

TODAY
1st Sunday of Lent

	E1 (8am)	E2 (10am)	E3 (10am)
Celebrant	Ven Wong Tak Meng	Ven Wong Tak Meng	Rev Daniel Teo
Preacher	Ven Wong Tak Meng	Ven Wong Tak Meng	Rev Daniel Teo
Song Worship Leader	Steven Ong	James Aruldoss	Jillyn Chen
Sound	Michelle Cheok Joseph Tan Steven Shinchu	Adelene Teow	Tan Shin Yee
Lay Readers / Service Leader / Service Coord. (E3)	*PH/FKH/AC/AS/EK	*CMS/DS/VS/MH/AC	Calvin Tan (SL) David Mark Lim (SC)
Intercessor	Steven Ong	David Soh	-
Scripture Reader	Jennie Tan	Tay Sop Hong	Janesa Wong
Servers	Peter Sung Chang Pao Li	Jimmy Ng Brendan Say	-
Multi-Media	Ian Sim Elaine Chua	Khoo See Kiang Kennif Lim	Joshua Ng Joshua Lim
Sidesmen / Hosp Team	Michelle Sung Florence Sung Shanti Sathasivam	Hillcrest HCG Yeo Boon Hong & Team	David Mark Lim Brandon Tan Caryn Chong

Ministry Team (10am): All Teams and Lay Readers on duty
Floral Arr. Team: -

NEXT SUNDAY 12.3.17
2nd Sunday of Lent

	E1 (8am)	E2 (10am)	E3 (10am)
Celebrant	Ven Wong Tak Meng	Ven Wong Tak Meng	-
Preacher	Rev Jonathan Wong	Rev Jonathan Wong	Adele Soh
Song Worship Leader	Helen Tan	Ian Poulier	Deborah Simon
Sound	William Lian Nikki Chuang Tong Kian Beng	Desmond Yeo	David Mark Lim
Lay Readers / Service Leader / Service Coord. (E3)	*RL/CJK/AC/WY/EK	*JT/TC/WY/AC/RM/ DO/KSK	Calvin Tan (SL) Alex Low (SC)
Intercessor	Allison Chee	Wendy Yong	-
Scripture Reader	Elizabeth Ezekiel	Angeline Loh	Nicole Ong
Servers	Leonard Wu Kenneth Chew	Henry Poh Wilson Yeo	-
Multi-Media	Elaine Chua Vincent Chen	Edwin Chew Vivien Tam	Caitlyn Tan
Sidesmen / Hosp Team	Lawrence Koh May Koh Roger & Shirley Yeo	Palm Drive HCG Freddy Choo & Team	Alex Low Lim Xuan Ying Rachel Sim

Ministry Team (10am) All Teams and Lay Readers on duty
Breakfast Ministry: Hillcrest (Team 2)

Bishop: **Rt Rev Rennis Ponniah**
Asst. Bishops: **Rt Rev Low Jee King**
Rt Rev Kuan Kim Seng

Vicar: **Ven Wong Tak Meng**
Clergy: **Rev Wong Ngiam Koy**
Rev David Lee



Our Vision: *In Christ we serve the COMMUNITY as a beacon of FAITH, HOPE & LOVE.*

Our Mission: To be a worshipping community that is grounded in God's Word, empowered by the Holy Spirit for sanctification, ministry and missions and is growing in Christ to reach out as a beacon of **Faith, Hope & Love.**

Worship & Ministry

Services

English

Sunday

E1 8am (Holy Communion)
E2 10am (Holy Communion)
E3 10am (Holy Communion on 1st)

Mandarin

Sunday

10.30am (Holy Communion on 1st & 3rd)

Hokkien

Saturday

3pm (Holy Communion on 1st & 3rd)

Children's Ministries

Sunday, 8am to 9:15am (0-5yrs & Pri.School)

Sunday School

Sunday, 10am to 11.30am

Cradle Club (Toddlers)

Praise Club (Preschool)

Kids' for Christ (Primary school)

Sunday, 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Victory Kids (Preschool)

Youth Ministry

Sunday, 11.30am to 12.30pm

Young Adults Ministry (18 - 25yrs)

Friday, 8pm to 10pm

DATE: Sunday, 5 March 2017

1st Sunday of Lent

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Readings & Sermon Title

E1 & E2

OT/ NT: Prov 4: 20 - 27 (Pg 990)

Gospel: Matthew 13: 1 - 9 (Pg 1516)

"Parable of the Sower"

E3

OT/ NT: Ezekiel 34: 11 - 16

Gospel: John 21: 9 - 19

**"Peter's Turning Point
and Commission"**

A very warm *Welcome!*

We invite members and visitors to stay back after the worship service for refreshments and fellowship at the Manna House.

HOME

1. GUEST PREACHER TODAY AT E3

We welcome Rev Daniel Teo from St John's-St Margaret's Church who will share God's word with us this morning.

2. "THE LITURGY FOR HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE –SEASON OF LENT"

You would have received this booklet with the church news bulletin today. We will be using this booklet for our service during this season of lent. Kindly return the booklet after the service:

E1 – on the pew

E2 – into the designated boxes at the entrances

Thank you.

3. OUR CONDOLENCES TO...

our sister Shanta Shankaran and family as her beloved mother Christine was called home to the Lord on 25 Feb. 2017.

4. LENTEN PRAYER JOURNEY 2017:

The theme this year is *"Encountering Christ in the Wilderness"*.

Stations have been set up to guide you in prayer. A copy of the Lenten Prayer Journey booklet is inserted in the news bulletin for your use. We encourage every member to join us on this journey.

For group usage after the stated hours, please call Church Office (63443463) or email Ms Catherine Teo (catteo@sthildas.org.sg) to make a booking.

5. SALE OF HANDMADE POUCHES & BAGS (Price: \$10 / \$35)
These will be sold after the E1 service today. All proceeds will go towards the Cambodia Mission Fund.

6. +SATURATE+

Come and join the rest of the body of Christ in a time of worship and prayer this **Tuesday, 7 March 2017 at 8pm in Daniel Room.**

7. CLERGY RETREAT

Vicar, Rev Wong and Rev Lee will be away for the diocesan clergy retreat in Johor Bahru from 7th to 10th March 2017.

8. GUEST PREACHER NEXT SUNDAY

Rev Jonathan Wong from Church of the Good Shepherd will preach and celebrate Holy Communion at our E1 and E2 services next Sunday.

9. SENIOR CITIZENS' OUTING ~ Tuesday, 21 March 2017

Full details at the Info Desk today.

10. PRAYING FOR HEALING

We have a prayer team who gathers at the Care Lounge every 3rd Sunday of the month from 9am to 9.45am to pray for anyone who needs healing. So, if you need prayers for healing, please do not hesitate, our team will pray for you.

11. SHC CHURCH CAMP 2017

Fri 9th June to Mon 12th June
at Grand Millenium Kuala Lumpur.
Registration forms with more information are available at the Info Desk.

12. REV DAVID LEE'S SABBATICAL

Please refer to Vicar's pastoral letter (insert) for details.

13. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & BIBLE STUDIES
+ Fire Place Bible Study
(Tuesdays at 10.30am in the Care Lounge)
Study on the book of Mark.
All are welcome!

14. F.I.S.H (Faithful Intercessors of St Hilda's)
Tuesdays (except the first Tuesday of every month) in the Care Lounge at 9am.

FAMILY

15. DIOCESE CERTIFICATE OF BIBLICAL STUDIES

+ Non Pauline Letters by Ms Lucilla Teoh
Wed. 8, 15, 22, 29 March and 5 April
7.30pm to 9.30pm
at St Andrew's Cathedral,
Chapel For All Peoples
(Level 1, next to the Café)
Cost: \$20

To register, email teb@anglican.org.sg or call 62888944

Please see notice board for more information.

PRAYING FOR THE DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

CHAPEL OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Ag. Vicar: Ven Wong Tak Meng
Deacon: Rev Joshua Sundraraj
PA: Ms Amanda Ng,
Mr Aaron Carthigasu

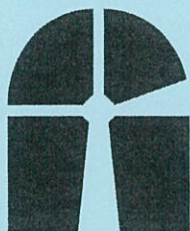
Chinese Congregation
Priest: Rev Lui Choo Huat
PA: Ms Yong Sak Pou

St Hilda's Primary School
Principal: Mdm Kew Mee Ying

St Hilda's Secondary School
Principal: Mr Khoo Tse Horng

MEMORY VERSE March 2017

"But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."
Mt 13: 23



Vicar's Pastoral Letter

5 March 2017

Rev David Lee has been a great blessing to St Hilda's Church since Bishop Rennis Ponniah posted him to us on 1 October 2013. In his time with St Hilda's Rev David was able to build lasting relationships with our church members. He has been my able and faithful right hand when my Diocesan duties have drawn me away from you. He has also been our go-to person for the many church initiatives that have transformed our church in these past three years.

In January this year we were informed of the Bishop's intention for Rev David to take a sabbatical from 11 March to 30 June 2017, with the view that he will be posted to another parish in the Anglican family on 1 October 2017. He is planning for another priest of a similar experience level to join us in St Hilda's on 1 October.

There has been a process of discussion and feedback between the Vicar, St Hilda's Parish Church Council (PCC) and the Diocesan Bishop. A delegation of the PCC met Bishop Rennis on 11 February to share our perspective and concerns, and to seek his reconsideration.

Bishop Rennis shared with me on 26 February that he appreciated the feedback from our delegation. He has prayed over the matter, and received the assurance of the Lord that the sabbatical and posting plan was His will and should proceed. He also reiterated to me his certainty in faith that the vision from the Lord that he shared with St Hilda's during our 82nd Anniversary Celebration in November 2016—a vision of buckets overflowing with water, bring life everywhere we go—will come to pass despite this change.

On my part, the Lord has been re-shaping my ministry responsibilities over the past 7 months.

For Cambodia, the Lord has placed it on the heart of my Associate Dean, the Rev Steven Seah, to inform the Bishop in August 2016 that he was willing to be based full-time in Cambodia. Since Rev Seah moved to Cambodia on 19 November 2016, he has relieved significantly my responsibility as the Dean of Cambodia.

For the Chapel of Christ the Redeemer (CCR), where I have been Acting Vicar since April 2014, I have had the privilege of seeing Pastor Joshua Raj grow as a parish worker to be ordained as a deacon in May 2016. Since February 2017, he has expressed his readiness to fully lead the ministry. My role in CCR remains only in the chairing of the PCC meeting.

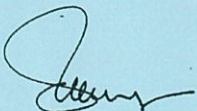
These are signs that the Lord has already rearranged my plate to allow me to devote the bulk of my time and energy to St Hilda's, so that we can continue to grow in worship, pastoral care, discipleship and leadership development, evangelism and missions, both local and overseas.

We will have an opportunity during our worship service on 12 March to pray for Rev David and his family as he embarks on his sabbatical. He will still be with us from July to September before his posting on 1 October.

While we will surely miss Rev David, let us also rejoice with him that the fruits of his ministry among us will endure. Let us look to the Lord, and continue the good work that He has given to us, for indeed "(Paul) planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth." (1 Cor 3:6 ESV).

The Lord who has blessed us with David is still the same good God who will give us His abundant grace to continue growing and serving Him for His glory.

Richest Lenten Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tak Meng', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pastor Tak Meng
Vicar

OVERCOME THE ENEMY AT THE DOOR

In Bibliotheca Alexandria, the Library in Alexandria in Egypt, there is a whole section on the life and speeches of President Anwar Sadat who was assassinated in 1981 while in office. President Sadat is best remembered for the Peace Treaty between Egypt and Israel signed in 1979. He sought to end the



hatred, conflict and bloodshed between the two peoples that had brought so much of pain to human lives. One can say that where there is true forgiveness and a firm resolve to forge a new future, a genuine beginning is made. On the other hand, where anger and hatred are unresolved and lurk in the depths of the human heart, violence and destruction are more than liable to break out.

Egypt's President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin at the signing of the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty on 26 March 1979

That was indeed the case in the story of Cain and Abel (Gen 4:1-15). Cain was angry and upset that while God accepted his brother Abel's offering, God had no regard for Cain's offering. The Lord cautioned Cain about his seething anger with these words:

"Why are you angry...

... but you must rule over it." (Genesis 4:6).

The warning of God is clear. Deal with the dark thoughts and emotions in your heart for sin too has a cycle of growth, and when it is fully grown, it will "pounce on you and overwhelm you." This is what happened in the story of Cain and Abel. Cain allowed resentment against his brother to grow and finally murdered him in the open field. Resentment when fully grown becomes hatred that destroys the other. God judges and punishes Cain, yet even in this instance, God's justice is matched with amazing grace (Genesis 4:10-15). For a fuller exposition of the story, do listen to my sermon on 5th March 2017 on the Cathedral website (www.cathedral.org.sg).

Lent is a time for purifying the heart. In the tradition of the church, it marks the 40-day journey (not including Sundays) to Easter. I suppose we all want to live in the complete freedom, light and joy of the Resurrection. But our journey towards Resurrection must be through the way of the Cross. And that journey begins with a contemplation of our own sinfulness and the death we deserve. Hence, Lent is a time of recognising and overcoming the dark shadows and desires upon our hearts. If we don't, then *"desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."* (James 1:15). So, a good place to start in Lent is simply to ask yourself: "What is the enemy that is crouching at my door to overwhelm and destroy me?" For Cain, it was unresolved anger in the heart that led to violence against the other and the loss of life under God's gracious rule. For you and me, there could be the same or different dangers lurking in our hearts.

When by the grace of God, you seek to purify your heart of all wrong thoughts and intentions, you will find yourself drawn to the Cross of Jesus Christ. For there at the Cross is full pardon from the past and power to break the stranglehold of sin. That is why the Bible says that God's mercy in Christ Jesus has reached a new level of **utmost**:

"You have come... to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel."
(Hebrews 12:22-24)

God has made provision in Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, for you and I to 'overcome the enemy at the door'. As we grow in holiness we declare His glory, experience the joy of our redemption and advance His Glorious Kingdom.

May the Lord grant you and your church a blessed Lent.

Warmly in Christ,
Bishop Rennis

