

2023年 聖誕節

# 天主教聖多默宗徒堂

## 堂區特刊



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## 牧者的話

### 探尋聖誕之美

#### Behind the Beauty of Christmas Celebrations

蘇喜樂神父

Fr. Petrus Santos SCJ

聖誕節的意思就相等於「美」。聖誕節常常是美好的，讓我們看看是甚麼原因：

首先，每一個人人都喜歡慶祝聖誕。12月25日是假期，人人都知道這是聖誕的日子。

第二，漂亮的裝飾品隨處可見，無論是在商場、超市、辦公室、聖堂及家中。當人們看見聖誕裝飾時，就會停步下來，拍照捕捉美麗的畫面。沒有人會錯過聖誕的美。

第三，預備聖誕的禮儀節期，有美好的意義。在將臨期的四個星期內，我們點燃將臨期蠟燭，每支蠟燭都幫助我們準備聖誕。每星期點亮蠟燭時，我們感受到對聖誕的渴望與期待。

第四，堂區在將臨期提供機會給大家領受修和聖事。這代表我們不單要將好好裝飾聖堂，亦要將好好準備內心。在慶祝聖誕之前，我們要培養悔改的態度，好使我們的心成為「馬槽」，讓耶穌居住其中。

第五，在福音提及的人物，特別是那些曾受天使啟示的人，全部均有迎接厄馬奴耳的美好經驗。

從以上五點可見，聖誕之所以美好，就是因為天主履行祂的許諾——全人類的得救。

如果我們在生活中堅信天主和救恩的許諾，我們的生活就會更加美好。

所以，如果我們在今世堅信對天主的承諾，我們的生命就會永遠美好。

願主祝福你！

Christmas celebrations are synonymous with beauty. In fact, Christmas celebrations are always beautiful. Let us see why.

First, everyone around the world welcomes Christmas celebrations. December 25 is a holiday. On that day everyone knows that it is Christmas Day.

Second, beautiful decorations are installed everywhere : in urban centers, super markets, offices, churches, homes. When there are Christmas decorations, people stop for a moment and capture them with photos. This means that the beauty of Christmas cannot be missed.

Third, the liturgy leading up to the Christmas celebration has a very beautiful meaning. During the Advent season, for 4 weeks we are illuminated by 4 Advent candles. Each of these Advent candles helps us prepare to celebrate Christmas. Each week during Advent we can feel our longing to celebrate Christmas as each candle is lit.

Fourth, in our Parish during Advent there is an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confession. This means that we not only decorate our Church with beautiful decorations, but also prepare our hearts beautifully. Towards the Christmas celebration, an attitude of repentance must be developed, so that our hearts can become a "manger" for the presence of Jesus in our hearts.

Fifth, the people mentioned in the Gospel, especially those told by angels, all had the beautiful experience of welcoming Immanuel.

From the five points above, we can see the beauty behind Christmas celebrations, namely the fulfillment of God's promise, the promise of salvation for all mankind.

For us, living by holding on to God's promises and on to the promise of salvation, will make our lives much more beautiful.

Therefore, in this life we must continue to hold on to God's promises, so that our life will always be beautiful.

God bless you.

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## 周阡行執事晉鐸，教友熱情祝賀

「大家快些拍照，今天是周執事最後一天做執事。」

林祖明神父於9月16日早上主持平日彌撒後，熱情地請教友們與周阡行執事一起拍照，為他最後一次以執事身份襄禮的一刻留念。

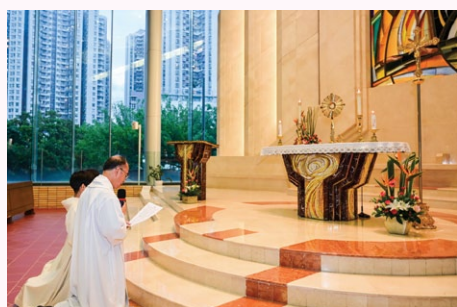
當天是周執事晉鐸的大日子，不少弟兄姐妹都很期待和高興。慕道團學員梁兆基（Franco）當天更與同學們一起往主教座堂，他覺得這次晉鐸禮有如婚禮般神聖。「我有夢想過步入教堂，舉行婚禮。這次我出席了一個不一樣的婚禮，周阡行執事領受司鐸聖秩，心中很感恩。」

周執事於2022年9月開始服務聖多默宗徒堂，在主日學、

慕道班、青年組等團體中與不少教友合作，所以他晉鐸是堂區的大新聞。

聖則濟利亞聖詠團團員及青年牧民幹事梁幸瑜（Rachel）更義不容辭，加入當天的歌詠團。她說：「由於周神父與我在籌備青年活動時常有互動，大家是朋友，所以想用歌詠來表達對朋友的支持。」她除了對周神父將自己奉獻給天主而感動，亦期待他接觸更多青年，鼓勵他們參加教會活動。

教友對周神父的期盼及祝福，就如同屬上述聖詠團的林蘊琪（Jackie）為他創作的《背起我的軛》這段歌詞所言：「求你引導他這生的每段路，求你悅納他每天的禱告」。



9月9日周執事晉鐸祈禱會

9月17日周阡行神父  
首祭暨慶祝會



9月16日周阡行晉鐸慶典



Franco（右一）和慕道班同學與  
周阡行神父合照



Rachel（右三）希望以歌聲祝福周阡行神父



雖然當日天陰下微雨，但無阻逾百位聖多默教友親往主教座堂見證周阡行神父晉鐸



聖多默宗徒堂

St. Thomas the Apostle Church





## 關注受造界——是責任？還是愛？

培育組 石穎齊  
堂區「綠在堂區計劃」成員

氣溫越來越高，極端天氣的日子越來越多，我們都知道這是破壞環境的後果。愛護生態、實踐環保，自是人人有責；對作為教友的我們來說，是責任，更是愛。

我自問關心環保的程度只屬BB級，但2022年9月開始，仍有幸代表培育組，參與堂區的「綠在堂區」計劃。在中文大學天主教研究中心的團隊成員（包括林榮鈞博士、馬諾言先生及梁曉詩小姐）的陪伴及支持下，我和堂區幹事會和關社組的代表們，一起探索堂區在環保項目上可盡之力。由最初毫無明確方向，到決定走出聖堂，一起參觀「綠在葵青」青衣回收站，大家在路途上分享對環保議題的想法，加深了對社區環保回收工作的認識。

這次參觀令我們明白到愛護環境必須坐言起行，推動我們本年7月初在堂區舉辦「生態導賞活動」，邀請教友們一起參觀中文大學裡的賽馬會氣候變化博物館及未圓湖。這次導賞除了充實我們對氣候變化的硬知識外，導賞員分享的氣候公義專題及在戶外空間的默想時間，亦帶領我從信仰角度反思我與受造界的關係。

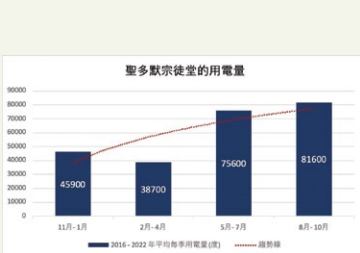
教宗方濟各在以生態危機為主題的《願你受讚頌》通諭，提及信友們應採取「行動」。我認為行動之所以重要及迫切，

是因為我們很多生活習慣，都在悄悄地傷害受造界。

炎炎夏日，有試過趕著參與彌撒，行得滿頭大汗，一踏入聖堂便享受到冷氣帶給你的安靜和平安嗎？你又可知，這些用電量，經過換算，其實代價也不菲嗎？

這裡要說的不是極端地關掉空調就可解決問題。要持續地做一件事，應該是發自內心認同這件事的價值，有意識地改變我們的習慣。假如早一點出發，是否就不用趕時間走得滿頭大汗，是否就可以多點時間靜下心來等待彌撒？是否就可以一點一點的減少我們對空調的熱切需求？從最微小的一步做起，慢慢改變習慣，讓我們的信仰與關注受造界緊扣，才能持之以恆。

「天主看了祂造的一切，認為樣樣都很好」（創1:31）。天主所造的，除了你和我，也包括一切動植物、風火水土。多看身邊的花草樹木、飛鳥，你會聽到天主對你的呼召。猶記得參觀未圓湖生態行時日正當頭，在開始祈禱時卻有一陣清風吹過，就像天主輕聲細說祂對我的愛，告訴我祂在這裡，與我和包圍我的受造界在一起。愛護祂所造的一切，自然既是責任，也是愛。



145公噸  
碳排放  
需要種至少  
7250棵樹  
去抵消

平均每年用電量達  
240 000度電  
相等於一部  
兩匹冷氣機  
連續開足  
17.3年



## 劏房何時了？

關社組

試想像一下，如果你在以下的地方居住，生活會是怎樣？

- 家 = 四面牆 + 一張床
- 床 = 書枱 = 飯桌 = 座椅
- 廚 = 廁
- 人均居住面積 = 48 平方呎 = 一張乒乓球枱
- 煮一道家鄉菜 = 全屋衣服被舖沾滿油煙
- 開一扇窗 = 湧來街外臭味 + 噪音

這就是典型的劏房居所。縱然如何不理想，全港有近21萬名基層家庭在這樣的環境下生活。荃灣有約6,600個劏房，還未包括工廈劏房。

為了改善劏房住戶面對的問題，明愛四個服務單位（包括荃灣區、中西區、南區及牛頭角）為他們建立了共享的「延展生活空間」，運用街舖、舊街市員工宿舍、學校的課餘空間，以至食肆等場所，使他們能在接納與信任的環境中，與同路人互相支持。

明愛荃灣社區中心策劃的「延展生活空間」座落於荃灣街市空置的員工宿舍，即將投入服務，設有社區廚房、飯廳、自助洗衣乾衣及學習空間等，讓劏房街坊走出狹隘住所，與同路人一起休息、學習、放鬆、連繫社區，創造更美好的生活。

各位，我們可以為這些「最小」的弟兄姊妹做些什麼，為他們帶來溫暖呢？

今年中秋期間，明愛荃灣社區中心聯同「青苗之家」及新界西南鐸區幾個堂區的關社組（包括本堂關社組），於荃灣街市天台遊樂場為該區劏房居民舉行「中秋迎月會」，送上天主的祝福和平安。當晚約有60個家庭共200人參加，會場充滿歡笑聲，家長和孩子一同猜燈謎、玩遊戲、嚐月餅、享糖水。

林祖明神父在晚會祝福禮時說：「天上有半個月，這裏（迎月晚會）有半個月，便成了一個圓月。」。各位，讓我們都出一分力，為這些弟兄姐妹獻上愛心關懷，將主的愛與平安送給他們，願他們的生活圓滿。







## 「服務鄰舍，愛主愛人」——家庭玫瑰經聚會 聯絡員感想

聯絡員 嚴匡良

藉神父、修女和聯絡員的努力，本堂在玫瑰月共舉辦了20場家庭玫瑰經祈禱會，每個屋邨的聚會都有神父或修女參與其中；以下是部份弟兄姊妹的感想：

- 青怡花園聯絡員 Theresa Law：「服務鄰舍，愛主愛人」是我珍重的金句，本堂前主任司鐸閻德龍神父曾說：「能和鄰舍共敘一同誦唸玫瑰經實在是一份恩賜，我們要珍惜，因為這並不是每個堂區都可行的！」

- 長青邨聯絡員黎麗雲：「敬畏上主，超越一切」；黃美賢：「上主，如果沒有你，我什麼都不是！」

- 翠怡花園聯絡員岑太：「天父亞爸，請救我們人靈！」

美景花園的教友則經歷了一個不一樣的祈禱會。事緣10月9日當天適逢8號風球落下後的黑色暴雨，基於借出地方的屋主不便改期，聯絡員莊玉娟（Joan）費盡心神，整個上午四處張羅及致電聯絡相關教友，最終祈禱會順利舉行。她引用聖經表達感受：「你們什麼也不要掛慮，只在一切事上，以懇求

和祈禱，懷著感謝之心，向天主呈上你們的請求；這樣，天主那超乎各種意想的平安，必要在基督耶穌內固守你們的心思念慮。」

（斐4:6-7）謹此感謝她的努力和美景教友的熱誠！

想來，青衣這個蕞爾小島，大大小小的公私營屋邨星羅棋佈，造就了同邨內教友較緊密的接觸；更慶幸是有一座瑰麗的聖堂聳立其中，信步可達。藉各邨聯絡員的努力，連繫了弟兄姊妹，一同誦唸玫瑰經。誠如閻神父所言，幸福不是必然的，這實在值得珍惜和感恩。這事能夠成就，固然是因為天主就在我們中間，但我們作為聯絡員，亦應感到自豪！我們當繼續發揮鹽和光的效能，做好聯絡員的職份，愛護關顧我們的近人，如同自己！







## 話當年 --- 青衣彌撒中心

珊姐姐

天主教郭怡雅神父紀念學校因校舍空間不足、設備未切合教育的需求，為使學生有更好的學習環境，將於2025年遷往深水埗連翔道的新校舍。

俗稱「火柴盒式」的郭怡雅神父紀念學校於1977年由顯主會女修會開辦；同年教區在青衣島借用此校場地設立彌撒中心，隸屬荃灣葛達二聖堂管轄，由聖母聖心會史達生神父負責禮儀和牧民工作，開展了青衣教友十多年「游牧式」的宗教生活。

1982年已故胡振忠樞機將青衣彌撒中心命名為「聖多默宗徒準堂」，由霍理思神父擔任主任司鐸。最初，彌撒中心是借用學校向南的兩個課室作主日彌撒之用，及後因教友不斷增加便改用學校六樓禮堂。當時彌撒中心沒有全職修女和受薪職員，教友們同心協力，本著「堂區是我家」的精神，無私地為彌撒中心服務。



霍理思神父於郭怡雅學校六樓禮堂主持彌撒

施安平小姐是郭怡雅神父紀念學校第一批職員，在學校負責書記工作。每逢星期六下午，她與教友們教授主日學，佈置祭台，準備彌撒座位及禮儀用品；翌日又還原成課室的樣貌。每個主日就這樣重複準備和收拾。她憶述，當年彌撒中心就像一個開心和溫暖的大家庭。



施安平小姐與主日學學生

彌撒中心初期設備十分簡陋，她知道政府清拆竹園村天主教領島小學，便與幾位青年到該校將跪凳搬返青衣；在大熱天時下，將重重實實的跪凳由地下搬上六樓供教友使用。她形容當年的青年十分落力為堂區服務。每當聖誕聯歡、主保瞻禮、復活節等，有些教友會自掏

腰包或是捐贈餅咭，學校亦會送贈飲品，讓大家开开心心地一齊慶祝。這些活動也漸漸地凝聚教友們的歸屬感。

當時，主日只有八時唯一一台中文彌撒。隨著青衣人口增加，教友越來越多，地方逐漸不敷使用。由於神父和教友年歲漸長，在炎熱的夏天爬上六層樓梯，汗流浹背地參與彌撒，上上落落實感吃力，於是由六樓禮堂搬返二樓北面，將三間課室改為可以打通，舉行主日彌撒，其中一間平時用作小聖堂和音樂室。直到1992年，教區研究於青衣興建新聖堂，終於選用了現址青綠街五號。



施安平小姐於二樓小聖堂

細聽施小姐娓娓道來，當年彌撒中心滿載喜樂和人情味。教友們付出寶貴的汗水，使物資匱乏的彌撒中心，成為今天聖多默宗徒堂傳揚福音的穩健根基。



相片提供：施安平小姐





7月2日「閒話家嘗：主之甘怡」講座



7月2日主保瞻禮十二點半彌撒



7月16日宗徒信經培育聚會



7月2日主保聚餐



8月12日余淑湏修女  
90歲大壽慶祝會



7月23日非常務送聖體員派遣禮



8月13日薪火相傳







9月10日接待小組派遣禮



9月24日聖言宣讀員派遣禮



10月1日寵物祝福禮



9月24日教育主日



11月5日善別組承諾禮



10月8日慕道團導師和陪談員祝福派遣禮



11月4-5日明愛賣物會預售



11月12日圓滿人生講座



10月29日林祖明神父晉鐸40周年



11月19日荃灣明愛賣物會



11月26日將臨環花藝工作坊





## 消失的以色列朝聖團

培育組-Elsa

【編按：本堂聖地朝聖團原定於10月29日出發，但因戰事取消。以下是其中一位籌備者的分享。】

對於我這一個以為自己是十分信靠天主的信徒，面對突然取消的以色列朝聖團，都會浮現出十萬個「為什麼？」。由開始籌備至出發前三星期，我們已用了差不多十個月時間安排，亦出席了三次培育講座，尚餘一次，表面上的準備已經完成。10月7日星期六晚上，卻傳來以色列聖地發生戰爭的消息。我心想，以色列常有零星戰事，應該不會對行程有所影響，還有三星期便出發，仍有一絲希望！不過事情急轉直下，我們終於在五天之內決定取消整個行程。基於航空公司停航，兼且不許改期下，取消是唯一的選擇！這個無奈的決定，我要經歷兩個失眠的晚上，才慢慢接受這個事實！

行程縱然取消，我們的團員都一齊參與第四次的培育講座，旅行社負責人、領隊及林祖明神父繼

續帶領我們認識多一點以色列這個地方，好讓我們了解多些聖地現況，及為現在留守在聖地服務的神父和修女祈禱！而林神父更以聖言治癒我們未能踏足聖地的遺憾！

今天雖然未能踏足聖地，原先對此是抱著一份「期待」，現在卻是一份「渴望」！從前對踏足聖地，以為擁有足夠的時間、金錢和體力便能成事，原來還有的就是——那個地方是否能容讓你踏足，都不是我們能決定的！

藉今次朝聖團，讓我認識更多的堂區內外的弟兄姊妹，了解更多關於聖地與信仰的關係！期待我們有機會一起真正的踏上以色列朝聖之旅，親身去到這個主基督出生、宣講、行神蹟、受難、死亡、復活和升天的地方，也祈求戰事早日結束，好使天國能在天主所應許土地上臨現！



## 感恩廿五載，同行迎蛻變——愛惜我們共同的家園

牧民議會幹事會

「堂區更新三年計劃」於2024年會進入計劃第三年的階段。過去兩年中，堂區週年計劃的活動都集中於深化信仰，透過不同的禮儀聖事、靈修、培育活動等讓弟兄姊妹加深與主耶穌的關係。堂區更積極推廣靈修交談，鼓勵堂區議會成員和各善會成員多藉此方式分享交流，經驗聖神在教會團體中的臨在與帶領。

2024年適逢堂區建堂25週年，感恩上主在過去一直對我們的眷顧，讓我們可以在祂的聖殿裏相聚祈禱，分享生活，加深與主耶穌的關係，也在團體中建立一份深厚的情誼。回顧過去25年，我們既為主所賜予的一切感恩，更願意把這份救恩的喜樂與尚未認識天主的弟兄姊妹分享，特別是在現今變幻不定的時代，以及全球出現生態危機的時刻，成為他人的同行者。這亦是教宗方濟各近幾年不斷強調的教導——教會需要改變，堂區需要更新，信徒需要走出去。在與人相遇、交談中聆聽彼此，聆聽上主，共議同行，並以實際的行動關愛受造界中

一切的生命。

有見及此，堂區將以「愛惜我們共同家園」為建堂25週年的主題，邀請弟兄姊妹一同懷着感恩的心去慶祝，同時為主所創造的世界和人類的可持續發展共同努力。我們的努力，可以在於建設創新（如為聖堂安裝太陽能設施），或在於改變個人現在不利環境的生活習慣（如減少不必要的用電），以達致減少碳排放量，改善全球暖化、極端天氣等問題。

願我們都不要看輕個人為善的力量，每位弟兄姊妹懷着信德的同行參與，就像耶穌所說比喻中的芥子和酵母、地鹽與世光。願我們都能同心合意，承行上主的旨意，讓堂區成為青衣社區內居民守望相助的鄰舍，並在這美麗的聖所內遇見生命的救主耶穌基督。

願上主的聖名受讚頌，從現今直到永遠無窮！  
(詠113:2)





## May Flower Devotion 2023 ~ A Living Rosary ~

In the Catholic Church, May is the Month of Mary, a time in which we honour Our Blessed Mother, Mary. The Christian tradition of dedicating the month of May to the Blessed Virgin dates back to the 13th century.

The Legion of Mary organized a yearly gathering to culminate the Month of Mary. This year we held "A LIVING ROSARY" focused on the Glorious Mysteries.



In a Living Rosary, each participant not only prays a Rosary, but helps to form one. Each person serves as a bead while praying the Rosary as a group.

These prayers were in groups of ten called decades, and each decade began with an Our Father. The Rosary we prayed has five decades. As we pray a decade, we meditate and reflect on an event in the life of Jesus, Mary and the Church, called "mysteries." The rosary is intended to be a prayer and a response. The leaders will begin the prayer and all of us will respond by completing the prayer.

Everyone had an opportunity to participate the Holy Rosary. We are so happy to see that we come together to honor Our Mother Mary by praying the Rosary, offering flowers to her and most of all by crowning her, as our Queen.

## Rosary Gathering 2023

October is the Month traditionally dedicated to the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Rosary is more than a prayer. It symbolizes our destiny in and with God according to Mary's example.

This year's gathering was held on October 22 with the STEC family and parishioners in honor of Our Blessed Mother. We prayed all of the Twenty Mysteries: the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries. We prayed together as a community and asked for the powerful intercession of Our Blessed Mother. This is how important the Rosary is to us.



*"Every word of the Rosary is a prayer to God"- Servant of God Frank Duff, founder of the Legion of Mary"*

## St. Thomas English Community Pilgrimage At Our Lady of Fatima Church, Cheung Chau Island



Lady of Fatima. The church has erected 68 years of witness on the island. Its popular annual Marian procession and pilgrimage dates back to 13 October 1952, when Father Antonio Riganti, then vicar general, led a congregation of over 1,000 people in a landmark pilgrimage to Cheung Chau. Since then, it has attracted many pilgrims from different parishes of Hong Kong to pay tribute to Our Lady of Fatima.

Although there has been many Catholic communities in Cheung Chau since 1930s, it was only on 13 October 1952 that Bishop Lorenzo Bianchi erected a formal parish for the Island and named it after Our

The English Community had their pilgrimage on October 2, 2023 with the full support of our Spiritual Adviser, Fr. Petrus Santoso, SCJ. Our activities include the Holy Rosary Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima (led by the Legion of Mary) and a Holy Mass presided by Fr. Petrus. The pilgrimage was held owing to the hospitality of the church's administration. It was a very spiritual event that our members have once again prayed together as one community.







## Synodal Journey Song Presentation — St. Thomas English Community — First Place



The Diocesan Pastoral Centre for Migrants (DPCM) and Simbayahan-Kapisanan ng Mga Manggagawing Migranteng Pilipino (Sim-KAMMPI), a pastoral care service for Filipino Catholic migrants, had invited the St. Thomas English Community to join the SYNODAL JOURNEY SONG Presentation, held at St. Alfred's Church, Shatin on September 30, 2023. The theme of this event was "Communion, Participation and Mission" and had an objective of declaring "No longer I, Mine, Me, but "We, Ours/ US."

We are proud to represent our Church and the English Community for we have garnered and bring in the First Prize Winner of this competition. It is an original song portraying that experiencing Synodality is the joy expressed in the sincere and respectful encounter between brothers and sisters in the faith, and to meet each other is to encounter the Lord who is in our midst!

It is a way of "journeying together", living our faith that calls for speaking and listening to one another with the Holy Spirit in order to find a path forward in addressing the issues in our days as we work to carry out our mission of making known the Good News of salvation with Jesus. It is by walking together, listening, dialoguing, discerning together. The deepest longing as we travel on our life's journey is, wherever God go, so shall we go with Him, not knowing where He was going, but we know travelling with Him is good enough for Him to journey together.

This is an original song with joint efforts of STEC members. The lyrics were composed by Nancy C. Mamoyac, music arranged by George Laron and administered by Edmund Damulo. With great thanks to our singers who showed their best to depict the meaning of Synod, namely: Elna, Precy, RR, Steff, Rubilyn, Joy, Nora, Leriza, Jennifer, Shiramie, Alona, Divina, Maribel, Mila,

Emely, Jan, Thristian and Lizel.

The song lyrics is hereto presented:

WE JOURNEY AS ONE FAMILY

Verse 1:

LIFE'S GREAT JOURNEY VERSE IS ONE WITH JESUS  
WHEN HE CALLS US TO LEAVE OURSELVES BEHIND  
AND TO FOLLOW A CERTAIN DESIRE  
THAT DRIVES US TOWARDS SALVATION

Refrain:

WE WALK AND WE SMILE WITH EACH OTHER  
WE CRY, WE LAUGH, EMBRACE ONE ANOTHER  
LET OUR VOICES SING HIM PRAISES  
LET US SERVE AS ONE FOR THE LORD

Verse 2:

WITH CHRIST OUR JOURNEY IS LEARNING AND GROWING  
GROUNDED IN PRESENCE WITH HIM  
HE DRAWS US NEAR WHEN WE HELP THE POOR  
IN THIS JOURNEY WE GROW IN HIM

(Repeat Refrain)

Verse 3:

TOGETHER IN FAITH, TOGETHER IN PRAYER  
WITH LOVE WE GLORIFY THE LORD  
WE SHARE OUR LOVE AND PEACE WITH OTHERS  
BY SHARING THE HOPE OF CHRIST

(Repeat Refrain)

Verse 4:

WE BELIEVE THIS JOURNEY WILL OFFER US  
A CHANCE TO A DEEPER COMMITMENT  
REFLECTING AND SETTING OUR EYES ON OUR GOAL  
AS WE NEAR OUR JOURNEY'S END

(Repeat Refrain)

(End) LET US SERVE AS ONE FOR THE LORD

## THE RENEWAL AND COMMISSIONING OF ST. THOMAS ENGLISH COMMUNITY

Every after two years of dedicated service to St. Thomas Church, all members have renewed their service. The commissioning was a simple blessing to affirm the use of the gifts God has given them. It was held during the Eucharistic Celebration on October 8, 2023, presided by our Spiritual Adviser, Fr. Petrus Santoso, SCJ.

Service in this parish is composed of seven ministries, namely: Altar Servants, Collectors, Elim (Ushers), Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion (EMHC), Lectors, Legion of Mary Group 1 and Group 2 and Music Ministry (Choir and Instrumentalists).





The Altar Servers assist in the Mass. They carry the cross, the candles and the thurible during the procession and help to prepare the altar for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.



The Collectors assist in the collection and preparation of our weekly Sunday offering and personal intentions. They can also offer assistance before the Mass as per the needs of parishioners.



The Elim Ministry performs as Usher. They act as "first representatives" of Jesus Christ in the Mass. Before the Mass starts, they act as doorkeepers, greet each person with a smile, and hand out bulletins. They also answer visitors questions and give extra help in seating to those who need assistance.



The Eucharistic Ministers are laypersons who assist the priest in administering the elements of Holy Communion. They also bring the sacrament to those who are sick and homebound.



The Lectors proclaim the Sacred Scripture (the first and second readings, and sometimes also the responsorial psalm). They also announce the intentions during the prayer of the faithful.



The Music Ministry is composed of the Choir and the Instrumentalists. Its role is to assist the congregation in lifting their voices in songs. In the Mass, they help to bring parishioners into active participation and closeness with God.



The Legion of Mary serves as auxilliary servants to the Church. They were divided into two groups, name: Legion of Mary Most Pure and Legion of Mary Most Faithful. They are active members who have assumed different duties, functions and responsibilities, e.g. leading the Holy Rosary Devotion or serving as Ushers, Collectors, Lectors and Altar Servers.







## ELIM Ministry of St. Thomas English Community



Elim Community is one of the Catholic Charismatic and Missionaries group in the Philippines and in the whole World. They have 176 branches and startups in the Philippines and 20 branches abroad. They are one of the evangelizers of the Word of God. They are blessed to join and participate the outreach program, to visit different churches here in Hong Kong or even in Macau. They help and support different activities in the church like Rosary Gathering and 2000

Hail Mary Devotion and etc. They serve in this church as Usherettes, sometimes Collectors and help to sell Christian books to Filipino Migrants. They serve especially the activities and events of the English Community anytime upon their call. They have Praise and Worship every Sunday 12:30 - 3pm in Room 407 followed by online teaching from different Teachers of the Word from the Philippines. They also have virtual gathering everyday from different branches of their Community.

At present they are having the Elim Missions International Conference (EMIC) in Manila, where leaders and deputies of every ELIM branch and startup gather as one family. The objective, after a week Excellence Conference, it will be followed by every servant and dweller of their community joining together to study, learn and devotedly share the Word of God.

Elim Community continually invite everyone to join their community as one Family of God and become "Fishers of Men" and evangelists send by the Lord, As the Bible says, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news." (Rom. 10:15). All Glory and Honor to our Lord Jesus Christ.

### 為亡者祈禱

請為本堂善別組(5/6/2023至30/11/2023)曾服務的亡者靈魂祈禱：

天主，我們相信祢以恩澤與仁慈對待倚恃祢的人，並以祢的憐憫收納以下弟兄姊妹，使他們安息在祢的懷中，得享天國的福樂！也讓我們因依靠祢而獲得心靈的平安。

凌麗英 郭妙娟 邱樂民 杜秋儀 羅佩芬 蘇家寶  
陳永生 梁潤鑑 鄭俊德 關菲 童議 甘毅良  
歐建生 黃燕萍 ROMEO RIVERA OCHOCO

### 2023 聖誕節禮儀時間表

| 彌撒 Mass                        | 日期 Date              | 時間 Time                        |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 聖誕節子夜彌撒 (中文)                   | 12月24日 (主日)          | 子夜十二時正                         |
| 子夜前夕祈禱                         |                      | 晚上十一時三十分                       |
| Christmas Vigil Mass (English) | December 24 (Sunday) | 9:00pm                         |
| 聖誕節彌撒                          | 12月25日 (星期一)         | 上午八時正, 十一時正                    |
| Christmas Masses (English)     | December 25 (Monday) | 9:30am                         |
| 聖家節彌撒                          | 12月31日 (主日)          | 按照主日各台彌撒時間                     |
| The Holy Family Masses         | December 31 (Sunday) | According to the Sunday Masses |
| 除夕謝主彌撒(中文)                     | 12月31日 (主日)          | 晚上七時正                          |
| New Year's Eve Mass (English)  | December 31 (Sunday) | 9:00pm                         |

### 2024 新年禮儀時間表

| 彌撒 Mass    | 日期 Date         | 時間 Time |
|------------|-----------------|---------|
| 天主之母節暨新年彌撒 | 2024年1月1日 (星期一) | 上午九時正   |