat) God With Us (Matthew 1:18–25), by Mr Richard Kwan | **5pm (SES)** The Sign of Immanuel (Isaiah 7:1–17; Matthew 1:18–23), by Mr Allen Lim

SUN, 04 DEC 2022

8.15am (E1) & 11.15am (E2) Immanuel: God with Us (Isaiah 7:10–17; Matthew 1:18–25), by Ven Wong Tak Meng

sermon series: Trusting God in Troubled Times

NEW TO SJSM?

Whether you joined our online or onsite service today or found us on the web, we are glad you did! Do let us know if you would like more information or prayer, or just give us some feedback by submitting a simple form by clicking/scanning the QR code on the right. Thank you!



Parents, please note:

NO CLASSES IN DEC 2022

Teen Encounter (TE)*
ages 11–14

Junior Church (Primary) ages 7–10

Junior Church (Preschool)
ages 3-6

To register your child for JC in 2023, visit https://tinyurl.com/396narnw

*From January 2023, the TE age range will be 11–13 years. Teens aged 14 and up are encouraged to join Heartbeat. Contact <u>richardkwan@sjsm.org.sg</u> for more information. are you in need of

PASTORAL CARE and/or COUNSELLING?

Prayer for healing, and other forms of pastoral care are available.

- 1. Call 6777 0934, or
- 2. Email pastoralcare@sjsm.org.sq

If you are **homebound** and require **Holy Communion**, please fill in a form by scanning the QR code below or visiting https://tinyurl.com/SJSMCare3







CATCH IT AGAIN

Trusting God in Troubled Times

https://vimeo.com/showcase/9153281

Character Study Series

https://vimeo.com/showcase/9329003

Finding Hope

https://vimeo.com/showcase/9782516

All/Other services

https://vimeo.com/channels/sismchurch

HEARTBEAT services

https://tinyurl.com/3dvvbbmr

SCHEDULE FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sat, 10 Dec Heartbeat Svc (Onsite @ Shalom Hall; live-streamed on YouTube. 2.30pm Email heartbeat@sism.ora.sa for more info) English Svc (Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary) 5pm 5.30pm Mandarin Svc (Onsite @ Glory Sanctuary. Email sjsmc@sjsm.org.sq for more information or to ioin) Sun, 11 Dec 8.15am English Svc (Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary) 10am Mandarin Svc (Onsite @ Glory Sanctuary. Email sjsmc@sjsm.org.sq for more information or to join) **Tamil Svc** (Onsite @ Bethel Auditorium & Chapel. Email solomon@sjsm.org.sq for more information or to join) 11am Indonesian Fellowship (Onsite @ C205. Email sallyho@heartfriends.org.sq for more information or to join) 11.15am **English Svc** (Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary; live-streamed via

sism.online.church, SJSM Facebook, and www.sism.ora.sa/online.html)

Farewell & Fellowship Lunch for Revd Andrew Raman

(Onsite @ Community Hall; due to space constraints, this event is reserved for

Misc. details

Sermon

SATURDAY

The Reign of the Branch (Isaiah 11:1–10), by Ms Connie Lim

SUNDAY

The Reign of the Branch (Isaiah 11:1–10), by Ms Chua Kim Yien

Cell Groups

Looking for a group to grow and serve with? Join a cell group! For more information, write to cell@sjsm.org.sq

WANT TO START A GROUND-UP INITIATIVE?

Filipino Svc (Onsite @ Bethel Auditorium.

Email juanita@sism.ora.sa for more information)

Do you have ideas on how to improve our community here in SJSM Village? Or would you like to do something that's not already being covered by any of our ministries? We would love to meet you and find out how we can help you get started. Get in touch with Ms Chua Kim Yien (kimyien@sjsm.org.sq) to get the conversation started!

Join a Ministry

registered participants)

1pm

1.30pm

Discover the current service opportunities, and register your interest in one or more areas of ministry, by scanning the QR code on the right or by visiting https://form.jotform.com/220376272517455.

At present, the Music Ministry is looking to recruit musicians as well as PA/AV crew. If you can play an instrument, and have a background or an interest in Public Address and/or Audio-Visual processes and equipment, consider serving with us!

JUNIOR CHURCH (JC) & TEEN ENCOUNTER (TE) No classes in Dec 2022

Parents, do note that neither JC nor TE classes will be running in December 2022; families are encouraged to attend service together in Christ Sanctuary.

Registration for JC in 2023

Children who will be attending JC in 2023 need to be registered; please do so at https://tinyurl.com/396narnw or by scanning the OR code. One form

or by scanning the QR code. One form should be submitted for each individual child. Age groups are:

- JC Preschool ages 3-6
- JC Primary ages 7–10

Change in TE age range

Please note that with effect from January 2023, TE will comprise ages 11–13. Youths aged 14 and above are encouraged to progress to Heartbeat.

CHRISTMAS DAY TREATS

While many of us have plans to spend time with family on Sun, 25 Dec, do take a little time to fellowship with our church family over refreshments between E1 and E2. The Filipino Congregation will also be blessing us with carols and a dance item at the Community Hall, so come and join in the festivities!

LOVESINGAPORE PRAYER RESUMES IN JAN 2023

Please note that we **will not be meeting** for our usual prayer session in the 2nd week of December.

The monthly hour-long prayer meeting will resume on Thu, 12 Jan 2023. See you then!

MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP MEALS AFTER SES & E2

There will **not** be any Fellowship Meals in December 2022; we will **resume in January 2023**.

Meal vouchers for monthly fellowship meals can be purchased at the counter next to the Info Desk at the Christ Sanctuary foyer. The \$7 fee includes a bento, drinks, and dessert. Please remember to make your purchases by the Sunday before.

Date of Fellowship Meal	Purchase voucher by	
Sat, 14 Jan 2023 (post-SES)	Sun, 8 Jan 2023	
Sun, 29 Jan 2023 (post-E2)	Sun, 22 Jan 2023	

ADVENT.

Advent season ensures that we begin the church year with the end in mind — as we reflect on the need for Jesus' first coming, which is celebrated at Christmas, we also look forward to His eventual return as a conquering King and righteous Judge. This 'in-between', twilight period is liturgically represented by the colour purple, which symbolises penitence and preparation; we therefore present the light purple blooms of Crocus sativus. mentioned in Song of Songs 4:14.

Image: Adobe Stock (Rawf8)



MY Story, HIS Story

Every person has a story and every story matters to God. Testimonies of God's miraculous power to change

lives and situations are available for you to share at www.sjsm.org.sg/stories. If you would like to share your story, do email it to testimonies@sjsm.org.sg.

CONNECT WITH US BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Write to <u>info@sjsm.org.sg</u> to furnish us with relevant details.

MARRIAGE/WEDDINGS

Planning to get married? Write to the Family Life Ministry at flm@sism.org.sq.

BEREAVEMENT

Please get in touch so that we can support you. Contact your cell leader, cell pastor, Zone Pastor, or the Church Office via 6777 0934 or pastoralcare@sjsm.org.sg.

GIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS Via Bank Transfer

Name of Bank Account:

St John's - St Margaret's Church

Account Number: 360-303-092-1 Branch Code: 030 Bank Code: 7375 Bank Name: UOB

Via PayNow



Via cash and cheques Cheques and cash may be placed directly in the offering box at the exits. Member's stewardship number accompanying tithes is no longer required.

STAFF RECRUITMENT NEEDS

- 1. Administrator
- 2. Pastoral Staff (Youth)
- 3. Ministry Staff (Youth)
- 4. Ministry Staff (Junior Church)
- 5. Ministry Staff (Family Life Ministry)
- 6. Zone Pastor Pastoral Connexion

To apply, visit www.sjsm.org.sg/recruitment for details.

LUNAR NEW YEAR BLESSING 2023

Join us in blessing our community through the Lunar New Year Blessing distributions from Fri–Sun, 13–15 Jan 2023.

We will be reaching out to the HDB units in the Dover, Ghim Moh Valley, and Ghim Moh Edge neighbourhoods.

To sign up, visit https://tinyurl.com/46krs583 or scan the QR code. For more details, email williamtham@sjsm.org.sg.



FAREWELL & FELLOWSHIP LUNCH FOR REVD ANDREW RAMAN

Those who have registered, do remember to join us on Sun, 11 Dec 2022, after E2, at the Community Hall.

Visit https://tinyurl.com/PsAndrewFarewell or scan the QR code on the right to leave a message of appreciation for Ps Andrew.



OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO...

- The family of the late Dorine Lai Shiang Kin (husband: Thomas Wong; daughters: Wong Ee Kean, Wong Ee Jin, Wong Ee Lyn). Our beloved sister was called home to the Lord on Thu. 24 Nov 2022.
- The family of the late Mr Harold Tan Soon Siew (daughters: Lilian Tan; Elizabeth Tan; sons-in-law: Chris Fulton, Eric Tan). Our beloved brother was called home to the Lord on Thu, 24 Nov 2022.

TITHES & OFFERINGS (updated monthly)		
	Jan-Nov 2022 (\$)	Nov 2022 (\$)
General Fund (Budgeted collections)	7,585,202	689,564
General Fund (Actual collections)*	6,767,997	496,867
Excess / (Shortfall)	(817,205)	(192,697)

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LECTIONARY READINGS: Psalm 80; Amos 7; Luke 1:5-20

COLLECT: Blessed Lord, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

SJSM VILLAGE (SJSMV)

OUR PARISH

- Staff. (a) Pray for divine grace to keep Ps Alvin and the staff team steady even in the midst of changes, that they may find rest and be sensitive to His leading, especially as they prepare for the Christmas and Covenant Services and outreach activities. Pray for the joy of good team spirit to strengthen their bonding as co-labourers and spiritual friends. (b) Give thanks to God for Ps Andrew's faithful service as our Missions Pastor for the past seven years. May the good work he has done continue to bear fruits. May God bless him and his family with His protection and joy, and continue to use him to inspire and encourage many (Ps 1:3).
- <u>Outreach</u>. Pray for SJSMers to be personally rejuvenated by the message of Christmas, and that they will intercede for the salvation of pre-believers and prayerfully exercise faith to be Gospel bridges. Pray that many seekers will respond to their invitations to the Christmas Gospel Services and the upcoming Alpha course (starting Feb '23), and be receptive to the Good News. (Jn 3:16; Ro 10:14–15)
- <u>Youth Camp (16–19 Dec)</u>. Pray anointing and protection over the speaker (Jemima Ooi), the worship team, and the camp committee. May God prepare the hearts of all the participants to receive the ministry of His Word and Spirit at the camp. (Mt 13:23)

OUR EXTENDED COMMUNITY

• <u>Christmas.</u> May the Holy Spirit facilitate all outreach activities to touch many lonely hearts in SJSM Village (such as the nursing home residents and overseas nurses) with the friendship of God. Pray for more SJSMers to participate in the outreach work by volunteering their time and talents, expressing the Good News through actions.

OUR NATION

4G Leaders. Bless Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong with good health, and supreme wisdom in nurturing the 4G leaders, especially his designated successor Deputy Prime Minister Lawrence Wong. May God prepare DPM Wong to fulfil his calling with distinction, and bless him with good advisors and strong support amongst his colleagues (Pr 11:14). Pray for excellence in wisdom, leadership, character, moral courage, and political astutemess, especially concerning international relations in an increasingly complex world.

THE WORLD

Civil Unrest. As the world faces an acute rise in the risk of global civil unrest (mostly fuelled by high inflation), may this Christmas season see a move of the Spirit that redirects popular discontent towards seeking the true and living God (Mt 7:7). Pray for the returning of prodigals to their first love, and that the Church of Christ may bear His light in darkness (2 Cor 4:4–6).

PRAYER & INTERCESSION MINISTRY

To join an intercession group, write to prayer@sjsm.org.sg.

Follow the Light!

"The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light..."Isaiah 9:2

Christmas Eve Gospel Service*

Sat, 24 Dec - 5pm

@ Christ Sanctuary

(concurrent children's programme for ages 3-10 @ Bethel Auditorium)

- * Christmas Eve Dinner
- \$15 per meal voucher
- Voucher sales open until 11 Dec

Christmas Eve Youth Gospel Service

Sat, 24 Dec - 2pm

@ Shalom Hall

Refreshments will be served after the service

Christmas Day Holy Communion Services

Sun, 25 Dec - 8.15am & 11.15am

@ Christ Sanctuary

Refreshments will be served after the 8.15am service

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5:00pm - 7:00pm Bethel Auditorium, Level 3 St. John's St. Margaret's Church Ages: 3 - 10 years

children's **histmas Programme**

Join Shaun, Wooly and Bahbah in a quest to solve the mystery of the missing shepherds after the angels appeared in the field and be thrilled by the true meaning of the historical event that took place more than 2,000 years ago.

Come celebrate with us! No tickets needed.



Covenant Service

2022-2023

Sat, 31 Dec 8pm Christ Sanctuary

Speaker:
Revd Dr Joshua Sudharman

Do stay on for refreshments after the service.

Bishop of Singapore Rt Revd Dr Titus Chung

Assistant Bishop Rt Revd Low Jee King

Archdeacon of Singapore
Ven Daniel Wee

Pastoral Leadership Team

Revd Alvin Toh (Vicar), Ven Wong Tak Meng, Revd Andrew Raman, Revd Dino Thangamany, Ds Bessie Lee, Mr Richard Lau, Mr Allen Lim, Mr Milton Wee

Zone Pastors

Ms Lim Ai Yee, Mr Richard Lau, Revd Vincent Hoon, Ms Chung Lai Mei, Mr Simon Devaraj, Mr Patrick Lai, Mr Choo Kok Weng, Ds Laura Chan

Congregational Pastors

Revd Thong Tang Hiong (Chinese), Revd Solomon Periyanayakam (Tamil), Ms Juanita Dicen (Filipino), Mr Richard Kwan (Youth), Ms Kerine Au (Children)



30 Dover Avenue, \$139790
Tel: 6777 0934 (9am–6pm, Tue–Sat)
info@sjsm.org.sg
www.sjsm.org.sg

St. John's - St. Margaret's Church (SJSM) is part of the Anglican Diocese of Singapore (www.anglican.org.sg). Our campus, St. John's - St. Margaret's Village (www.sjsmvillage.org.sg), comprises the church, SJSM Nursing Home (www.sjsmnh.org.sg), and Little Seeds Preschool (SJSM) (www.littleseeds.edu.sg).