

> 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*.

Junior Church & Teen Encounter

Mandarin - 5.30pm (Glory Sanctuary)

English - 8.15am (Christ Sanctuary),

11.15am* (Christ Sanctuary & online)

Mandarin - 10am (Glory Sanctuary)

Indonesian Fellowship - 11am (C205)

Tamil - 10am (Bethel Auditorium & Chapel)

Filipino Service – 1.30pm (Bethel Auditorium)

for all other service details, please refer to inside pages

Details on pg 2

Sunday services

THIS WEEKEND'S SERMONS

SAT, 10 DEC 2022

2.30pm (Heartbeat) & 5pm (SES)

The Reign of the Branch (Isaiah 11:1–10; Luke 21:25–36), by Ms Connie Lim

SUN, 11 DEC 2022

8.15am (E1) & 11.15am (E2)

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

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

Fri, 16 Dec - Mon, 19 Dec

Youth Camp (Majodi Center, Johor Bahru, Malaysia)

Sat, 17 Dec

5pm **English Svc** (Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary)

5.30pm Mandarin Svc (Onsite @ Glory Sanctuary, Email sismc@sism.org.sq

for more information or to join)

Sun, 18 Dec

8.15am **English Svc** (Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary)

10am Mandarin Svc (Onsite @ Glory Sanctuary, Email sismc@sism.org.sa

for more information or to join)

Tamil Svc (Onsite @ Bethel Auditorium & Chapel. Email <u>solomon@sjsm.org.sg</u> for more information or to join)

11.15am **English Svc** (Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary; live-streamed via

sjsm.online.church, SJSM Facebook, and www.sjsm.org.sg/online.html)

1.30pm Filipino Svc (Onsite @ Bethel Auditorium.

Email <u>juanita@sjsm.org.sg</u> for more information)

Misc. details

Sermon

SES, E1 & E2

Fare Thee Well, by Revd Alvin Toh

Cell Groups

Looking for a group to grow and serve with? Join a cell group! For more information, write to cell@sism.ora.sa

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Alpha Course
Where anyone
can feel free to
ask questions and
explore the Christian
faith. Find out more
at www.sism.ora.sa/

alphacourse.html.



Children's Christmas Programme (for ages 3-10

Come celebrate with us!

Sat, 24 Dec 2022 • *5pm-7pm • Bethel Auditorium

*Please arrive by 4.50pm for registration purposes. Questions? Email <u>juniorchurch@sjsm.org.sg</u> and we will be in touch

WANT TO START A GROUND-UP INITIATIVE?

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

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!

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!

YEAR-END/NEW YEAR SERVICES

Covenant Service + Farewell to Revd Alvin Toh

Date/Time: Sat, 31 Dec 2022 @ 8pm Speaker: Revd Dr Joshua Sudharman New Year's Day Combined Service Date/Time: Sun, 1 Jan 2023 @ 10am

Speaker: Revd Lawrence Seow

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

We encourage families 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 QR code. One form | should be submitted for each individual child. Age groups: JC Preschool – ages 3–6; JC Primary – ages 7–10

Change in TE age range

From January 2023, TE will comprise ages 11–13. Youths aged 14 and above are encouraged to progress to Heartbeat.

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 <u>https://tinyurl.com/46krs583</u> or scan the QR code. For more details, email <u>williamtham@sjsm.org.sg</u>.

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO...

Maureen Ang and family (son: Samuel Tan). Maureen's beloved father, Mr Gilbert Ang Ching Lee, was called home to the Lord on Fri, 2 Dec 2022.

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)



NEXTGEN SERVERS WANTED!

Email us if you're keen to help disciple little ones!

Preschool:

kerineau@sjsm.org.sg

Primary:

victorcheong@sjsm.org.sg
Teen Encounter:

richardkwan@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@sism.org.sq.

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 reauired.

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.

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.



MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP MEALS AFTER SES & E2

Fellowship Meals resume in January 2023.

Meal vouchers 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	

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE (MPC) 2023.1

Dates: 11, 18 & 25 Feb; 4, 11 & 25 Mar; 1 Apr (7 Saturdays) **Times:** 9am–1pm (11 Feb & 25 Mar); 9am–5pm (1 Apr)

Fee: \$70 per person

Registration closes on Tue, 10 Jan 2023

This course will be held onsite unless otherwise advised.

For queries, please email flm@sjsm.org.sq.

More details and the registration link are available at <u>www.sjsm.org.sg/mpc</u>.

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)

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LECTIONARY READINGS: Psalm 68:1–19; Zephaniah 3:14–end; Philippians 4:4–7

COLLECT: Almighty God, who sent Your servant John the Baptist to prepare Your people for the coming of Your Son: inspire the ministers and stewards of Your truth to turn our disobedient hearts to the law of love; that when He comes again in glory, we may stand with confidence before Him as our Judge; who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

SJSM VILLAGE (SJSMV)

OUR PARISH

- <u>Vicar.</u> Pray blessings over our Vicar, Revd Alvin Toh, who has faithfully served the SJSM community for the past 5.5 years with perseverance. May the Lord use him mightily in his new ministry pasture, and manifest His divine favour upon Revd Alvin and his family. May He keep them strong in spirit, soul, and body. (Nu 6:22–27)
- <u>Staff.</u> Pray for divine grace to keep Revd Alvin and the staff team steady even in the midst of major changes, that they may find rest and be sensitive to the Lord's leading, especially as they prepare for the Christmas and Covenant services and outreach activities.
- Youth Camp (16–19 Dec). May the youths have a wonderful time of fellowship at the camp. Pray for powerful ministry of the Word and the Spirit to strengthen them for the journey ahead and to ignite in them a passion for revival in the land. Pray anointing and protection over the speaker (Jemima Ooi), the worship team, and the camp committee. (Is 55:10–11)
- <u>Outreach.</u> Ask God to open our eyes to see the needs of others and give us His heart for the lost. Pray for names of people to reach out to, and to invite them to our Christmas Gospel Services and the upcoming Alpha course (starting Feb 2023). (Jn 3:16; Ro 10:14–15)

OUR EXTENDED COMMUNITY

• <u>Christmas.</u> Pray that the various Christmas outreach activities will create many opportunities for sharing the knowledge of God and love of Christ with many (such as the nurses and residents in the Nursing Home and the seniors in Dover). Pray for good response to the invitations to our Christmas Gospel Services. May the eldercare activities at KopiStop continue to attract and bless many seniors.

OUR NATION

Government. Pray for God's will to prevail as the nation begins a 6-week (3 Dec 2022–13 Jan 2023) process of providing feedback to the government over a wide range of issues for the purpose of preparing the next Budget — identifying challenges and opportunities as Singapore navigates a volatile and complex world, exploring ways to strengthen the social compact and to build a resilient nation, etc. Pray wisdom for the government as she weighs public opinions and works at strengthening her partnership with Singaporeans. (Ps 127:1)

THE WORLD

The Persecuted Church. Pray for persecuted believers to experience the Lord's glorious presence, consolation, and protection as they celebrate Christmas in secrecy and persevere in witnessing for Christ (2 Cor 4:7–12). May God move in their nations to open the Gospel gate, that the Prince of Peace may heal their nations.

PRAYER & INTERCESSION MINISTRY

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

UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS



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

Christmas 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.



Follow the Light!

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

Christmas Eve Youth Gospel Service

Sat, 24 Dec - 2pm @ Shalom Hall

Christmas Eve Gospel Service*

Sat, 24 Dec - 5pm @ Christ Sanctuary

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

Christmas Day Holy Communion Services Sun, 25 Dec - 8.15am & 11.15am @ Christ Sanctuary

Refreshments will be served after the 8.15am service

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

Covenant Service

Sat, 31 Dec 2022 8pm @ Christ Sanctuary

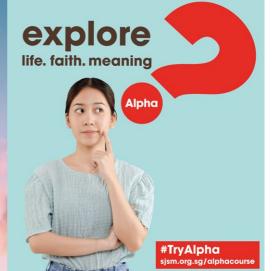
Speaker:
Revd Dr Joshua Sudharman

Farewell to Revd Alvin

We will be holding a farewell for Ps Alvin and his family after the Covenant Service concludes. Do join us as we share, and pray over and bless him

> Afterwards, join us for supper and a time of fellowship as we look forward to the new year!

for the new season ahead.



10 Feb - 5 May 2023

No question is too big, too small, or too silly. Discover more about the Christian toith in a friendly atmosphere at the Alpha Course. Save the date for the next Alpha course, it's coming up soon! Email us at alpha@sjsm.org.sg if you have queries.



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).