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SAT, 16 DEC & SUN, 17 DEC 2023

Saturday services

English – 5pm (Christ Sanctuary)

Mandarin – 5pm (Glory Sanctuary)

Sunday services

English – 8.15am (Christ Sanctuary),

11.15am* (Christ Sanctuary & [online](#))

Mandarin – 10am (Glory Sanctuary)

Tamil – 10am (Bethel Auditorium & Chapel)

Indonesian Fellowship – 11am (C205)

Filipino – 1.30pm (Bethel Auditorium)

Junior Church & Teen Encounter

Closed in Dec 2023; reopening in Jan 2024

➤ ADVENT.

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 – His birth as well as His second coming. The liturgical colour for this festive period, purple, symbolises penitence and preparation; this is why three of the five candles that Anglican churches often have in their Advent wreaths are purple.

**Live-streamed;
for all other service details, please refer to inside pages*

THIS WEEKEND'S SERMONS

SAT, 16 DEC 2023

5pm (SES)

The Significance of Advent (Isaiah 61:1–7; Luke 4:16–30),
by Mr Julian Chin

SUN, 17 DEC 2023

8.15am (E1) & 11.15am (E2)

The Significance of Advent (Isaiah 61:1–7; Luke 4:16–30), by Mr Julian Chin

**2023
ADVENT
series**

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!



Teen Encounter

(ages 11–13)

Junior Church

- (Primary) ages 7–10
- (Preschool) ages 3–6

No classes in Dec 2023

Families are strongly encouraged to attend the main/English congregation's services together.

CLASSES RESUME 06/07 JAN '24

Email richardkwan@sjsm.org.sg
for enquiries about Teen Encounter.

Email juniorchurch@sjsm.org.sg
for enquiries about Junior Church.

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.sg
or counselling@sjsm.org.sg

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

Nehemiah series

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/10514278>

Mental Health series

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/10771589>

Advent 2023 series

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/10832205>

All/Other services

<https://vimeo.com/channels/sjsmchurch>

HEARTBEAT services

<https://tinyurl.com/3dvbbmr>

SCHEDULE FOR THE COMING WEEK

Thu, 21 Dec

8pm **Healing Svc** (Onsite @ Chapel; email thssjsm@gmail.com for more info)

Sat, 23 Dec

10am **DOVER CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS** (Onsite across SJSJ Village; email events@sjsm.org.sg for enquiries or to volunteer your help)

2pm **Watoto Children's Choir concert** (Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary)

5pm **Watoto Children's Choir concert** (Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary)

Sun, 24 Dec

9am **Christmas Eve Holy Communion Svc***
(Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary; live-streamed via sjsm.online.church, [SJSJ Facebook](#), and www.sjsm.org.sg/online.html)

1.30pm **Filipino Christmas Eve Svc** (Onsite @ Bethel Auditorium; email juanita@sjsm.org.sg for more information)

8pm **Mandarin Christmas Eve Svc** (Onsite @ Glory Sanctuary; email sjsmc@sjsm.org.sg for more information or to join)

Tamil Christmas Eve Svc (Onsite @ Bethel Auditorium; email solomon@sjsm.org.sg for more information or to join)

9pm **Christmas Eve Gospel Svc*** (Onsite @ Christ Sanctuary)

*Junior Church (for ages 3–10) and Teen Encounter (for ages 11–13) will not be running in Dec 2023. Classes will resume in Jan 2024.

Misc. details

Cell Groups

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

Youth Ministry

Comprises Teen Encounter (ages 11–13)* and Heartbeat (ages 14–20). To find out more, email richardkwan@sjsm.org.sg.

Alpha Course

Where anyone can feel free to ask questions and explore the Christian faith. Find out more at www.sjsm.org.sg/alphacourse.html.

RECRUITMENT NEEDS @ HEARTFRIENDS STUDENT CARE CENTRE

1. Programme Staff (responsible for daily teaching and development activities of Student Care Programme; 5-day work week with shifts during school holidays)
2. Cook (in-house catering duties for 60 students and teachers; 5-day work week)

Call 6776 4906 or email info@heartfriendsbasc.org.sg for details or to apply.



WATOTO CHILDREN'S CHOIR IN CONCERT

SAT, 23 DEC
2pm & 5pm
Christ Sanctuary, SJSJ

Everyone's invited!

FREE ADMISSION

Christmas Eve Services 2023

Holy Communion Service
Sun, 24 Dec 2023 @ 9am
Speaker: Rt Revd Rennis Ponniah

Gospel Service
Sun, 24 Dec 2023 @ 9pm
Speaker: Revd Victor Teo

Hope for the Poor

ASJSM

NOTICES

CHRISTMAS WEEKEND: 23–24 DEC

ON SAT, 23 DEC:

DOVER CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS 2023 (DCC23)

DCC23 promises plenty of Fun, Food, and Festivity in SJSM Village! Volunteers are still needed to assist with set up on 23 Dec as well as to welcome visitors (2–5pm). Get in touch via events@sjsm.org.sg if you're able to help! Tickets cost \$8 each and will be on sale at the Info Desk after each service, and from the Info Hub on 23 Dec.

ON SAT, 23 DEC:

WATOTO CHILDREN'S CHOIR CONCERTS

Hailing from Uganda, the children who make up the choir have wonderful testimonies of hope to share, so do invite your friends and loved ones to come and be blessed. You can find out more about them at <https://www.watoto.com>. After each performance, Revd Victor Teo will also give a short evangelistic message titled "Hope in One", based on Psalm 113:7–9, so make the most of this opportunity!

Concert times: 2pm & 5pm (FOC)

Venue: Christ Sanctuary (free seating)

ON SUN, 24 DEC:

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Let's celebrate Holy Communion together on the morning of Christmas Eve. The Gospel Service is at 9pm to facilitate the sharing of hospitality with our invited friends and family members – host them for a meal and then bring them to church to learn more about Jesus, the reason for the season.

CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

Time: 9am

Speaker: Rt Revd Rennis Ponniah

Title/Texts: "Behold, I Am Making All Things New"
(Revelation 21:1–5; Luke 1:67–79)

CHRISTMAS EVE GOSPEL SERVICE

Time: 9pm

Speaker: Revd Victor Teo

Title/Text: God With Us (John 1:14)

REFRESHMENTS @ CHRISTMAS EVE SVCS

9am Holy Communion Svc	No refreshments served
9pm Gospel Svc	Post-svc refreshments

ANGAGE NEWSLETTER

ANGAGE is a biannual, in-house publication of St. Andrew's Mission Hospital and Singapore Anglican Community Service. Pick up a copy of the latest issue from the Host Team or at www.samh.org.sg/newsletters/.

ADVENT.

We begin the church year with the end in mind, reflecting on the need for Jesus' first coming and looking forward to His return as a conquering King and righteous Judge. Each Sunday of Advent, one additional Advent candle is lit, culminating in the lighting of the Christ candle on Christmas Eve/Christmas Day to celebrate Jesus' birth and His coming as the light of the world. The five candles (three purple, one pink/rose, one white) typically symbolise prophecy/hope, the Way (out of darkness), joy, peace, and Christ Himself (prophecy fulfilled). Some churches also associate the candles with the Patriarchs, the Prophets, John the Baptist, the virgin Mary, and Christ, such that the four Sundays of Advent remind us of those who prepared the Lord's people for His coming.



Image: iStockphoto Kara Gebhardt

CONNECT WITH US

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Write to info@sjsm.org.sg to furnish us with relevant details.

MARRIAGE/WEDDINGS

Planning to get married?

Write to the Family Life Ministry at flm@sjsm.org.sg.

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 into the offering boxes at the exits. Tithing does not require an accompanying member's stewardship number.

STAFF RECRUITMENT NEEDS

1. Administrator, Admin & Events Mgt (Church Ops)
2. Administrator (Spiritual Formation)
3. Group Administrator, Church Operations
4. Team Lead, Facilities Management
5. Team Lead, Information Technology
6. Facility Officer, Facilities Management

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

CHARITY CRAFT SALE FUNDRAISING – THANK YOU!

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the support and generosity extended during the recent fundraising effort. We raised S\$15,764 in total. Of this, S\$13,000 will go to SJSM Nursing Home; the rest will go to Little Seeds Preschool (SJSM)'s 'Mustard Seed' fund for children from needy families in the neighbourhood.

We thank our Lord Jesus Christ for His continuing favour and providence! Our deepest appreciation also goes out to Kwai Yuen and her team for their time and effort.

WOMEN AT THE WELL

Have questions on mothering? Come listen to Sherlyn Lee share her thoughts on parenting, then participate in a 'Human Library' activity: chatting with 'human books' – SJSM ladies who are mothers of preschoolers, primary age kids, teens, and young adults... and even a grandmother!

Date/Venue: Sat, 27 Jan @ Bethel Auditorium

Time: 9.30am (breakfast fellowship starts at 9am)

Sign up individually at <https://tinyurl.com/2p9wzak6> by 8pm on Mon, 22 Jan; all ladies aged 18 and up are welcome, even if you're not from SJSM!

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO...

- Koh Siew Lian and family (husband: Steve Lai; son: Jonathan; daughter-in-law: Christl; grandchildren: Oliver and Tabitha). Siew Lian's beloved mother, Mdm Sim Kok Eng, was called home to the Lord on Sun, 10 Dec 2023.
- Victor Chua and family, on the loss of Victor's beloved father, Mr Patrick Chua, on Wed, 13 Dec 2023.

TITHES & OFFERINGS (updated monthly)

	Jan–Nov 2023 (\$)	Nov 2023 (\$)
General Fund (Budgeted collections)	7,338,767	667,161
General Fund (Actual collections)	6,932,631	569,333
Excess / (Shortfall)	(406,136)	(97,828)

PRAYER @ SJSM

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LECTIONARY READINGS: Psalm 50:1–6, 62; Isaiah 12; Luke 1:57–66

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

- **Heart of Christmas.** Ask God to open our eyes to see the inner struggles of others and give us His heart for the needy and the lost. Pray for names of people to reach out to during this Christmas season, and to invite them to the Dover Celebrates Christmas Carnival and our Christmas Gospel Services (Jn 3:16; Ro 10:14–15).
- **Heartbeat Youth Camp (15–18 Dec).** Pray that the Word and the Spirit shall accomplish God's purpose in the hearts of the youths (Is 55:10–11). May life transforming encounters precipitate a new wave of youth revival in SJSM. Ask God to raise a good crop of future leaders amongst our youths who will be spiritual trail blazers in their generation and His agents of change in society.

OUR EXTENDED COMMUNITY

- **Christmas in our Village.** May God be glorified through the Dover Celebrates Christmas (DCC) event! Pray for overwhelming turn-up of guests, and for SJSMers to serve with an enthusiasm that springs from a passion for His Kingdom. Pray also that seekers will hear and respond to the Good News at the Watoto Children's Choir Concerts on 23 Dec and the Gospel service on 24 Dec. May the fragrance of Christmas overflow beyond our church walls and DCC to continually draw many to SJSM Village to find a community that is ever ready to share the love and truth of God.

OUR NATION

- **Christmas in our Nation.** As Christmas is celebrated across the nation, may the Lord be pleased to pour out His Spirit to revive the multitudes and to empower the Church for a great harvest (Acts 1:8). Pray that Spirit-empowered proclamation of the Reason for Christmas will awaken souls to yearn for the governance of Christ in our lives and in our land (Is 9:6–7).

THE WORLD

- **The Persecuted Church.** Remember our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering in silence in oppressive regimes (Heb 13:3). May God bless them with special favours of His Presence, consolation, joy, and protection as they celebrate Christmas in secrecy. May they stay steadfast under trials (2 Cor 4:7–12), and be given the grace to rejoice in the hope God offers them. Pray for wisdom and discernment in their witnessing. May the Holy Spirit work in mysterious ways in their situations to win souls for Christ.

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Download the latest file at www.anglican.org.sg.

PRAYER & INTERCESSION MINISTRY

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

UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS



Dover Celebrates Christmas! 23 Dec 2023 at SJSJ Village



#DoverCelebratesChristmas
www.sjsm.org.sg/dovercelebrates

Join us at our Christmas carnival for games & rides, Amazing Race, virtual reality immersion, Nerf Blaster Showdown, family art, food stalls & snacks, workshops & talks, raffle draws, parties for both seniors & children, and more! All are welcome.

FAITH FOUNDATIONS (I)

Explore the key foundations of the Christian faith!
Attendance is a prerequisite for baptism in SJSJ.

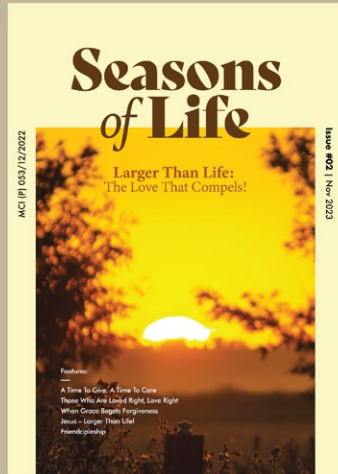
4, 18, 25 Feb & 3 Mar
2pm–4pm @ B404/405
Register by Sun, 28 Jan

Get info/Register:
Scan the QR code
or visit
www.sjsm.org.sg/courses.
Questions? Email
ce@sjsm.org.sg.



Image: Pixabay (Blue/Gray)

Larger Than Life, the 2nd 2023 issue of **Seasons of Life**, is now available online at <https://www.sjsm.org.sg/publications.html>



Feel free to pick up a hardcopy from our hosts onsite, or download an e-copy to read at leisure!

This in-house publication of SJSJ's Family Life Ministry largely features stories of SJSJers and friends whose lives have been touched by God's hand. Usually built around families, these stories serve to show that regardless of season or station of life, God's light can shine through each of us when we journey with Him in faith and love.

Covenant Services

Speaker: Revd Victor Teo

Sat, 30 Dec
@ 5pm (SES)

Sun, 31 Dec
@ 8.15am (E1) & 11.15am (E2)

Bishop of Singapore
Rt Revd Dr Titus Chung

Assistant Bishop
Rt Revd Low Jee King

Archdeacon of Singapore
Ven Daniel Wee

Vicar
Revd Victor Teo

Clergy
Ven Wong Tak Meng
Revd Dino Thangamany
Revd Thong Tang Hiong
Revd Solomon Periyamayakam
Revd Calvin Tan
Revd Vincent Hoon (auxiliary)

Deaconesses
Ds Bessie Lee
Ds Laura Chan (auxiliary)



30 Dover Avenue, S139790
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), Little Seeds Preschool (SJSM) (www.littleseeds.edu.sg), Heartfriends Student Care Centre (info@heartfriends.org.sg) and Heartfriends Kopi Stop (doverheartfriends@sjsm.org.sg).