

Chancery of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Singapore

#07-01 Catholic Centre
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3 December 2018

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CHANCERY NOTICE

OBITUARY

Fr Ignatius Huan Kin Kwang, a diocesan priest of the Diocese of Malacca-Johor passed away this morning, 3 December 2018, on the Feast of St Francis Xavier. He was 77.

Fr Ignatius had been instrumental in the formation of seminarians in Malaysia and Singapore as the Spiritual Director of College General, Penang, and St Francis Xavier Major Seminary (SFXMS) in Singapore. He served in Singapore until December 2010, after which he returned to serve in the Diocese of Malacca-Johor.

Fr Ignatius was born on 23 November 1941. He converted to Catholicism as a young man. At 17, he had intended to join the Jesuits but faced resistance from his family. He became a secondary school science teacher in Segamat and Kulai, Johor. When he was 35, he answered the call to priesthood. Seeing the shortage of diocesan priests, he joined the seminary to become one. During difficulties in his formation, an encounter with a terminally-ill Canossian sister changed his mind from wanting to leave. When she asked him about life in the seminary, Fr Ignatius had complained to her. Her reply was: "Ignatius, don't you worry, I will offer up my suffering for you that you may persevere in your vocation." This not only greatly encouraged him but led to his interest in redemptive suffering, a theme he frequently explored in his preaching and retreats.

Fr Ignatius was ordained a priest on 28 March 1985. He served in Sacred Heart Cathedral in Johor Bahru and St Theresa's Church, Malacca before becoming the Rector of Good Shepherd Seminary, Malacca. He went on to become the Spiritual Director for College General, Penang and subsequently SFXMS, Singapore. In his later years, he was based in St John Vianney Retreat House in Johor. Apart from giving retreats across Southeast Asia, in Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Hong Kong and Sri Lanka, Fr Ignatius also published a book on understanding the Mass in April this year.

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His wake will be held in Sacred Heart Cathedral in Johor Bahru, Malaysia, with Mass at 8.00PM tonight and tomorrow night, 3 and 4 December 2018.

Details of Funeral

Date: 5 December 2018 (Wed)

Time: 10.00AM

Venue: Sacred Heart Cathedral,
1729, Jalan Keris, Taman Sri Tebrau,
80500 Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia

Right Reverend Bernard Paul, Bishop of Malacca-Johor, will preside at the Funeral Mass. Burial will follow after at Ulu Tiram Catholic Cemetery.

We invite you to pray for him in your masses and prayers.