

2024年 主保瞻禮

天主教聖多默宗徒堂

堂區特刊



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牧者的話

周阡行神父

愛惜我們共同的家園

感謝天主!我們的堂區今年慶祝建堂25週年,實在值得高興和感恩!去年,林神父與一衆堂區議會和各個善會的兄弟姊妹討論後,為這次堂慶定下主題:「愛惜我們共同的家園」。這句話既是響應教宗方濟各的「環保」通諭《願祢受讚頌》,亦是反映我們共同的心情——藉此銀禧,我們為這個我們所愛的「衆家之家」而歡慶,也願意好好珍惜這栽培信仰的園地。

相較其他堂區,聖多默宗徒堂仍算十分年輕,但這次25週年同樣是一個里程碑。聖堂落成,象徵教會正式開始在一個地方展開福傳工作;而慶祝銀禧,往往代表已開始孕育出第三代的教友「郭怡雅」時代的祖父母輩、「聖若瑟」時代的兒孫輩。很多我們現有的善會和傳統(例如家庭玫瑰經聚會),都是得自神父、修女和教友前輩們的辛勤耕耘;他們為我們建設好了這一個家。

步入第25年,我們仍要繼續努力, 因為天主時時都希望我們的心火熾熱起來!面對近年的社會變化,我們的堂區 也面對人手、青年、福傳和關社等各方 面的挑戰。如果我們只是沿用以往的堂 區生活模式,以單次的活動為主,恐怕 未能回應時代的需求。因此,在慶典過 後,我們實在需要集思廣益,為堂區計 劃未來:

- 我們可以怎樣豐富教友的禮儀和靈修體驗,讓他們感受到主的臨在?
- 我們可提供怎樣的系統性持續培育,裝備教友成為小團體的領袖?
- 我們可為主日學畢業後的青年,提供什麼空間?
- 我們如何增強善會之間的合作, 凝聚教友之間的感情?
- 我們如何走出聖堂,履行福傳和 關心社區的使命?

教宗提倡「共議同行」,並非只是推出一種輪流發言的祈禱方式,而是希望全體信友都能積極投身於教會的發展。牧職人員固然有其獨特職務,但一個健康和成熟的團體,更需要教友發揮身上豐富多彩的神恩。因此,建堂25週年除了是歡慶的日子,也是特別值得到一同辨別未來發展方向的時刻。願這個我們所愛的家園,繼續張開雙臂,引領青衣居民認識我們的家傳之寶--「我主,我天主!」

聖多默宗徒,為我等祈!





堂區建堂廿五週年有感

2021-2024年度堂區幹事會 會長 Alix

今年是堂區建堂廿五週年,為我亦是擔任 堂區幹事的最後一年。相較起堂區建堂二十五 年,為只是擔任了兩屆幹事,在堂區生活不足 十年的我而言,本來應該不夠「資歷」去話當 年!

在《探》一書中,為我印象最深刻的是這一段:「根據教區現存紀錄,我們可知道遠在

由此亦可見,我們需要感恩的不只是天主在這廿五年來對我們堂區教友的眷顧,而是遠早在廿五年前天主對這個小島的眷顧,以及所有多年來一直為這個青衣堂區默默付出,持守並傳承天主信仰的前輩恩人。作為今日2024年青衣堂區的弟兄姊妹,我們又會如何傳承及活出這份珍貴的信仰,把天主的救恩廣傳於這片今日已經有超過二十萬居民的土地呢?

願彼此互勉,繼往開來,愛惜我們共同的家園,共建未來的二十五年!











別了白德蘭修女,我們永遠懷念你

鄧文儀

祂未曾應許天常蔚藍, 祂未曾應允花兒常開, 祂卻恩 許祂的慈愛常在(頌122)。

2024年3月18日的晚上,在青衣聖多默宗徒堂,我們將摯愛的白德蘭修女託付予仁慈的天父,祈求天父迎接她進入天國,得享光明與和平。

回想我在1999年聖誕節搬入青衣居住,聖多默宗徒堂剛建成不久,及後白修女就在2001年來到青衣堂區開展牧民工作。當時我在聖多默宗徒堂初遇白修女,她是意大利人,說得一口流利廣東話,後來才知道她於1983年來港後便開始學習中文,並在錦田的聖猶達堂練習廣東話。白修女經常展露親切的笑容,配上非常溫婉的聲調,令每位和她接觸的人都充滿着喜悅。

不久之後,白修女便邀請我的太太和女兒加入堂區聯絡員和聖物組。其後,雖然她的健康出現了嚴重的問題,但她笑容如常。她憑著信徳和勇氣,繼續肩負著堂區的牧民工作。猷記得有次在五月的家訪,白修女帶同了幾位教友,到我家一同祈禱和頌唸玫瑰經。此外,每當我們在晚上舉行堂區幹事會會議時,縱然她支撐着疲乏的身軀,也積極地討論堂區事務。後來,在白修女的引導下,我的母稅也參加了慕道班,並於2017年在堂區受洗。白修女的稅民工作,見證了愛的喜悅,事無大小,她都以愛心盡力而為,讓我們得享天主那超越一切的愛。

可惜在2019年,白修女須暫停在堂區長達18年的牧民工作,安心養病。雖然病重,白修女仍沒有停下傳遞愛德,在2021年12月17日,她蹣跚地參加了我母親的守靈祈禱。鑑於病情惡化,白修女於2022年12月8日離開服務多

年的香港,返回意大利,接受治療。我們在機場送別白修 女的那一刻,對她的離別很是不捨,心中無盡淒然,唯恐 這是最後一次的見面。

由於白修女病情轉差,直至今年年初,醫生決定為她提供舒緩護理。最後,白修女於3月8日返回天家。她的生平正正見證了堅固的信仰,永恆的希望,以及無比的愛心。

倚恃上主的人,必明白真理; 忠信於上主之愛的人,必與他同住, 因為恩澤與仁慈,原歸於他所選的人。 (智慧篇 3:9)







2024年復活節領洗教友名單 -

温凱穎 吳學東 王鳴欣 曾曦誼 英富興 梁兆基 鄭洪琛 朱志銳 陳君懿 林芷雅 李希雯 劉寶琪 程蘭香 周洽玲 林正源 王敏倩 顧文耀 林志生 單燕橋 鄧卓堯 雷麗琼 龔景華 林少玲 聶 海 黎傲雪

兒童:

劉衍廷 吳曉楹 曾紫騫 周 叡 林萩洋 趙善頤 李依然 姚善婷 謝啟賢 謝韻兒 王洛錡 郭諾銘

領堅振:

謝可欣 鄭曉燕 梁秀英 葉文慧 梁弘濼 羅卓容





2024年3月10日「劏房何時了」講座



2024年4月7日 多默之友派遣禮



2024年3月14日 主教公署牧訪堂區



2024年4月30日-5月1日 培育組退省



2024年5月1日 東涌朝聖活動



2024年5月5日 耆樂會新會員入會暨承諾禮

Saint Thomas The Apostle Church Parish Newsletter





2024 - 5 - 19 English Sunday school students receiving Holy Confirmation

2024年5月18日 堅振聖事



2024年6月1日 初領聖體



2024 - 6 - 2 First Holy Communion



2024年6月2日 聖體會



2024年6月2日 回收分類講座及咖啡渣香塔 工作坊



St.Thomas the Apostle Church

時代乏力,信仰有力!

關社組

主內的弟兄姊妹:

生活在疫後時代,世界經濟面臨重大挑戰,生活百上加斤,每日勞碌地工作、照顧家人,凡此種種,皆令人喘不過氣來。作為基督徒的我們,仍能帶著體恤和敏銳的心靈與他人同行嗎?

早前有幸參與由夏志誠輔理主教主講,主題為:「我們該做什麼?」—「關社行動中履行教友職務」的關社培育聚會。

作為平信徒的我們,有著各種職務,包括司祭職、先知職和君王職。我們要把聖洗和堅振的恩寵拓展至社會層面,活出天主的真理,在行動中活出對別人的關愛和慈悲,好讓他人與主相遇,成為別人的祝福,並為解救靈魂而捨己。

尤記得其中一位講者在培育日分享,他多年來 堅持在堂區與教友定期探訪露宿者,只因曾有途人 「勸喻」他們不要浪費時間扶助露宿者。作為基督 徒,我們深明探訪行動不止是派物資,更重要的是 與弱勢社群同行,以天主的愛觸動他們,只因天主 的本質是愛,每人也值得被愛、被尊重。這份愛不 容易,我們或多或少也曾漠視身邊有需要的人,然 而改變始於人心,內心的悔改是邁向更美好世界的 開始。 夏主教在分享中提及到,教會關社不止是純粹的關懷和服務,基督徒應帶著靈性的願景去服務。

何謂靈性的願景?

我們無法消滅匱乏,但能發現豐盛;

我們不能制止懶惰,但能造就滿足;

我們無法除去無知,但可啟發他人;

我們無法消除疾病,但可祝福他人;

我們無法禁絕敗壞,但能傳遞盼望。

面對充滿壓力的社會,或多或少會感到失望, 全心仰賴天主,定能找到希望,重新得力,成為他 人的祝福。正如斐理伯書中所說:「在乖僻敗壞 的世代中,做天主無瑕的子女;在世人中你們應放光 明,有如宇宙間的明星。」(斐2:14-15)

你就有如宇宙間的明星!坐言起行,在日常生活中,了解鄰人的需要,啟發他們,傳遞盼望。不要少看自己,你的一份了解,一個具同理心的問候,就能成就奇蹟,延續基督徒最大的使命,回應天主愛的召叫。來,不要再那樣心硬,跟身邊的鄰人表達親切的關懷吧,不要吝嗇你的關心,只因改變始於人心!

「我主,願你因我們的母親大地而受讚頌,她負載我們,滋養我們……」編輯組

方濟會會祖方濟各.亞西西一直熱愛大自然。 他在《太陽歌》中,歌頌大地、太陽及水。他更於 1979 年蒙教宗若望保祿二世封為「生態主保」, 成為不少教友的模範。

近年來,各國十分關注塑膠污染。不少日常用品由塑膠製成,如膠袋、衣服、膠樽,但塑膠難以分解,而塑膠物品磨損後更會變成更小的碎片,形成微塑膠。在2022年,香港每天的廢膠棄置量更高達2,369公噸。

雖然塑膠污染問題嚴峻,但我們可以將塑膠回收,減少塑膠垃圾。在塑膠製品上,大家可留意有一個三角形及中間的數字。它是「塑膠分類標誌」。塑膠共分七類,如1號塑膠PET(常用於膠樽)、2號塑膠HDPE(常用於洗頭水樽),以及5號塑

膠PP和6號塑膠PS(常用於即棄餐具)。這些塑膠 都可回收。

在我們的社區,我們可以在綠在葵青將已清潔的塑膠產品、發泡膠及生果網回收。另外,我們亦可於青衣城二期的入樽機回收膠樽。最後,大家在經過青衣公園時,亦可以將膠樽放入回收箱。

雖然不少塑膠用品可回收,但我們在使用塑膠用品前,宜多思考是否必須,以減少用量。因為,減少使用塑膠能更有效針對塑膠問題。另外,不是所有塑膠都可以回收。3號塑膠PVC由於加熱會釋出有毒物質,因此不能被回收。

千里之行,始於足下。讓我們由社區開始回收 塑膠,學習聖方濟各對生態的熱愛,保護我們的環 境。







Saint Thomas The Apostle Church Parish Newsletter



Pentecost: The Birth of the Church



Pentecost is a Christian holiday which takes place on the 49th day after Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles of Jesus while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. This important event in the Christian faith is described in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:1–31), as "preeminent celebration of the Holy Spirit". Also known as "Birth of the Church".

The Symbols of Pentecost

Wind - Representing God's first breath of love into all of creation. A "driving wind" surrounded the apostles on that first Pentecost to strengthen them in their faith. The breath of the Holy Spirit – and sometimes a gusting wind – strengthens and challenges God's people on their faith journey. Although we cannot physically see wind, we can feel the effects of it. Just like with God. While we cannot physically see him, we see and feel the effects of him working through our lives.

Fire - Representing the Holy Spirit, who filled the apostles with enthusiasm, replacing their fear with the courage to go forth and share Christ's story. "Tongues of fire ... came to rest on each one of them." Fire can be both comforting and destructive. Comforting in the sense of warmth, destructive in the sense of power. Fire will burn away the old so that the new can grow.

Red - The color of liturgical vestments on Pentecost, representing the dynamism of the Holy Spirit and the zeal of those who open their hearts to the Spirit.

Water - Representing new life and the commitment first made at the time of our baptism and renewed throughout our faith lives.

Dove - Representing the Holy Spirit that descended "like a dove" and hovered over Jesus when he was baptized. Symbol of peace. The dove is often a sign of peace and hope within Christianity. Due to this symbolism, the apostles were able to feel a sense of peace through a scenario that would've otherwise been terrifying for them.



"And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability." – Acts 2:2-4

As mentioned in the bible verse above, the apostles began to speak in different languages. This is referring to speaking in tongues. This is a form of personal prayer, although not everyone is able to speak in tongues. It is seen as a miracle as it allows only some believers to communicate with God, through the Holy Spirit, in a way that is far beyond human understanding.

The Breath of God is a breath essential for life, and so fundamental to our being that we at most times hardly realise it's there. This is what the Holy Spirit is like. It breathes life into all things. It's life-giving, sustaining, and continual.

Reflection by:

Nancy C. Mamoyac, STEC Coordinator/Eucharistic Ministry



The Pathway towards Life and Spirit Seminar - by Elim

One of the biggest events in Elim Community is the Light in Spirit Seminar or called Elim Pathways. The start of the event is the Highest form of Worship (Eucharistic Mass), followed by Praise and Worship. The Seminar commenced with a Personal Testimony, to edify how Jesus is our the Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14:6). The fruits of this Seminar is total surrendering to the Lord; to receive Baptism and gifts of the Holy Spirit. To show how good the Lord is in our life, to continually be with the Community of Believers (Acts 4:32). This seminar is one way to recount the New beginning of our journey in Faith (Hebrew 11:1).

One celebrated event of the Catholic Faith is the celebration of our parents (Mother's and Father's day). A way of appreciation and act of love to our parents, the only commandments with the promise from the Lord. As Elim dwellers, we are deeply grateful to the Lord to be part of Elim Community and for the opportunity that we had, to show our love and

to serve others into His goodness and abundance. Glory to God in the Highest!



The HOME OF LOVE –by Legion of Mary of St. Thomas

"NOT ALL OF US CAN DO GREAT THINGS. BUT WE CAN DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE." — Mother Teresa

The Legion of Mary and its membership is open to those who belong to the Catholic Church and believe in its teaching. Its stated mission is for active members to serve God under the banner of Mary by the corporal and spiritual works of Mercy.

One of its work, is the "Home of Love of the Missionaries of Charity Sisters". It is our regular apostolate mission every Sunday and at times on our statutory holiday. We usually go to their shelters and offer our tasks by helping at the kitchen like cooking, cleaning, washing dishes and sometimes serving food to the street dwellers. We are so blessed and thankful for this kind of apostolate, a simple way to express our gifts and love to our Almighty God through our brothers and sisters in need.

And we are thankful to the MC Sisters, for taking part in our Spiritual Growth and in the same way fulfilled our spiritual work of mercy. They introduced us to the 33-days self- retreat. A meditation to consecrate ourselves to our Lady and to the Divine Mercy following the 33-days Morning Glory; the 33-days merciful love and knowing, prayer delivering our friends, the poor souls in Purgatory in accord with a 30-day Novena.







天主教聖多默宗徒堂 堂區特刊



The Legion of Mary, Mother Most Faithful Presidium with Fr. Benedict Lam, Parish Priest.



STEC Holy Hour with Fr. Petrus

A Holy Hour fervently pursued by the English Community is a devotional tradition of spending an hour in Eucharistic adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, opening with the prayer of Divine Mercy followed by devotional prayers and petitions. A plenary indulgence is granted for this practice. It's an opportunity to simply be in the presence of the Lord and let yourself know and feel God's love. The Lord asked Sister Faustina to pray especially for sinners at three o'clock in the afternoon, the moment of His death on the cross. This is the hour of great mercy for the world, and can be a moment of reflection on His Passion and Death for us.



Celebrating "Mother's Day" May 12, with the blessing of Fr. Benedict and Fr. Petrus.





The STEC Leaders in action

We are the English Community Leaders, gathered together as one family through our foundational ministries through: Prayers, Worship, Community Inter-actions, and Evangelization.



The 2nd Bible Encounter held at St. Thomas Parish Church

The 2nd Bible Encounter Goes Civic organized by the LBS Thursday Group of the Chaplaincy to the Filipino Migrants in Hong Kong, headed by Fr. Jay Flandez organized the 2nd Bible Encounter held at 3/F Hall of St. Thomas Parish, Church. A grateful thanks to Fr. Benedict for accommodating this event. The Bible Encounter will be in a form of a quiz and the coverage will be the 4 Gospels of the New Testament – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.



The Acolytes lovely photo shooting with the presiding priests, Fr.Petrus and his co-celebrant, a visiting priest from Indonesia.

為亡者祈禱 請為本堂善別組(1/3/2024 至 31/5/2024)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。

 李煥光 呂嘉敏 許 珍 黃慧蓮 尹國華 李美蘭 張志忠 麥小萍 凌鳳梅

