



ST ANNE'S CHURCH

66 Sengkang East Way, S(548593) **Tel: 6386 5072**

Website: <https://stanne.catholic.sg>

Donations: PayNow UEN No.T08CC4037D



stannechurchsg



St Anne's Church



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Parish Priest: Fr Jovita Ho

jovitaho@catholic.org.sg/Ext 610

Assistant Priest: Fr Simon Ho

simon.ho@catholic.org.sg/Ext 612

Associate Priest: Fr Majo Marottikkal

majo.marottikkal@catholic.org.sg/Ext 611

Deacon: Dcn Eugene Chan

eugene.chan@catholic.org.sg

20 & 21 Dec 2025

4th Sunday of Advent

Year A

Fr Jovita, Fr Simon, Fr Majo and Deacon Eugene wish all parishioners
a blessed Christmas filled with God's hope, peace, joy and love!



Congratulations to Deacon Eugene Chan who was ordained to the Diaconate on 21 November 2025!

Let's welcome him to our parish and continue to keep him in our prayers.

St Anne's Church Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass 2025

Christmas Eve: 24 December 2025, Wednesday

4pm: Christmas Vigil Mass (Mandarin)

6pm: Christmas Vigil Mass (English)

8.30pm: Christmas Cantata, followed by Christmas Mass at Night (English)

Via Christi Choir will be presenting a Christmas Cantata titled 'O Holy Light' at 8.30pm.

All are invited to come join for this joyous occasion!

11.30pm: Carolling, followed by Christmas Mass at Night (English)

Join St Anthony's Choir for 'Magical Christmas' caroling! Sing along as we welcome Baby Jesus!

Christmas Day: 25 December 2025, Thursday

8am: Christmas Day Mass (English)

10.30am: Christmas Day Mass (English)

St Anne's Church Bursary 2026 Application

The St Anne's Church Bursary 2026 application is now open for parishioners and affiliates of St Anne's Church, residents within the geographical boundary of St Anne's Church. The Bursary aims to help the less privileged families in the parish of St Anne's Church who face difficulty in paying for their children's education.

This year, we encourage applicants to submit their applications via the Google Form, which they can access via the link (<https://tinyurl.com/SACBursary2026>) or scan the QR code. For applicants who prefer a physical application form, hardcopy forms are available and can be obtained from the Secretary Office during office hours.

Office Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday; 9am to 6pm

2nd and last Sunday of each month; 9am to 12pm

The closing date for applications is 28 February 2026, Saturday.

All applicants will be notified by mail by 31 March 2026, Tuesday regarding the outcome of your application.

For all enquiries, you may contact Alex Chern @ 9817 7956.



St Anne's Church Book and Gift Service Centre Break

The Book and Gift Service Centre will be closed on 27 and 28 December 2025.

They will open again on 3 and 4 January 2026.

MARY'S CHILD: THE EMMANUEL

God's choice rested on the House of David which was to bring forth the Emmanuel, the God-with-us. But Mary's Child was to belong to all the nations. We are one of those nations who, by God's call, belong to Jesus Christ.



Reflecting on the Gospel

Today's young people are significantly more tolerant than their elders, according to a recent study. Young people think nothing of dating members of other races. On the other hand, studies of college students show that they are about 40 percent lower in empathy than students of the previous two or three decades. Schools find that they need to construct activities designed to enhance understanding and empathy, which go far beyond tolerance.

Today's gospel brings to the fore the situation of Joseph, whose culture had little tolerance for a formally betrothed woman who was found to be with child by someone other than her intended. Joseph is a righteous man, faithful to all the demands of the Jewish law. The strictest interpretation of the law would call for the death of the apparently adulterous Mary (Deut 22:23-27). But Joseph is unwilling to denounce her publicly and searches for a way out. There cannot be a secret divorce; two witnesses are needed, and Mary's pregnancy cannot be hidden for long.

Joseph's first solution is to avoid a public trial and divorce Mary quietly, without declaring the reasons (see Deut 24:1). This solution would preserve Joseph's reputation, but Mary would still be exposed to public shame. The only way to preserve Mary's honour would be for Joseph to complete his marriage to her and adopt the child as his own. In order for Joseph to make this choice, he has to shift focus away from concern about his own righteousness and reputation and turn empathetically toward Mary. Only when he can make her the centre of his attention, allowing himself to feel her distress, can he make divinely directed choice that will uphold her honour at the price of his own.

In so doing, Joseph mirrors the divine action of empathy with humankind manifested in the incarnation. Just as the Holy One rectifies the broken relationship with humanity by becoming one with us, so Joseph rescues a dishonourable and potentially deadly situation by choosing to unite himself completely to Mary. Joseph exemplifies what their son Jesus will later teach his followers: one must go far beyond what the law requires in order to truly fulfil it.

This is what Saint Paul calls "the obedience of faith" in his letter to the Romans. For Paul, obedience is not blindly following commands, but comes from hearing, "and what is heard comes through the word of Christ" (Rom 10:17). In fact, the Greek word for *obedience* comes from the same root as does the verb "to hear". In the gospel, Joseph's ability to hear with his heart the cries of his beloved Mary as well as the voice of our empathetic God leads to his faithful obedience. As Christmas approaches, it can be difficult for us to hear God's voice above the din of the many demands. When we pause each day to listen attentively, our faithful obedience, like that of Joseph, can have world-changing power as it creates the space for the Holy One to be ever birthed anew in our midst as God-with-us.

The Living Liturgy

CHURCH GROUNDS OPENING HOURS

Mon – Sat: 6am – 10pm;
Sun: 6am – 6pm;
Public Holidays on Weekdays:
7am – 1pm.

MASS (ENGLISH)

Mon – Fri:

6.30am & 7.30pm

Sat:

6.30am & 4.30pm (Sunset)

Sun:

7.30am, 9.30am,
11.30am, 4.30pm

Public Holidays on weekdays:

8am (no evening Mass)

华文弥撒

每个月第一和第三个星期日

(主日弥撒)

下午1.30pm (圣堂内)

TAMIL MASS

Every 4th Sun of the month: 2pm

SECRETARIAT OFFICE

Mon – Fri: 9am to 6pm

2nd & last Sun of the month:
9am to 12pm

sac.secretariat@catholic.org.sg

PASTORAL OFFICE

Mon, Tues, Thu, Fri & Sat:
9am to 6pm

Closed on Wed, Sun & PH
sac.pastoral@catholic.org.sg

CATECHETICAL OFFICE

Tues & Wed: 9am – 2pm

Sat: 9am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm

Tel: 68813197 / 87984911

sac.catechist@catholic.org.sg

COLUMBARIUM OFFICE

Mon: 2pm to 4pm

Tues – Fri:

9am – 11.30am; 1pm – 4pm

Tel: 63863792

sac.columbarium@catholic.org.sg

COLUMBARIUM PRAYERS & MASS INTENTIONS

On the last Sunday of the month
Prayers at the columbarium
after the 11.30am Mass

CHILDREN LITURGY

Every Sun at 11.30am Mass

CONFESSIONS

20 mins before English weekend
Masses in Church

HOLY HOUR

1st Thursday of the month
8.15pm in Church

COUNSELLING

by Catholic Family Life
Available for face-to-face
session in St Anne's Church every
Tues at 7.30pm & 8.45pm or via
Zoom from Mon to Sat by appt.
Tel: 66318963
(Mon – Fri: 12pm – 4pm)
<https://pbc.familylife.sg/>

BOOK & GIFT SERVICE CENTRE

Sat: 4pm – 6pm

Sun: 8am – 1pm

Contact Stephen @ 90880575