

WEEK 06

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT 11 FEBRUARY 2018



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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Welcome to a gathering of God's people.

COLLECT FOR TODAY:

Lord, you have taught us that whatever we do without love is worth nothing: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and all virtues; without which whoever lives is counted dead before you; grant this, for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It begins our Lenten journey, a journey that leads us through the season of Lent, to Maundy Thursday and Good Friday and then finally to the Easter Resurrection.

Lent is a time of fasting and prayer. They provided a time and place for us to reflect honestly about our relationship with God and others, confess our sins, receive forgiveness and cleansing, and commit ourselves to walk in newness of life. Some churches even encouraged the members to give up on something they often indulge in. In the next forty days, instead of spending time to update your Facebook or watching a movie, you might consider to spend more time on reading God's Word and praying, drawing ourselves nearer to God.

Why "Ash" Wednesday?

In the Old Testament, ashes is a symbol of suffering and mourning. We are sorry for that which is wrong in our lives and we want to change, we want to repent. For instance, in the Book of Esther, Mordecai put on sackcloth and ashes when he heard of the decree of King Ahasuerus of Persia to kill all the Jewish people in the Persian Empire (Esther 4:1). Job repented in sackcloth and ashes (Job 42:6).

Ashes also symbolize mortality. Therefore, the visual symbol at the center of Ash Wednesday is ashes. In some churches, the minister will draw a cross on the foreheads of the people. The sign of the cross on the forehead is a sign of mortality, we will not live forever, we will face the reality of death. The use of ashes, made from burnt palm crosses from the previous Palm Sunday, is very symbolic.

As the cross is marked on our foreheads, the minister say, *"you are created from dust, and to dust you will return."* Ashes are reminders to us of our mortality. God made the first human being by breathing life into dust, and without God, human beings are nothing more than dust and ashes. This helps us to be mindful and live in the light of our ultimate accountability before God. There is nothing of which we may boast of ourselves, only of God.

I encourage you to join the special service this coming Wednesday as we begin 40-Day Lenten journey. Let us draw nearer to God in this Season of Lent.

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you (James 4: 8a)

FAMILY MATTERS

Welcome to a gathering of God's people. We gather to worship Jesus. To sing praises to Him, to confess our sins to Him, to listen to His word, to pray to Him, to remember His death and to encourage one another to obey Him in our daily lives.

- **Provincial Sunday**
Envelopes are still available if needed, from the sidesmen's desk. We strongly encourage you to give generously.
- **12 Feb (Mon) — BM Zone Leaders** meeting with Ad Yong. Venue / Time: Grace Hall / 7:30 pm.
- **14 Feb - Ash Wednesday** combined Holy Communion Service. Venue / Time : COGS / 7:30 pm.
- **16 Feb (Fri) - Chinese New Year Thanksgiving service.** Venue / Time : Church / 7:30 am.
- **17 Feb (Sat) -**
No Chinese Worship Service in the evening.
- **17 & 24 Feb (Sats) - Ch Youth ministry including M.A.D. Youth in recess.**
- **18 Feb (Sun) - Chinese Worship Service** (*3 Chinese Services combined*) at 7:00 am

★ **Eng & BM - Worship services** as usual, 9:30 am.

- **18 & 25 Feb - Chinese & English Sunday Schools** in recess, but
★ BM Sunday School continues.
- **24 Feb (Sat); 8 am - 4:30 pm.** Shofar training at IAC. Registration fee @ RM10 / pax. Shofars will be on sale.
- **26 Feb (Mon) - COGS Alpha Leaders training** at Grace Hall. Time: 7:30 pm.
- **28 Feb (Wed) - Venue / time: COGS / 7:30 pm.**
Prayer meeting combined with St Michael's for prayer and briefing for the following event:
★ **8—10 Mar : Diocesan Chinese Prayer Conference.** Venue / time: COGS – Church / 7:30 pm. Persons-in-charge: COGS - Ps Hyen Tze; St Michael's Church - Vennie Chang and IAC— Regina Chin.
- **Pre-marital courses** for those of you who are prepared or intend to get married this year, please register at the church office.

DON'T STOP SHINING FOR JESUS !

1. Mark 9: 2 - 3 Light of the world
2. Mark 9: 4 - 6 Law and Prophets
3. Mark 9: 7 - 9 We are God's children

Questions for sharing:

Please read :-

1. Mark 9: 2 - 9 twice and share why we must keep on shining for Jesus ?
2. Verses 2 & 3. What changes did we see in Jesus Christ ?
3. Verses 4 - 6. When we read the Law and Prophets, we will be changed too. Have you experienced changes in your life ?
4. As God's children, discuss in your group what are some of the ways you can shine for Jesus ?

FAMILY MATTERS

We need to prepare you for the pre-marriage courses. Forms are available at the church office.

- **2017 Education Awards** for UPSR, PT3, SPM & STPM candidates. Please fill in a form and hand it in to the church office or to Ps Hyen Tze.
- **2018 AGM.** It will be very much appreciated if the ministry leaders will get your reports done, the earlier the better. Report forms are available on the sidesmen's desk. Thank you. Details to follow.
- **House blessing** — 09/02/18, at the home of Mr & Mrs Soo Choi Lang at Tmn Springfield, Mile 8.
- **Flowers** - are contributed by a couple as their thanksgiving.
- **Condolence** - our deepest sympathy to the family of Mdm Chong Nyuk Len who was called to the Lord at the age of 61. Funeral service was held in KK on 10/02/18.

04/02 Services/Attendance/Communicants

Hakka I [Sat] - 7:30 p.m.	225	192
Hakka II [Sun] - 7:00 am	221	163
English [Sun] - 9:30 am	169	153
BM [Sun] - 9:30 am	293	244
Hakka III [Sun] - 2:30 pm	72	58
Mawar Children	37	
Labuk Children (Ch)	75	
Labuk Children (En)	44	
BM Children	79	
Total	1215	810

Lord, teach us how to pray ...

✂ **For Our World - MYANMAR**, formerly Burma, population 52 million.

- Problem of Rohingya being displaced and suffering. Pray for long term solution.
- For the present government to be sensitive to all ethnic groups.
- The government to heed inter-nation call of justice to all people.

✂ **For Malaysia - The poor.**

- Poor people are always with us in urban and rural society.
- The government to be sensitive to poor kampong folks.
- The government to provide roads and clean water supply to all poor citizens.

✂ **For Our Diocese - Epiphany Mission, Tongod.**

- Revd Jeniol Tuaty, Ev Pilin bin Obit, Ev Karayan, Ev Musmi and Ev Azlan.
- For meaningful Sunday worship.
- For regular visitation to rural kampongs.

✂ **For Our Parish - COGS BB.**

- Captain Eddie Wong and all serving officers.
- The BB in Sekolah Tiong Hua, and other schools.
- For strong encouragement of the BB boys and girls to attend church services.

✂ For the sick: Mr Yim Tin Yau, Mr Chin Tshun Leong, Mdm Teo Joo Lian, Ps N F Soo, Mdm Lee Soi Chin, Mr Eng Fook Kit, Mdm Chang Suk Heng, Mdm Emily Lau, Miss Vivian Chin, Mdm Lai Nyuk Jin, Mdm Chia Soon Yin, Mr Leong Kam Lun, Mdm Tay Phui Teen and Mr Chong Hyun Vui.

✂ **For personal requests.**

Order of Service	This Sunday	Next Sunday (18/02/18)
<i>Introit Hymn</i>	This is my Father's world (HOP 24)	Only Trust Him (HOP 197)
<i>Greetings</i>	Ho Sui Ting	Stephanie Chin
<i>Praise & Worship</i>	Eveleen K W Wong	Claudia Lopez
<i>Collect for Today</i>		
<i>Bible Reading</i>	2 Cor 4: 3—6 Wong Siu Fong	1 Pet 3: 18—22 Desmond Chong
<i>Nicene Creed</i>		
<i>Gospel Reading</i>	Mark 9: 2—9 Ho Sui Ting	Mark 1: 9—15 Stephanie Chin
<i>Message</i>	"Don't stop shining for Jesus" Ps Margaret Chong	Ad Yong Thiam Choy
<i>Response Hymn</i>		
<i>Intercession</i>	Monica Ho	Ang Pian Ming
<i>Confession</i>		
<i>Offertory Hymn</i>	O how I love Jesus (HOP 388)	Hear the Saviour Say HOP 145
<i>Holy Communion, Lord's Prayer, Thanksgiving, Blessing & Dismissal</i>		
<i>Thanksgiving Hymn</i>	Onward Christian soldiers (HfTC 532)	Our Great Saviour (HOP 46)
Serving One Another :		
Cell Group Leader	EMMANUEL (Elizabeth Kho)	YOUNG ADULTS & M.A.D. YOUTH
Welcome Team / Visitors Centre	Mr & Mrs Patrick Lim Mr & Mrs Francis Ng	Clement Chee, Danny Tang Esther Choo, Richard Lam
Sidesmen	Mr & Mrs Terence Fung Francis Voo, Lena Wong	Richard Lam, Reg Sin Edwin Ngo, Danny Tang
Server	Lam Kai Kwong	Foo Chee Hiong
Prayer Ministry	Denny Chong Lue Fui Hua	Peter Soo, Evelyn Poon Edwin Lam
Offertory Count	Lily Mok (C) Mr & Mrs Yuen Kat Ming Emily Ng, Lena Wong Mark Mak	Alice Y M Chang (C) Mr & Mrs Loh Leong Len Hee Pui Lee, Ho Sui Loon Francis Voo
Washing up	Monica Ho, Elizabeth Kho	—

WEEKLY SERVICES

Saturday

7:30 p.m.
Chinese

Sunday

7:00 a.m.
Chinese

9:30 a.m.
English

9:30 a.m.
Bahasa M'sia

2:30 p.m.
Chinese

CHAPEL PRAYERS

Wed - 7:00 a.m.

Thur - 6:30 a.m.

Sat - 4:30 a.m.

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