

## Editor Says

On Easter morning, the world woke up to the tragic news of bombings of churches and hotels in Sri Lanka. As Christians gathered in their churches to worship and celebrate the Feast of Christ's Resurrection and people eating their Easter breakfast in the hotel restaurants, suicide bombers carried out the deadly attacks that claimed hundreds of innocent lives. The violent and savage bombings in Sri Lanka on Easter Sunday morning casted a shadow over the Good News of Easter that speaks of the joyful and triumphant victory of Life over suffering and death. It somehow made everything seemed wrong. How then to make sense of this brutal reality? And not just this event, but all the painful events of our personal lives such as a haunting failure, a painful sickness, a sad loss of someone, etc. Does the Alleluia of Easter makes sense? Does the joy of the Easter continue to be a reality today? What does our faith in the Resurrected Christ mean?

I do not have the answer. I cannot say that I understand. All I know that each day is a new day to hold onto the hope that opens my heart to see goodness in the world, in the people around me and in myself; as well as to believe, that beyond darkness, there is always light. The Risen Christ stands with us.

The statue of Resurrected Christ in the bombed St. Sabastian Catholic Church in Negombo, Sri Lanka



# Local Vocation



On 28<sup>th</sup> January,

**Dolly Tan,**

a Singaporean Verbum Dei  
disciple, started her full-time  
experience in the community  
which will lead her towards  
Formation course.



**Rosa,**

a Taiwan vocation, was here to spend 3 weeks with Singapore  
community as part of her experience journey.





# Vatican Council II Formation

## 15<sup>th</sup> February~ 29<sup>th</sup> March

Conducted by:  
Leticia

### The Catholic Church & Vatican II

#### 1. The Church/ Identity

"The laity: they are in their own way made sharers in the priestly, prophetic, and kingly functions of Christ; and they carry out for their own part the mission of the whole Christian people in the Church and in the world."  
LG 31



#### 3. God's Word / Preaching

"By the same word of Scripture, the ministry of the word also, that is, pastoral preaching, catechetics and all Christian instruction, in which the liturgical homily must hold the foremost place, is nourished in a healthy way and flourishes in a holy way."  
DV 24

#### 2. Liturgy / Community

"The pre-eminent manifestation of the Church consists in the full active participation of all God's holy people in these liturgical celebrations."  
SC 41

1. The Church Identity

2. Liturgy Community

3. God's Word Preaching

4. Mission To all peoples

5. Witness to Unity

#### 5. Witness / to Unity

"All the faithful should remember that the more effort they make to live holier lives according to the Gospel, the better will they further Christian unity and put it into practice."  
UR 7

#### 4. Mission / To all peoples

"The pilgrim Church is missionary by her very nature, since it is from the mission of the Son and the mission of the Holy Spirit that she draws her origin, in accordance with the decree of God the Father."  
AG 2



## Topics for the sessions:

Week 1: Introduction to the Vatican II documents

Week 2: The Church

Week 3: On Liturgy

Week 4 & 5: The Word of God

Week 6: The Church's mission

Week 7: On Ecumenism



"LIVING IN THE WORLD,  
NOT BELONGING TO IT"



MOTHERS' LENTEN  
RETREAT  
7<sup>TH</sup> ~ 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH



## **RITE OF ELECTION @ St. Joseph Church 10<sup>th</sup> March**

**Leticia** gave a talk, entitled " Chosen by name" to the catechumens and candidates as they readied themselves for the final journey towards Baptism 5



# Couples Lenten Retreat

31<sup>st</sup> March  
“Becoming  
what we  
receive”



# Holy Saturday Retreat

## “Called to be Disciples of the Resurrection”

20<sup>th</sup> April



...continue...



**Leticia**

**Priscilla**

**Maria  
Jose**



**Christ has risen!  
A Blessed Happy Easter!**



**Cristo ha resucitado!  
Feliz Pascua!**