



MCI (P): 014/06/2017



23rd Edition, December 2017

Foreword

Jesus invites us to come closer to Him!

With the commencement of the 8pm Holy Hour on the first Friday of each month, a window of opportunity beckons us to devote ourselves to the Blessed Sacrament and encounter the grace and spiritual healing that He gives us.



Top: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during the 8pm Holy Hour on the first Friday of each month commenced on 7 July.

and attain the spiritual “promises” which ultimately nourishes our spiritual and to a certain extent, our physical lives.

Installation of New Tabernacle

You will be glad to know that the installation of the new tabernacle and other features for devotion to be added in the foreseeable future are to captivate the attention to the significance and reverence desired for such devotions.



Top: The new tabernacle.

Below: The blessing of the new tabernacle took place on 8 November.



On on behalf of Fr Peter Zhang we wish you and your loved ones a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a spiritually meaningful new year 2018 that is filled with love, joy and peace.

Fr Christopher Lee
Parish Priest.

In This Issue



The inauguration of the annual “Rosary at the Garden” on Pages 2 and 3.



St Joseph’s Church welcome new Assistant Parish Priest Fr Peter Zhang. His vocation story on pages 4.

“Happenings @ SJC”
Parish news and events on pages 5 to 9.



“IN MEMORY”
Farewell to a Brother and Friend of the SJC Community on page 9.

“华语及方言组讯息”
News and articles from the Mandarin and Dialect Speaking Community on pages 10 to 12.

“Rosary at the Garden”

The inauguration of the annual “Rosary at the Garden” on the Feast of the Holy Rosary serves to promote, encourage and inspire rosary devotion that brings us closer “To Jesus, Through Mary”



Top: “Rosary at the Garden” procession with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima.



Inauguration of the Annual "Rosary at the Garden"

Written by: Stephanie Clarissa.

St Joseph's Church held an outdoor candlelight procession after the 5.30pm Sunset Mass on Saturday 7 October in conjunction with the Feast of the Holy Rosary.



Top: Outdoor procession with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

The statue of Our Lady of Fatima was paraded from the church and around the compound en route to the Rosary Garden accompanied by the recitation of the Rosary and hymns; complete with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and Blessing.



Top: The outdoor procession around the vicinity of the church en-route to the Rosary Garden.



Top & Below: Catechists and children at the procession.



Top: The youths from our parish bearing the statue of Our Lady of Fatima to the Rosary Garden.



The occasion marks the beginning of an event that will take place annually with this inauguration.

Continue on page 3.

We welcome new member, **Stephanie Clarissa**, to the "Carpenter" Editorial and to SJC Media.



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Photos of our parish events on our website or on Facebook: "St Joseph's Church (Bt Timah) Community."

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St Joseph Church on Facebook



1. Find us @ Facebook: "St Joseph Church Bukit Timah."
2. "Like" & "Follow" our official FB page to receive regular notifications pertaining to parish events.
3. Be a part of the SJC community.

"Join" our "St Joseph Church (Bt. Timah) Community" Facebook Group to access photos and videos of our parish events. Links and articles pertaining to the Catholic faith are shared by fellow members.



Continued from page 2.



Top: Fr Peter taking the Eucharist to the Rosary Garden.



Top: The exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.



Top: The Benediction.



Top: Blessing of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

"Rosary at the Garden"

Inspired by His Grace Archbishop William Goh mentioning during his homily at the Mass which preceded the blessing and official opening of the outdoor Rosary Garden that St Joseph's being a "complete" church for devotion along with the existing outdoor Stations of the Cross, the idea of hosting an outdoor procession accompanied by the recitation of the rosary on a symbolic day and on an annual basis led to the concept of "Rosary at the Garden."



Top: An outdoor banner encouraging recitation of the Rosary.

The main objective is to promote, encourage and inspire rosary devotion to the masses of fellow Catholics to go "To Jesus, Through Mary."

"Pledge Tree"

A "Pledge Tree" was erected in church to encourage parishioners to start daily rosary recitation.

Additionally rosary recitation after the Sunset Mass at the garden on every Saturday leading to 7 October was led by the Legion of Mary. Currently outdoor rosary recitation are held on the first Saturday after the Sunset Mass and on the thirteenth of each month after the Evening Mass.



Top: A young parishioner placing her "pledge" to recite the rosary on the "Pledge Tree" (right).



Rosary Making Project

Prelude to the "Rosary at the Garden" on Feast of the Holy Rosary, the Rosary Making Project was initiated to involve more people in rosary recitation on a regular, if not on a daily basis.

The concept of "Make a Rosary for a Loved One" was adapted at parish level with members from various ministries as well as parishioners, coming

together to learn and share the art of stringing the beads.

Children from the primary catechism classes were also taught to string their very own rosaries.



Left: Rosary making at the home of a parishioner.



Top: Rosary making at a primary six catechism class.



Top: The blessing of handmade rosaries.

Over a thousand handmade rosaries are blessed on Saturday 30 September during the 5.30pm Sunset Mass and given to persons intent on bringing along another person the following Saturday for the procession and rosary recitation at the outdoor Rosary Garden on the Feast of the Holy Rosary.

"This being the Fatima Centennial year, the Primary Catechists wanted to participate in the Parish Rosary project to express our love for Our Blessed Mother. Many of the Primary Catechism classes do make rosaries every year, but this year, we wanted to tie this in with the Parish project, and encouraged every child to make a rosary for their loved ones as well. The Primary Catechists also participated by pledging 460 rosaries for the Parish project. If these rosaries can help to bring someone closer to Jesus by praying the rosary, then it was certainly well worth the effort."

- Catechist Evelyn Lau.



Journeying with the Lord in the Breezes of Grace

Rev. Fr. Peter Zhang Siqian, C.D.D.

Rev. Fr. Peter Zhang Siqian, C.D.D. was born and grew up in Beijing, China. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the Beijing University of Technology in 1996.

Fr. Zhang joined the Congregation of the Disciples of the Lord (CDD) afterwards and did his priestly formation at St. Francis Xavier Major Seminary, Singapore. He was ordained a priest at the Church of the Holy Spirit in 2003, by His Grace Archbishop (now Archbishop Emeritus) Nicholas Chia. After two years of pastoral work in Singapore, Fr. Zhang went on to do his graduate research at the Alphonsus Academy of the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome, Italy, and received his STD (Doctorate in Moral Theology) in 2011.

Prior to his posting to St Joseph's Church (Bt. Timah) he served as assistant priest at the Church of the Holy Cross. Besides his responsibilities in his religious order CDD, Fr Zhang also serves as the vice rector of the Catholic Theological Institute of Singapore (CTIS).

The Greek philosopher, Socrates, once said, "The unexamined life is not worth living." After looking back and reflecting on my seemingly ordinary life, I realized that it is not out of pure coincidence that I exist. I see the grace of God at work in each and every one of my daily encounters. I am now going to relate a few of these encounters, and in so doing, give thanks to God for His countless blessings and bear witness to His love. I also hope that my vocation story will inspire young men who are discerning a priestly vocation.

Notebooks of Prayer

Though born a cradle Catholic, I was not a "church goer" when I was young. However, it was not my choice. During the Cultural Revolution, churches were converted to warehouses or school auditoriums. Although there were no public liturgical celebrations, my parents were very stringent about prayer life at home. On some occasions, we enjoyed praying together as a family at night, but most of the time, we prayed individually. Our knowledge of prayer was very limited. The prayers we recited most often were the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. (I only learnt how to recite the Holy Rosary when I was in middle school. I could still remember the day when my father taught us how to recite the Rosary. That day, my father returned home with a schematic diagram depicting a Rosary and how it is to be recited. With the diagram as a teaching aid, my father taught us how to recite the Rosary with great zeal and excitement, as if he were navigating through a treasure map.)

For our family prayers, my father would usually decide on a prayer intention and the whole family would offer up the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for that intention. We will pray for that particular intention till we have reached 10,000 times of the three said prayers respectively. After completing our prayers for one intention, we

would then choose another intention to pray for. In order to keep track of the number of prayers we have recited, and in order to encourage one another, we would write the number of prayers we recited during the course of the day in a record book every night before we went to bed. Each page of the record book had five columns with the date, name, number of "Our Father", "Hail Mary", and "Glory Be" prayers recited by that family member. Over the years, we have accumulated a thick stack of record books, with our names and our prayers written on each and every page. This was how my parents taught me the faith in those difficult years where priests were not allowed to exercise their ministry. One could say that my devout parents had established a domestic church in their household, through which I realized God's grace is not restricted to the sacraments administered by the clergy.

The Five-Cent Coin

During the 1980s, the Catholic Churches in Beijing were reinstated and were open for public worship once again. I lived in the parish boundary of St. Joseph's Church, which is located on the busy Wangfujing commercial street. The parish is more commonly known to the locals as Wangfujing Church or Dongtang (literally, East Church). This awe-inspiring church was built in the Romanesque Revival style, featuring pilasters and three bell towers.

I started serving as an altar boy in St. Joseph's Church in the early 1980s. I can still remember how we had to learn the responses for the Order of Mass in Latin, which were being transcribed using Chinese characters that sounded alike. These responses made no sense to me at all. However, my memory power as a child was quite good, thus I managed to memorize all the responses after reading them out aloud for a few weeks.

The parish church was six bus stops away from my house. Even though there was a bus stop right in front of the church, I could not understand why our family would alight one bus stop earlier and walk a few hundred meters to church early in the morning. It was fine walking to church on sunny days, but imagine having to walk against the direction of the harsh winter winds with our sleepy eyes! Whenever we reached the church, my mother would hand me and my sister a five-cent coin each to place in the offertory box after Mass. It took me a few years before I understood my mother's rationale for making us "walk the extra mile" every Sunday morning. Back then, the bus ticket cost 20 cents for the distance of five bus stops, and 25 cents for six stops. Alighting one stop earlier and covering the remaining distance on foot meant that we would each save up five cents. By doing that, we offered up our living sacrifice to the Lord.

Candlelight and Liberation

Whenever I see children going for Catechism classes and other parish activities, I admire them a lot. All throughout my school years, none of my classmates were Catholic. During that era when public opinion about religion was very negative (religion as the opiate of the masses), and coupled with my very limited understanding of the Catholic faith, I had never told any of my friends that I am a Catholic, not even my best friend. This was my "best guarded secret" from primary

school all the way to university.

During university time, I felt that I was putting on a mask and led a double life. During weekdays when I was on campus, I would never talk to anyone about spiritual matters. The only spiritual activity was my private evening Rosary. After dinner, I would sneak to a quiet corner of the campus to recite the Rosary. However, when I returned home on weekends, I became a "model" Catholic. I would actively take part in my family prayers and faithfully serve Mass every Sunday. Leading a double life made me feel very gloomy and depressed.

One night during my second year in college, I was finally liberated. That evening after dinner, there was a power failure. We all stopped our revision and returned to our dormitory, where we lit up candles and sat around playing cards and chatted with one another. Out of nowhere, one of my roommates asked me, "Are you a Catholic?" My goodness! How on earth did he know about this? Why is he asking me such a question! I gave a one-word reply – "yeah" – hoping for a chance to change the subject of our conversation. To my surprise, he continued asking me, "Does your Church have a Pope?" I looked around and noticed that, apart from him, no one else was listening, and so I nodded my head. "So, what is the Bible all about?" He seemed to have an endless list of questions. I was scratching my scalp as I answered his questions. While answering those questions, I was also praying that the Lord would give me wisdom. Not long after, I realized that, out of nowhere, all my seven roommates were crowding around me and listening to the conversation.



The flickering flames of the candles were like the flames of the Holy Spirit, illuminating the faces of these people whose souls were thirsting for true knowledge. This was the first time I preached about my faith in public. I have stopped hiding behind a mask, and I felt extremely happy and liberated. The "journey of faith" lasted till midnight. Out of my seven roommates (two agnostics, one Communist Party member, four young pioneers of the Chinese Communist Party), six of them had a good impression of religion after our conversation. A few of them even felt that the Catholic faith was quite reasonable. It was so unbelievable! That very night, my heart was on fire, and I could not sleep.

In actual fact, the Chinese people need more opportunities to encounter the Gospel. The harvest is ready; all we need now are laborers to gather the harvest. From that night onwards, Zechariah's song of praise resounded in my head from time to time, "And you, little child, will be called prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord – to prepare his ways." (Luke 1:76). I was no longer afraid to profess my Catholic faith in public.

Looking back in retrospect, the grace of the Lord was like a gentle breeze, attracting me and guiding me each day to be His disciple and following closely in His footsteps, until the day when I see Him face to face.

Source: Serra Connects, Issue No 8, Sep-Oct 2013.



Christmas Caroling for A Good Cause

The Sunday 11.00am Mass Choir began their annual "Christmas Caroling For A Good Cause" in the homes of parishioners and friends beginning on Saturday, 16th December 2018. Over the last two weekends, announcements were made in the parish bulletin and also our

priests took an active role in the parish announcements to encourage parishioners to register their interest and invite the choir to their homes to sing Christmas carols.

All proceeds from their caroling will be directed to our Church Building Fund.



Merry & Blessed Christmas

Photo Montage of Christmas Eve Masses on Sunday 24 December



Top: The choir at the Pageant and the 9pm Mandarin Mass.



Top: "Baby Jesus" in the crib.



Top: Celebrants at the Midnight Mass in English, Franciscan Friar John Wong and Fr Peter Zhang.



Top: Celebrant Fr Francis Wang placing "Baby Jesus" on the crib at the start of the 9pm Mandarin Mass.



Top: Fr Peter Zhang placing "Baby Jesus" on the crib at the start of the Midnight Mass in English.



Top: The choir at the Midnight Mass in English.



Teen Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation for teens was held during the 11am Mass on Sunday 9 July. A group photo of the confirmants together with the Archbishop was taken after the Mass (above photo).



The Apostolic Nuncio Visits SJC

His Excellency, the Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli celebrated morning Mass on 20 September.



Top: Members of the EMHC Ministry.

Investiture of EMHC Members

The investiture of members from the Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) Ministry took place during the Sunday 5.30pm Evening Mass on 30 July (pictured below).



Top: Fr Lionel briefing the children involved in the reenactment of the Fatima apparition.

Holy Hour and Eucharistic Adoration for Children

A reenactment of the apparition of Our Lady at Fatima took place during the Holy Hour for children on Saturday 19 August.

Visitor priest Fr Lionel Thomas from St Peter Church, Malacca, who conducted the Holy Hour explained to the children on the significance of the apparition and the messages from our Blessed Mother.

Below: Fr Lionel preparing for the Benediction.





Visitor from Taiwan

Liturgical Professor Fr Charles Pan from Taiwan visited St Joseph Church on 8 October (pictured above and below).



Recognition from St Joseph's Home

Parishioner Bernard Chin received a certificate on behalf of his band, "The Sleepwalkers" from St Joseph's Home in recognition for the band's contribution to the organization (pictured above).



RCIA (English) Rite of Acceptance

The Rite of Acceptance for the RCIA (English) was held during the 11am Mass on Sunday 17 September.



RCIA (Chinese) Rite of Acceptance

The Rite of Acceptance for the RCIA (Chinese) was held during the 7.30am Mass on Sunday 3 September.





Infant Baptism Sunday 1 October @ 12:30pm

List of infants baptized;

Jessica Tan Jia Xin
Jarrett Maximus Tan
Hannah Leow Le En
Andrea Ng Min Er
Sierra Rose Choong Xue Ying
Meredith Wong Hui En
Bernadette Isabella Irwandi
Timothy Kok Zhi Jian
Evan Leong Han Wen
Grace Cheah Kah Yarn
Nathan Cheah Yu Hean
Dandan Jan Lleona Marie Gaspar

*Congratulations to their respective
parents, god-parents & family members.*



Top: Wardens renewing their pledge.

Wardens Renewal of Pledge

Members from the Hospitality Ministry (Wardens) renewed their pledge during the Sunday 5.30pm Evening Mass.

A reception cum fellowship was held at the canteen after the Mass.

Below: The bestowing of sashes for new members during the investiture.



Top: The Hospitality Ministry (Wardens).



Evening Mass Choir's Christmas Party

A Christmas Party was organized by members from the 5.30pm Evening Mass choir on Sunday 3 December at the canteen (pictured on left).



Farewell to a Brother and Friend of the SJC Community

Gabrielite Brother Emmanuel @ Pierre Paul Gaudette was called to the Lord on 31 August.

His funeral Mass was held on 4 September at St Joseph's Church on 4 September.

Brother Emmanuel had contributed aplenty to the SJC community. He was a member of the Parish Pastoral Council Executive Committee (PPC-Exco), as well as, board member of the SJC Kindergarten. Additionally, he played a key role in the faith formation ministries of the parish especially in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) Programme and the Catechism Ministry.

Below: Part of the congregation at Bro Emmanuel's funeral.



Top: Celebrants at the funeral Mass.

A fatherly figure to many with his charisma, he had made a difference in the lives of many and inspired others through his work.

We thank the Good Lord for the very precious gift of Brother Emmanuel.



Top: Students from the Gabrielite schools bade farewell to Brother Emmanuel and carparks within the church grounds filled to capacity.



Top: Sprinkling of holy water by main celebrant Fr Christopher Lee at the Rite of Commendation.



Top: The remains of Brother Emmanuel is interred at the Chapel of the Resurrection columbarium.

Blessing of Columbarium

The Blessing of Columbarium on All Souls Day, 2 November, took place after both the morning and evening Masses (pictured below).



IN MEMORY

In loving memory of parishioners who had been called to the Lord since 1 July to time of print.

Martin Norbert

of Pending Road,
passed away on 30 July.

George Chang Kway Sung

of Choa Chu Kang Ave 3,
passed away on 4 August.

Lim Bee Lian

of Choa Chu Kang Crescent,
passed away on 18 August.

Francis Loh Ser Miang

of Petir Road,
passed away on 22 August.

Brother Emmanuel @ Pierre Paul Gaudette

of Boys' Town,
passed away on 31 August.

Salvin Foster Steven

of Choa Chu Kang Crescent,
passed away on 7 September.

Mary Chow Ah Yin

of Teck Whye Lane,
passed away on 7 September.

Robert Ang Mui Khoon

of Senja Road,
passed away on 5 October.

Maria Lee Ah Bee

Bukit Batok West Ave 5,
passed away on 6 October.

Lawrence Goh Lee Lee

of Jalan Dermawan,
passed away on 7 October.

Joseph Ng Lye Seng

of Jalan Dermawan,
passed away on 12 October.

Marianne Ng Soong Kin

of Hume Ave,
passed away on 14 October.

Marie Lim Soon Hua

of Bukit Panjang Ring Road,
passed away on 5 November.

Tay Lye Chuan John

of Pending Road,
passed away on 5 December.

**May They Rest in Peace!
Amen.**



一日朝圣游

伍秀美 Audrey Ng

11月19日我们圣若瑟堂华文慕道班为第廿五届的慕道者举办了一日朝圣游。

目的是带慕道者到历史悠久的‘圣伯多禄圣保禄堂’、‘善牧堂’。参观‘历史圣物展览厅’的七件主要圣物的保存价值。在‘守礼社’能买到不同的圣物、圣经等参考书籍、圣歌曲卡带等。最重要的是定期出版的‘海星报’能从这里得到各地华文教友的讯息和梵蒂冈新闻的唯一刊物的桥樑。



‘善牧天主教堂’与‘历史圣物展览厅’在張思谦神父的带领下为我们讲解，主教堂的历史简介也详细解释七件圣物的根源来历及简介，也解答了我们的疑问、让我们了解圣物的历史典。感谢張神父的细心解释。来到‘博爱村’在陪同员介绍才知道这是个天主教社会服务机构，这里是不分宗教、种族和不同国籍的服务机构。这里设有多种服务单位，也有不同的丰富课程提供让学员有一技之长，提供辅导及牧灵关怀，看护日间活动中心，也是贫困经济资助中心。

总结这次的行程，可以说让我们更深一层的认识百年悠久历史天主圣堂的建史典故、七件历

史圣物的保存价值与珍贵。‘守礼社’的建立带给教友们购买圣书、圣物的方便利与世界各地教友通讯的桥梁、‘博爱村’的服务性就如把天主的爱活出来，让更多不同宗教、种族和不同国籍的迷失者获益 和分享天主的爱。感恩、感谢天主！



我们途中都拿到一份有参观地点的历史背景的创办建设与服务的资料简介。这些资料收集都要感谢我们的纪华兄弟、玉蓮姐妹以及郑权辉老师夫妇几位同心合力分工合作所完成的资料册子。同时也在途中，由郑太为我们解释与详述每一处的特点简介，好让我们在到达地点之前先有个概念，而在参观时，当圣堂陪同员介绍讲解时我们就更加的了解和明白。感谢他们的设想周到。



圣若瑟堂（武吉知马）潮语炼灵会小组 29周年志庆2017年10月28日





纪念圣母玛利亚的德行芳表

圣名：额我略开明 Gregory

每年三月二十五日，是天主教的圣母领报日。这一天，地中海沿岸的以色列，大地还有一点寒冷，天空还是一片苍茫的灰白，但春来的消息却在激荡人们的心灵。圣神愿意每年更新大地的面貌，圣神也愿意一次性的与人类完成婚配。就在这一天，教会庆祝祂选择了玛利亚，庇荫她怀孕生子，以完成天主的救世计划。玛利亚也愿意与圣神配合，她说：“我的灵魂颂扬上主，我的心神欢跃于天主，我的救主。因为祂垂顾了祂婢女的卑微，今后万世万代都要称我有福”（路1：46-48）。

每年五月，是天主教献给玛利亚的纪念月份。教会引领信众诵念《玫瑰经》，并请求代祷，希望藉着效法圣母的德行，促进教徒信心的增长，同时更依靠圣子耶稣。每年十月，则是天主教的玫瑰月。这节日最初命名为“胜利之母亲节”，由教宗庇护五世于1571年制定，是为了纪念立本陶(Lepanto)击退土耳其军队，相传这次胜利是诵念《玫瑰经》的结果。时至今日，天主教的这三个节庆，都是为了纪念玛利亚的德行芳表，就因着她的顺从，圣子才得以降世为人。是她给予基督人性的生命，基督才能经历人性生活，体恤人性的软弱，最后为人类而死，且死在十字架上，来完成天主拯救人类的计划。事实上，圣母一生的行径，分分秒秒，都与天主的旨意和谐一致，是我们默想与效法的榜样。

*武吉知马圣若瑟堂的玫瑰园，也在今年的三月二十五日，由吴诚才主教开幕祝圣。本堂的钟伟良神父、李光兴神父，以及多位受邀神父共襄盛典。玫瑰园占地775平方米，有一座高2.4米的圣母雕像，59个玻璃纤维珠，一个3.5米乘1.8米的不锈钢十字架，呈现的是一串巨型玫瑰念珠。花园走道旁还有一幅5米宽2.6米高的壁画，描述玫瑰经的奥秘。钟伟良神父表示，建立玫瑰园的灵感来自美国佛罗里达州的玫瑰珠花园。吴主教赞扬说：“随着本堂玫瑰园的建立，加上现有的户外十四处苦路，圣若瑟堂可以说是一个绝佳的敬礼地方”。钟神父更振奋人心地说：“广大雄伟的圣若瑟堂将成为国家圣洁的朝圣地，因为它拥有丰富的信仰、神秘和殉道的历史，它是属于这里的信徒和天主全体子民的遗产”。

看来，本堂的玫瑰园，不只是一个信徒祈祷的地方（每年的五月和十月份，圣母军和潮州组都在这里带领诵念玫瑰经，促进信徒与天主的关系），更随着大修院的搬迁至此，除了培养神职人员外，它势必正如钟神父所说的，成为“一个国家圣洁的朝圣地”。武吉知马圣若瑟堂，这个山上的城，它的光芒将继续照耀。

说明：*武吉知马圣若瑟堂玫瑰园的资料，取自《海星报》1620期2017年4月30日。

图片1&2
每年五月和十月份的主日早晨弥撒之前，华文圣母军和潮州组带领信众诵念玫瑰经。



制作玫瑰念珠的喜乐

林孜或 Natalie

教堂最近举办了一个玫瑰念珠的制作，有幸能参与这个过程。在这制作的过程中，带给我无限喜乐。

开始是由四位导师的教导，起初学习的时候，有点笨手笨脚，但他们还是很耐心的一一教导。然后由我们传授给另一班学员。那些完成的玫瑰念珠由负责人交给神父降福。这个项目用了三个月的时间去完成。虽然刚开始的时候，我所完成的作品不是很理想，但经过几次的练习，勉强还可以。我真的很钦佩负责人和导师们无私的付出，如果没有他们，这个项目不会顺利完成。感恩。

这个活动是为了配合10月7日“圣母玫瑰节”，本堂举行“圣母游行”而分发给自己喜爱的亲友，以期推动信友热爱圣母，勤念玫瑰经，通过圣母的代祷，迈向基督！





我的羊听我的声音，我也认识他们，他们也跟随我。－ 若望福音10: 27



我们的天父的确非常垂顾我们的圣若瑟堂。特别是感谢仁慈的主赐给我们教堂两位善牧。以一颗喜悦及感恩的心，本堂的华委在今年的11月5日举办了聚餐会，为我们的副本堂及神师，张思谦神父，庆祝晋铎14周年。同时，我们也为本堂李光兴神父祈福；祈求主保守即将接受眼角膜手术与治疗的李神父，祝他治疗和手术成功，早日康复，回到岗位上带领他的羊群和这堂区更亲近与主。

本堂的华文歌咏团也在聚会中宣布了为“爱之家” (Gift of Love Home) 和“圣文生之家” (St. Vincent Home) 的筹款活动。小组希望能在12月23日为他们报佳音之余，也能帮助到老人家们的必需用品及养老院的其他日常开

销。负责这项活动的陈雪嫣姐妹也强调她希望通过这项为期一个月的筹款活动鼓励大家，尤其是小朋友们，把日常花费或零用钱的一小部分捐出来，积少成多，并希望我们能在各组织内尽力帮助这些脆弱与无靠的老人们。在这将临期间，让我们向需要帮助的人们伸出援手吧！



聚餐在欢愉的气氛下进行，大家也轻松地与神父们交流。各出席的华文组织成员都很开心能与李神父和张神父共聚一堂。通过这次的聚会，大家也有机会与新上任的本堂神父和华委神师交流。在交流中，大家都轻松地分享了我们对于堂区的展望与期许。



大家心中也有同一的期望：祈求主保守本堂的两们神父，赐给他们健康与智慧带领我们这些羊群，并在牧灵工作上，结出丰厚的果实。

郑国雄
华委主席

"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." – John 10:27



Our Father has indeed been very loving to our parish, especially having sent two good shepherds to our midst. With joy and gratitude, the Mandarin and Dialect Speaking Community (MDSC) arranged for a luncheon with our new priests on the 5th of November this year. While we celebrated the 14th Sacerdotal Anniversary of Fr Peter Zhang, we also gathered to ask for the Lord's blessing on Fr Christopher Lee who is going for a cornea surgery and treatment. May the Lord bless Fr Lee with a successful treatment and speedy recovery, and that he may return soon and continue to lead this parish closer to the Lord.

In this gathering, the Chinese Choir also launched a donation drive for "Gift of Love Home" and "St. Vincent Home." The group hopes to present the homes with donations to aid the residents with their daily necessities and when they carol

in these homes on the 23rd of December. Audrey Tan, who is in charge of this donation drive, hopes to encourage the ministry members, especially the children, to donate a portion of their daily budget or pocket money to help the less fortunate. This advent, let us not forget those in need of love by giving them a helping hand!



The lunch gathering proceeded in a joyous and harmonious atmosphere. Members from the various groups within the MDSC had a joyous time with the priests as we shared the hopes and dreams for this parish. With one heart, we pray for the Lord to bless our priests with good health and wisdom to lead this parish to bear fruits aplenty.

Thomas Teh
Mandarin and Dialect Speaking Community

