

HOW CURIOSITY CAN *Spark Life Anew*

By Desmond Soon, 55, a cradle Catholic who is serving in the Catholic Spirituality Centre as a member of St Jude's Music Ministry. He is also co-editor for OXYGEN (godismyoxygen.com), an online Catholic writing ministry.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." – Mt 28:19-20



Nick Jarvis Tan (right), a speaker and emcee for the Catholyst Conference 2021

worked fervently with the Office for the New Evangelisation to turn a dream into reality. As a bivocational speaker who devotes his time to both secular and spiritual work, Nick unpacked the term for us and spoke on how as Catholics, and as members of a universal church in these 'phygital' times, a community need not be 100% physical. When the disciples fanned out into the world to spread the Good News, some of them never saw each other again; yet, they remained bound as one community through the love of Christ. Quoting from Luke Chapter 5, Nick encourages us to form a network of 'net'-workers, and to cast our nets not just to catch others but to form a 'savety net' to save those who were broken and in need of God's love. That simple act of saying 'Yes' to God and laying down our nets is what will transform us into 'Saints Next Door' – what Pope Francis seeks -- in order that we live out our holiness in the ordinariness of our lives.

CATHOLYST

What does it mean? My curiosity is quenched when Nick Jarvis Tan takes to the stage. It was almost a year ago when he coined the word with Ann Yeong, another facilitator at the conference, who shared that it comprised the words **CATHOLIC**, **HOLY** and **Saint**. That revelation planted the seeds which sprouted and grew into this conference and Nick (or Jarvis), true to his calling,

HOW CURIOUS ARE WE TO LIVE EXTRAORDINARY LIVES IN AN ORDINARY WAY?