

ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

February - March 2023

BI-MONTHLY ENGLISH BULLETIN



All Kids Are Welcome To St. Ignatius English Sunday School!

By Fr. Bony James, SJ

On Sunday January 13, 2019, at Mass in the Sistine Chapel, Pope Francis baptized 27 babies, reminding their parents that the first place where children learn and witness to the faith is at home. He urged the parents “to transmit the faith by example, by words, by teaching them to make the sign of the Cross. This is important.”

As Pope Francis says, faith formation of our young people is very important. At our St. Ignatius Parish we offer various faith formation classes for our children according to their needs. The English Sunday School offers catechism in English and Japanese as well. Basically, there are three classes in English (for Beginners, Middle, and Teens). We also conduct a fourth catechism class in Japanese, which is meant for children who prefer to take the lessons in Japanese rather than in English.

In this current schoolyear, we have a total of some 34 children in the four classes mentioned above, who are attending English catechism classes. Though there were some disruptions in the previous years due to corona restrictions, we were able to resume and re-organize the English catechism classes for children. Our Catechism Team functions under the guidance of Sr. Flor Florece, FI and



the catechists are well informed in faith matters and well-equipped with teaching skills as well. Catechism classes for the new academic year will begin in April and will be conducted on a regular basis every 1st and 3rd Sunday after the 12 noon English Mass.

We follow a syllabus based on the textbook **YOUCAT for KIDS**—Catholic Catechism for Children and Parents. It is structured in a language suitable for children and deals with the entire Catholic faith as it was presented in the 1997 Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC). Pope Francis in his Foreword to YOUCAT for KIDS says: “While flipping through the pages of YOUCAT for KIDS, I come across questions children ask their parents and catechists millions of times. That is why I consider this catechism as useful as the big Catechism, in which you can find answers to the most important questions of life: where does this world come from? Why do I exist? How and why shall we live here? What happens after death?”

Along with a syllabus-based faith formation schedule, the children are also given opportunities to participate in various activities, such as Christmas/New Year celebrations and Sunday School summer camps. Other than the regular catechism classes, the English Center also conducts annual First Communion Preparation Classes (February to May) and Confirmation Preparation Classes, all in English. Children over 7 are eligible to participate in First Communion classes. Needless to say, parents share in this great responsibility of preparing their child to receive the Sacraments and in forming their faith. Therefore, we give the necessary guidance to the parents of our catechism children as well.

I would like to end with Pope Francis’ encouraging words to parents on the need to transmit faith to our younger generation: “Be a living chain, so that from generation to generation the Gospel may always be present in our families, our communities, and in the church.”

Once again, all children are welcome to the St. Ignatius Sunday School!

Quotation sources:

1. “Children Must See the Faith Lived at Home, Pope Tells parents.” Hannah Brockhaus, CAN, Jan 13, 2019
2. YOUCAT for KIDS, Catholic Truth Society, Bell and Bain Ltd. Glasgow



that a little over two weeks from now the LENTEN SEASON begins? It starts February 22 with the celebration of ASH WEDNESDAY and ends on April 6, HOLY THURSDAY, before the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. From then on until EASTER SUNDAY, April 9, the Church celebrates the EASTER TRIDUUM of Christ's passion, death, burial, and resurrection.



The ashes imposed on Ash Wednesday remind us that we are dust and to dust we shall return and therefore the entire life of a Christian should be marked by works of self-denial and generosity. Thus, the traditional discipline of Lent consists of constant prayer and reading of God's word, fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, voluntary abstinence from meat on Fridays, and works of mercy, especially toward those who have less in life. What is important is that through prayer and good works we allow God's grace to bring about our interior conversion. The Sacrament of Reconciliation should accompany our Lenten observance.

(Excerpts from DAILY GOSPEL 2023, Claretian Communications Foundation, Inc.)

Within the Lenten Season this year, we have the **Feast of Our Lady of the Discovery of Christians of Japan (March 17)**. This feast refers to the appearance of the hidden Christians in Nagasaki, who had persisted in their Christian faith without priests or religious instruction. Do you know the beautiful story behind it?

In 1858, Commodore Perry's gunboats forced on Japan a commercial treaty with the United States. The Treaty of Amity and Commerce between France and Japan was also concluded, and French people came to live in Nagasaki. They desired to have a church for Sunday worship, so the Ōura Church was built in 1865. It was called the "French Temple" because it was built for French people.

A month after the completion of the Ōura Church, a historical moment arrived. Fifteen hidden Christians came to the Ōura Church on March 17, 1865. Father Bernard Petitjean, a priest of the French Society of Foreign Missionaries, hears a noise at the back door of the church. On opening it, he is surprised to find a group of 15 middle-aged Japanese men and women — surprised because they are all native Japanese. Subjects of the Mikado are strictly forbidden to associate with Christians and this church has been declared reserved to foreigners only.



A monument commemorating the discovery of hidden Christians in Japan

Until now, Fr. Petitjean has had no visitors. But standing before him are these 15 Japanese people. A young man speaks up. His name is Peter. He asks timidly whether Fr. Petitjean owes allegiance to "the great chief of the Kingdom of Rome." The missionary answers that the Vicar of Christ, Pope Pius IX, will be very happy to learn of their interest. Peter, however, wants to make sure he has been understood. He asks, "Have you no children?" The missionary answers, "You and all your brethren, Christian and others, are the children whom God has given me. Other children I cannot have. The priest must, like the first apostles of Japan, remain unmarried all his life." At this, Peter and his friends bend their heads down to the ground and cry out: "He is celibate! Thank God." They all approach Fr. Petitjean, who is praying in the church, and whisper: "We have the same feeling in our hearts as you do." Then they mention that their village is Urakami, north of Nagasaki: "At home everybody is the same as we are. They have the same hearts as ours." That made Fr. Petitjean realize that they were Christians. In spite of the situation, the severe ban on Christianity and having no missionaries around, their faith had endured for 250 years. Fr. Petitjean was very surprised and pleased. Then he showed them the statue of the Virgin Mary. This event came to be known as the "Discovery of Christians." This "Statue of the Virgin Mary of the Discovery of hidden Christians" is still kept in the Ōura Church.



The account of this incident spread to hidden Christians in Gotō and Sotome by word of mouth and subsequently spread to Christians all around the world. The newly discovered Christians pretended to "go and observe the French Temple." but in fact some prayed and others were baptized in the Ōura Church.

Fr. Petitjean was among the first wave of foreigners to arrive after the forced entry effected by U.S. Commodore Matthew Perry in 1854. For two centuries previously, in hamlets and remote islands off western Kyushu, little communities of Kakure Kirishitan (Hidden Christians), some 30,000 individuals altogether, had persisted in their Christian faith without priests or religious instruction. Pope Pius IX called it a miracle.

(from <https://militia-immaculatae.asia/english/info1108.php>)

HIS LEGACY

Everyone active in the Catholic world knows that Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI died on December 31, 2022, at the age of 95. Do you know that he was a prolific author and scholar of theology? He was our Pope for nearly eight years, from 2005 until his resignation in 2013. What legacy has he left us? Here are some quotes from his various talks and writings. We invite you to take one at a time and bring it to prayer. May it nourish your spirit and bear fruit in your daily life. More importantly, share it with others!

“Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary.” — Homily, St. Peter’s Square, April 24, 2005

“If you follow the will of God, you know that in spite of all the terrible things that happen to you, you will never lose a final refuge. You know that the foundation of the world is love, so that even when no human being can or will help you, you may go on, trusting in the One that loves you.” — Jesus of Nazareth

“Anyone who really wanted to get rid of suffering would have to get rid of love before anything else, because there can be no love without suffering, because it always demands an element of self-sacrifice, and because, given temperamental differences and the drama of situations, it will always bring with it renunciation and pain. When we know that the way of love — this exodus, this going out of oneself — is the true way by which man becomes human, then we also understand that suffering is the process through which we mature.” — “God and the World: A Conversation with Peter Seewald” — Deus Caritas Est



On Confession

“It is very helpful to confess with a certain regularity. It is true that our sins are always the same, but we clean our homes and our rooms at least once a week, even if the dirt is always the same, in order to live in cleanliness, in order to start again. Otherwise, the dirt might not be seen, but it builds up. Something similar can be said about the soul.” — Response to children’s questions, Oct. 15, 2005

On the Economy

“If globalization in technology and economy is not accompanied by a new opening of the conscience to God, before whom all of us have a responsibility, then there will be a catastrophe. This is the great responsibility which weighs today on Christians.” — Speech in Benevento, Italy, June 2, 2002

On the Environment and Creation

“The environment is God’s gift to everyone, and in our use of it we have a responsibility toward the poor, toward future generations and toward humanity as a whole.” — Encyclical Caritas in Veritate, June 29, 2009

On Evangelization

“The Gospel must be preached and taught as an integral way of life, offering an attractive and true answer, intellectually and practically, to real human problems. What is needed above all at this time in the history of the church in America is a renewal of that apostolic zeal which inspires her shepherds actively to seek out the lost, to bind up those who have been wounded, and to bring strength to those who are languishing. And this, as I have said, calls for new ways of thinking

based on a sound diagnosis of today’s challenges and a commitment to unity in the service of the church’s mission to the present generation.” — Meeting with U.S. bishops, April 16, 2008

On Family Life and Marriage

“Dear married couples. In living out your marriage, you are not giving each other any particular thing or activity, but your whole lives. And your love is fruitful first and foremost for yourselves, because you desire and accomplish one another’s good, you experience the joy of receiving and giving. It is also fruitful in your generous and responsible procreation of children, in your attentive care for them, and in their vigilant and wise education. And lastly, it is fruitful for society, because family life is the first and irreplaceable school of social virtues, such as respect for persons, gratuitousness, trust, responsibility, solidarity, cooperation.”

— World Meeting of Families, Milan, Italy, June 3, 2012

On Joy and Hope

“Know that God will never abandon you. Turn your eyes to him often. He gave his life for you on the cross because he loves you. Contemplation of this great love brings a hope and joy to our hearts that nothing can destroy. Christians can never be sad, for they have met Christ, who gave his life for them.” — World Youth Day Message 2012

“God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end, each one of us and humanity in its entirety. His kingdom is not an imaginary hereafter, situated in a future that will never arrive; his kingdom is present wherever he is loved and wherever his love reaches us.” — Encyclical Spe Salvi, Nov. 20, 2007

On Liturgy

“The liturgy is not the memory of past events but is the living presence of the paschal mystery of Christ, who transcends and unites times and places. ... The conviction must grow within us every day that the liturgy is not our or my ‘doing’ but rather is an action of God in us and with us.” — General Audience, Oct. 3, 2012

On Media and Communication

“There exists a Christian way of being present in the digital world: This takes the form of a communication which is honest and open, responsible and respectful of others. To proclaim the Gospel through the new media means not only to insert expressly religious content into various media platforms, but also to witness consistently, in one’s own digital profile and in the way one communicates choices, preferences and judgments that are fully consistent with the Gospel.”

— World Communications Day Message 2011

On Mary

“Mary is so interwoven in the great mystery of the church that she and the church are inseparable, just as she and Christ are inseparable. Mary mirrors the church, anticipates the church in her person, and in all the turbulence that affects the suffering, struggling church she always remains the star of salvation. In her lies the true center in which we trust, even if its peripheries very often weigh on our soul.” — Homily, Dec. 8, 2005

On Service and Charity

“If in my life I fail completely to heed others, solely out of a desire to be ‘devout’ and to perform my ‘religious duties,’ then my relationship with God will also grow arid. It becomes merely ‘proper,’ but loveless. Only my readiness to encounter my neighbor and to show love makes me sensitive to God as well. Only if I serve my neighbor can my eyes be opened to what God does for me and how much he loves me.” — Encyclical Deus Caritas Est, 2005

ST. IGNATIUS NEWS AND CHURCH EVENTS

Savoring them once again or, in case you missed attending the event...

December



Fund-Raising for Ukraine.

The English Center volunteers joined the Japanese Community in the Church Mini Bazaar. Our group sold old videos, CDs, books, and other items. Thanks for your collaboration!

JdBC Christmas Party.

The Sunday School children presented a skit; the adults watched a video on how Christmas is traditionally celebrated in countries where some of our members come from; Valerie Aurelia sang Christmas songs which made us nostalgic for home; we even had a quiz! But likewise, through the SIIYM, we were led to contemplate the reality of Christmas 2022 and were challenged as to how we can be in solidarity especially with countries in turmoil, like Ukraine and Myanmar. And surprise! Fr. Ochoa played the piano for us!



Christmas Eve Mass, Christmas Day Mass.

The crowd welcomed the greatest gift the world can have – Jesus, Emmanuel! This time we were able to admit more Mass-goers, even if we were still preoccupied with Covid!

Caroling.

Together with the donations received from the JdBEC Christmas Party, proceeds went to Myanmar.

Year-end Retreat.

Our hearts were filled with JOY, more than HAPPINESS! Read the article on page 6 on what the difference is!



Participants of the Year-End Retreat with Fr. Irinel Dobos, OFM Conventual. Photo taken after the Eucharistic Celebration.

January

New Year Celebration.

Live-streamed highlight was the interview of Nakano Sensei about the CHRIST in the middle of the Main Altar. Watch it on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-TURMf5gM0&t=499s>. And do you know he was also the one who made the beautiful statue of the Blessed Virgin on the right side?

Coming-of-Age.

Two biracial young adults, one an SIIYM member, joined the Coming-of-Age Ceremony in the Parish. Hopefully, there will be more next year!



ST. IGNATIUS NEWS AND CHURCH EVENTS

One Good Deed A Day Keeps Baby Jesus Warm All Day

By Mae Grace Harashima

If you were one of those who saw the Advent play 'Panunuluyan' staged by the English Sunday School, you might have been impressed by the vigor and energy of our kids and catechists who played their roles so well and with infectious enthusiasm. As Isabelle Bonasse and Jessie Buendia, our catechists, explained, Advent is not just waiting passively. It is waiting with excitement and hope!

Taken from an Advent ritual in the Philippines known as 'Panunuluyan' or the act of knocking on doors to find lodging and shelter, this dramatization of Joseph and Mary of knocking on doors at Bethlehem was the central theme of our Advent celebration. Isabelle Bonasse wrote the script, but instead of Bethlehem, she did it with a twist by drawing from plots taken from life's realities, that is, of how a modern family pushed away Mary and Joseph because they were scared of the Covid virus. They even had the temerity to ask if Joseph and Mary were vaccinated and complete with boosters!

In the next scene, our teens' role was to be blind and deaf to people in need because of their addiction to their gadgets, SNS, and loud music.

The third and last scene was a satirist presentation of an insensitive culture developed in an institution or school where people never care for others because they have to focus on studying and passing examinations.

Playing their roles in these scenes, the actors conveyed how insensitivity, injustice, and selfishness can prevail among us.

Then came the holy angel of God, who by the help of the Holy Spirit transformed the hearts of the faithful and allowed them to see their sinfulness, repent, and mend their ways. Eureka! This is the essence and meaning of Advent! "As we await the coming of the Messiah, we prepare our hearts to welcome him," said Fr. Ochoa in his Advent greeting to the children. Prepare our hearts so that Jesus can come in! And this leads us to the importance of the Sacrament of Confession, of receiving the grace to be humble and pure, just like the little Child that we want to welcome in our hearts.

Finally, the children offered little strips of paper, looking somewhat like hay, to be placed inside an empty manger to prepare a warm bed for when the Child is born. On each of these strips of paper, our Sunday School kids wrote a good deed they had done. I took a peek at one of those strips. It said, "Mom looked tired, so I gave her a hug to make her feel good." It would be nice to sleep on a bed made from all the good deeds of our little ones. Welcome, Baby Jesus!



The Message of Sto. Niño: We are all children of God!

By Kay Tabata

On January 22, many devotees, Filipinos and Japanese as well, attended the 4:30 p.m. Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Child Jesus, popularly known as Santo Niño. For us Filipinos, the event was to praise and give thanks to God in commemoration of the arrival of Christianity in the Philippines in the 16th century. The very first Sto. Niño image came to Cebu in 1521, a gift given to our native King Carlos and Queen Juana by the Portuguese Ferdinand Magellan on their baptismal day. They, alongside 800 natives who previously were animists, converted to Catholicism. For centuries, the image has been known to be miraculous.



Before the Eucharistic Celebration, a short video on "Sinulog" was shown. Sinulog means "graceful dance" inspired by and performed before the Sto. Niño by the faithful, symbolizing their unending devotion to the Child Jesus.

The liturgy was presided by Fr. Danilo Mutia SchP, who gave a beautiful homily on how much we need God in our lives. He exhorted us to remain faithful and obedient to his holy will amidst adversities and persecutions. God could have chosen a different way of sending our Savior and Redeemer, but he came to this world as a poor and helpless infant. This is the real essence of celebrating the feast. And while the Sto. Niño celebration is unique to the Filipinos, it actually transcends nations, cultures, and religions, for it conveys a message meant for all—that we are all children of God, and that we all belong to his Church. May our devotion to Sto. Niño ignite in all the fire of a perfect love for God and for all humanity, especially for those who are in dire need, those who



are suffering and hurting, young and innocent children, and may it protect lives endangered by the culture of death.

We can never get enough of Sto. Niño! God's Providence and our growth in faith and Christian living under the patronage of the Infant Jesus continue.



Pope Francis said, "The Holy Child has been the Protector of the Philippines for five centuries now!"

We are grateful to all the different groups and individuals who collaborated in making this wonderful celebration possible. And we share with you some of the pictures of our celebration.

Viva, Pit Senor! Viva Senor Santo Niño!



YEAR-END Retreat: The Need for Happiness is the Need for God

by Anabelle de los Reyes
Teresian Association

Every now and then, it is important—in fact, necessary—for us to pause in silence, take stock of our lives, contemplate our experiences, and reflect on the direction of our journey. The last day of the year is a truly fitting time for such a beautiful practice. Not only for its chronological timeliness, but for the aptness of the liturgical season it falls into – Christmas – the time when we stand face to face with the greatest mystery of God’s love; God becoming one of us, so he could be Emmanuel – God with us.

Father Irinel Dobosl, OFMConv, the Retreat Director, introduced the theme, “The Need for Happiness is the Need for God,” by reminding us of the value of silence, of slowing down and “taking our time”. And to put across his point graphically, he showed an animation video by Steve Cutts entitled Happiness. It showed man’s relentless search for happiness; chasing after success, material things, pleasure, money, and just about anything to fill an empty and purposeless



existence, only to find oneself more lost and more lonely in the process. With this example, we were invited to pause, not to rush, and to dedicate as much time for personal prayer as possible; to enter into contemplation and silent conversation with God present in the Blessed Sacrament exposed at the altar. Fr. Irinel also made himself available for confession, a meaningful way of surrendering to the Lord’s healing and liberating

forgiveness those sins that hindered us from living freely and responding fully to God’s love and to start over again accompanied by his mercy and grace.

Fr. Irinel also prepared for each of us a bible passage together with a Saint’s name, inviting each one to know our Saint’s life, as that Saint could serve as companion, model, or guide in living the Christian life in the coming year.

Apart from personal time for prayer and reflection, we were also given space for sharing in a break session in the afternoon. Divided into seven small groups, we were asked to read the text from John 15: 9-17 (No greater love...) along with some explanation and guide questions.

Fr. Irinel stressed that Jesus did not want the disciples to know his happiness; he wants them to know his joy. Fr. Irinel then distinguished joy from happiness. He explained that, when Jesus was asked to lay down his life, aware of the price that his self-surrender would entail, he did not feel happy. But knowing that he was doing the will of his Father and believing that he could never be separated from his Father’s love, these convictions became the very source and foundation of his joy. While happiness is a feeling that comes and goes depending on the circumstances we are in and on what is going on in our life, joy is something that springs from within—it is a way of thinking and being. That is why for a Christian, joy is not incompatible with pain. It is, in fact, pain that gives depth to our joy, for the heart that is hollowed out by pain is the same vessel that holds our joy.

The Year-end Retreat culminated in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Indeed, what greater motive for joy could there be than God sending his own beloved Son to be the ransom for our salvation? May we treasure this gift and let it fill our whole being so that God’s joy may find a home in our hearts.

Some Reflections from the participants:

One of the most important things I learned in the retreat is the difference between joy and happiness. Happiness is the temporary feeling we get from things or events that we want. However, joy is something deeper, more enduring and is more of a state of mind rather than a mere feeling.



The gospel of John is a perfect example of the difference between joy and happiness. We see Jesus’ joy, not his happiness. Jesus’ humanity probably made him feel fearful, not happy, of the impending suffering and death that he was about to endure. Yet, despite that, we see his joy. He is joyful that, with his sacrifice, his purpose of being man will finally be fulfilled and he can bring salvation to mankind. With this, he sets a model of how we can find joy in suffering.

With Jesus’ example, I gave myself a challenge before the end of the retreat: instead of pursuing happiness, try finding joy. To “pursue” is like chasing something that we may or may not be able to attain; to “find,” means that it’s already there, we just need to look for it. If God is joy and God is always present in our lives, then joy is always present in our lives; we just need to look for it in our lives. Even in our weakest, most painful sufferings, we can find joy because God is there too, we just need to find him.

Our life journey is like a race. Along the way, little pockets of happiness in our lives are like the bottles of water that we drink to help sustain us in the race. However, drinking water is not the reason for our race. Being happy is not the goal of our lives as Christians. Our goal in the race is to get the first prize, and in this life journey, that prize is eternal life with God in heaven. If we focus on that goal, then it wouldn’t be too difficult to find joy in our lives.

JOHN DE BRITTO ENGLISH CENTER

JOHN DE BRITTO ENGLISH CENTER GROUPS AND MINISTRIES

ALTAR SERVERS	Serve before, during, and after the English Mass assisting the priest and Liturgical Ministers. They are boys and girls from ages 10-15 who have already received First Communion.
ANGELS GROUP	Serves every 1st Sunday of the month. Gathers children in Xavier Chapel just after the Opening Prayer of the Mass and provides stories of the Gospel in a language understood by them. They are adults and young people who love children.
CHOIR	Sings in the English Mass every Sunday. Practice before the Mass in Room 401, 11:00 AM.
COFFEE WELCOME MINISTRY	Every 1st Sunday of the month under the tree in front of the main church, 1:00 - 1:45 PM. Facilitates the opportunity for newcomers/parishioners to meet and feel that the Church is "my second home."
ENGLISH-SPEAKING MEETING	Every 3rd Sunday of the month. Arrupe Hall Rm. 301-B (Main Bldg.) 1:45 - 3:30 PM. Gathers to plan and think of better ways to serve St. Ignatius Church.
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	By turns they serve in the 12:00 NN English Mass. Special formation is required.
FAITH FORMATION CLASS FOR ADULTS	1st Sunday of the month. Kibe Hall Rm. 310, 2:00 - 4:00 PM. For adult Catholics who wish to deepen their understanding of the faith. Non-Catholics are welcome.
FAITH SHARING GROUP	Every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Kibe Hall Rm. 310, 2:00 - 4:00 PM. For those who want to deepen the Sunday Readings of that day.
READERS GROUP	They serve in 12:00 NN Sunday English Mass. They are those who would like to proclaim the Word of God and guide the assembly during the liturgical rite.
MEDIA GROUP	Prepares the Sunday Mass power point, the monthly English Bulletin, special posters, and takes care of the English website and Facebook of St. Ignatius Church.
WEEKDAY OFFICE STAFF	They open the English Center on weekdays to attend to the needs of those who come.
PRAISE AND WORSHIP GROUP	Every 1st Sunday of the month, Arrupe Hall Rm. 203, 10:00 AM onwards. Gathers to praise the Lord through songs, give thanks, and listen attentively to His live-giving Word. Personal intentions are received to be offered up in prayer
USHERS	Every Sunday during the 12:00 NN English Mass. They Facilitate an orderly and prayerful atmosphere before, during, and after Mass.
YOUTH MINISTRY	Every 4th Sunday of the month, Arrupe Hall 301-B, 1:30 - 4:00 PM. Made up of a very international group. Come and join their very energetic, dynamic monthly "Hangout"!

SACRAMENTS: SCHEDULE AND CLASSES

INFANT / ADULT BAPTISM	Schedule: 3rd Sunday of February, April, June, September, and November, Xavier Chapel, 10:00 AM Classes: To be arranged with the Coordinator in-charge
MARRIAGE PREPARATION	Inquire at least 4 months before the wedding day.
OTHERS	English Sunday School for Children 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, 1:30-2:30 PM. For room assignments, inquire from the English Center Sunday Japanese Language Classes (Presently suspended) Schedule: Please contact English Center. Time & Venue: 1:45 - 2:45 PM, Kibe Hall, Rm. 304, 305, 306, 307 Newcomers visit Rm. 305

WE NEED VOLUNTEER USHERS, READERS, LECTORS FOR THE 4:30 P.M. ENGLISH SUNDAY MASS.
For details, please see Carol Garcia in the English Center.

JOHN DE BRITTO ENGLISH CENTER

Office Address: 6-5-1 Kojimachi, Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo 102-0083
Office Hours: Weekdays (10:00 - 12:00, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM), Weekends (11:00 AM - 1:00 PM)
Telephone No: 03-3263-4576

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Schedule of Masses, etc.

WEEKDAYS: All in Japanese, Main Church

- 7:00 AM Weekday Masses
- 12:00 NN / 6:00 PM* Weekday Masses
- 12:00 NN (Elderly) Saturday Mass Schedule
- 6:00 PM (Anticipated)

SUNDAYS:

- Main Church**
- 7:00 AM / 8:30 AM / 10:00 AM / 6:00 PM Japanese Mass
- 12:00 NN English Mass 1:30 PM Spanish Mass
- 3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass 4:30 PM English Mass
- Masses at Our Lady's Chapel**
- 1st Sunday: 12:30 PM (Portuguese) 4:00 PM (Polish)
- 2nd and 4th Sunday: 4:30 PM (Indonesian)

English Website:
<http://stignatius.jp/en/>

Important Liturgical Dates to Remember

February	
22	Ash Wednesday
26	1st Sunday of Lent
March	
17	Our Lady of the Discovery of Christian of Japan
20	St. Joseph, Husband of Mary
25	The Annunciation of the Lord

Staff of St. Ignatius Church

Pastor: Fr. Saturnino Ochoa , S.J.

Associate and Support Priests:

- Fr. Kiyoshi Shibata S.J. Fr. Bony James S.J.
- Fr. Manuel Silgo S.J. Fr. Generoso Florez S.J.
- Fr. Javier Garralda S.J. Fr. Nguyen Thanh Nha S.J.

Sister: Sr. Ivette Sanchez, M.C.

John de Britto English Center:

- Fr. Bony James, S.J. Director
- Sr. Flor Florece, FI. Coordinator

Important Church Events

February	
5	John de Britto English Center Anniversary Mass
12	“Does the Church Feel Like Home to You?” Gathering in St. Joseph Hall 1-3 PM. For Zoom Link, apply in the Church Website up to February 9.
19	First Communion Application
March	
5	First Communion Class begins

Pope's Prayer Intentions

February: For Parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

March: For Victims of Abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

For all those who made this Bi-monthly Bulletin possible, we express our deepest gratitude.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH and GOD BLESS!

**12 PM ENGLISH MASS
LIVESTREAMING**



**CHURCH WEBSITE &
FACEBOOK PAGE**

