

## Merry Christmas 祝聖誕快樂

### Nativity of the Lord

What we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God. (Tit. 2:12)  
For our salvation God gave us everything He had – He gave us His only Son, Jesus.  
How do we say 'Thank you' for a gift like that? Recognizing the magnitude of God's gift, this Christmas should change the orientation of our lives. Christmas calls us to make stewardship a way of life.

### 聖誕節

教導我們棄絕不虔敬的生活，和世俗的貪慾，有節制地，公正地、虔敬地在今世生活。（弟鐸書 2：12）

爲了我們的救援，天主給了我們祂全部所有的一祂給了我們祂的唯一聖子，耶穌。對於這樣貴重的禮物，我們應當如何來感謝呢？在今年的聖誕節，認識天主這一偉大的禮物，將會改變我們生活的導向。聖誕節是呼叫我們度一個聖善的生活。

## Theme Sharing

### 4th Sunday of Advent

#### The Mystery of Christmas

The three readings of today's Liturgy of the

Word are all related to the mystery of Christmas. The gospel is on Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth readily recognizes Mary as the Mother of God: "*How is it that I have the honour of being visited by the mother of my Lord?*" The Visitation reveals to us the true message of Christmas. It showers on us God's infinite love, mercy and bounty with the gift of Jesus being born and living in our midst. The mystery of Christmas is really a mystery of divine grace per the words of Apostle John: "*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.*"

Prophet Micah foretells in the first reading the birthplace of our Saviour. It is in a little and unassuming Israeli town called Bethlehem that God unfolds to us his plan of salvation.

The second reading shows that Jesus

comes to this world and willingly obeys his Father's Will. He makes it clear that the Father neither desires nor takes pleasure in burnt offerings and sin offerings. "*See, God! I have come to do your Will,*" says Jesus. For the sake of love and for our salvation and redemption, Jesus lays down his life for us and offers himself completely as sacrifice to the Father.

Jesus offers himself totally for us. He would like to see us all willing to offer ourselves for love - love of God and love of our neighbour. So the joy of Christmas is really founded in love. We celebrate Christmas as the beginning of divine grace, which keeps flowing until death is completely conquered when we celebrate the mystery of Easter on Easter Sunday.

### Year of Faith

Oct 11, 2012

Nov 24, 2013

Open the Door of Faith

#### The Goal for Year of Faith in our parish:

Catechetical Studies Refresher;  
Spend ten minutes a day to meditate on the Bible and to study the Catechism.

Faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. James 2:17

#### Pope's Message for 46th World

#### Day of Peace; Theme: "Blessed are the peacemakers."

"Jesus' Beatitude Tells Us That Peace is both a Messianic Gift and the Fruit of Human Effort"

"1. Each new year brings the expectation of a better world. In light of this, I ask God, the Father of humanity, to grant us concord and peace, so that the aspirations of all for a happy and prosperous life may be achieved.

"Fifty years after the beginning of the Second Vatican Council, which helped to strengthen the Church's mission in the world, it is heartening to realise that Christians, as the People of God in fellowship with Him and sojourning among mankind, are committed within history to sharing humanity's joys and hopes, grief and anguish, as they proclaim the salvation of Christ and promote peace for all.

"In effect, our times, marked by globalisation with its positive and negative aspects, as well as the continuation of violent conflicts and threats of war, demand a new, shared

commitment in pursuit of the common good and the development of all men, and of the whole man.

"It is alarming to see hotbeds of tension and conflict caused by growing instances of inequality between rich and poor, by the prevalence of a selfish and individualistic mindset which also finds expression in an unregulated financial capitalism. In addition to the varied forms of terrorism and international crime, peace is also endangered by those forms of fundamentalism and fanaticism which distort the true nature of religion, which is called to foster fellowship and reconciliation among people.

"All the same, the many different efforts at peacemaking which abound in our world testify to mankind's innate vocation to peace. In every person the desire for peace is an essential aspiration which coincides in a certain way with the desire for a full, happy and successful human life. In other words, the desire for peace corresponds to a fundamental moral principle, namely, the duty and right to an integral social and communitarian development, which is part of God's plan for mankind. Man is made for the peace which is God's gift.

"All of this led me to draw inspiration for this Message from the words of Jesus Christ: 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God'.

Details at [www.vatican.com](http://www.vatican.com)

### Christian Unity

The Week of Christian Unity takes place January 18 – 25, 2013. This year all Christians are asked to consider the prophet Micah's question: *What Does God Require of Us? (Micah 6:6-8)*. The path of Christian discipleship involves walking the path of justice, mercy, and humility. The metaphor of walking has been chosen to link together the eight days of prayer because it communicates the dynamism which characterises Christian discipleship. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to engage in prayer with one another and for the unity of Christians during this week. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary is hosting an evening of worship for the week of Christian unity January 24, 2013 at 7pm at St. Mary's Cathedral, Calgary. Bishop Frederick Henry will be presiding and preaching. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information please contact Simone Brosig at 403-218-5524 or

Lia O'Hara at 403-218-5511.

## Parish Activities

### Christmas play

We are presenting our annual Christmas play called 'A Christmas Carol' on Monday, December 24 at 7pm at Upper Hall. Please come join us to celebrating the joy of Christmas. Everyone is welcome. For further details, please contact Abigail Wong.

### Together in Action

Theme is "Love Never Ends."

(1 Corinthians 13:8)

Our parish's final target will remain at \$50,000. Donation envelopes can be picked up from both the front and the side entrances. As of November 27 our campaign has received a total of \$52,800.

May God bless you for your generous support!

### Bible/Catechism Quiz

In response to Pope Benedict XVI's proclamation of the Year of Faith starting October 11, 2012 to November 24, 2013, OLPH has decided to have a Bible/Catechism Quiz to bring the awareness of the importance of studying the Bible and to broaden our faith knowledge. The contest will have representatives from various Parish Groups and please mark the date and time down in your calendar and make sure you do not miss out this important fun filled event.

Date: Sunday January 20, 2013

Time: Lunch – 12:30pm to 1:15pm

Quiz: 1:15pm to 3:15pm

Venue: Upper Hall

### Youth Movie Night – 3 Idiots

*3 Idiots* (stylized as *3 idiots*) loosely adapted from the novel *Five Point Someone* by Chetan Bhagat..

This film won many awards, winning six Filmfare Awards including best film and best director, ten Star Screen Awards and sixteen IIFA awards.

The purpose of this movie sharing is:- Will focus on how to fulfill our own mission in life, what education should be, and what is success and how to be a good leader and how to inspire your friends. It is for the young adults and teenagers and those who are still a teenager at heart.

The Education Department in Macau gave free tickets of this movie to all teachers

Date: December 29 (Saturday)

Time: 5pm supper -Pizza and potluck

Place: Upper Hall of OLPH

All youth, young Adults and parishioners are welcome.

## Weekly Activities

Monday 24

### Christmas Eve Mass

Time: 7:00 p.m. Christmas play

8:30 p.m. Tri-lingual Mass

( English / Mandarin/ Cantonese)

Tuesday 25

### Christmas Day Masses

Time: 9:30 a.m. English Mass

11:00 a.m. Chinese Mass

Saturday 29

### Legion of Mary ( meeting )

Time: 9:45a.m.

Place: K of C Room

### Youth group Movie "3 Idiots"

Time: 5:00pm-10:30pm

Place: Upper Hall

Sunday 30

### Catholic Family Fellowship &

### Patrol Care Team Party

Time: 6:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

## Imitating Christ

### Chapter 22 :

### Thoughts On The Misery Of Man

Who is the better off then? Surely, it is the man who will suffer something for God.

Many unstable and weak-minded people say:

"See how well that man lives, how rich, how great he is, how powerful and mighty." But you must lift up your eyes to the riches of heaven and realize that the material goods of which they speak are nothing. These things are uncertain and very burdensome because they are never possessed without anxiety and fear. Man's happiness does not consist in the possession of abundant goods; a very little is enough.

To Be Continued

## Let There Be Light

### Shares Secret of True Joy

Benedict XVI is encouraging families to go to the Baby Jesus in the Manger, and to learn from him the way to authentic Christian joy.

The Holy Father said : " It is necessary to try to live every day what the crèche represents, that is, Christ's love, his humility, his poverty."

The "secret of true joy," he affirmed, "does not consist in having a lot of things, but in feeling loved by the Lord, in making oneself a gift for others, in loving." The Pope explained: "The Madonna and St. Joseph do not seem to be a very fortunate family; they had their first child in the midst of great hardships; and yet they are full of deep joy, because they love each other, they help each other and above all they are certain that God is at work in their history, God who made himself present in the little Jesus."

God's promises. As well, he added, the shepherds have a special reason to rejoice, even though "that newborn certainly would not change the facts of poverty and marginalization in their lives."

Rather, the Pontiff said, "faith helps them to recognize in the 'child wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger' the 'sign' of the accomplishment of God's promises for all men, 'whom he loves,' even them!"

True joy, he affirmed, consists in "feeling that our personal and communal existence is visited and filled by a great mystery, the mystery of God's love."

The Holy Father said: "To be joyful we do not just have need of things, but love and truth: We need a God who is near, who warms our heart, and responds to our profound desires.

"This God is manifested in Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary. This is why that Baby, whom we place in the stable or the cave, is the center of everything, the heart of the world."

zenit.org

## Stories Faith Sharing

### The Sailor's Decision

After a few of the usual Sunday evening hymns, the church's pastor once again slowly stood up, walked over to the pulpit, and gave a very brief introduction of his childhood friend. With that, an elderly man stepped up to the pulpit to speak, "A father, his son, and a friend of his son were sailing off the Pacific Coast," he began, "when a fast approaching storm blocked any attempt to get back to shore. The waves were so high, that even though the father was an experienced sailor, he

could not keep the boat upright, and the three were swept into the ocean."  
The old man hesitated for a moment, making eye contact with two teenagers who were, for the first time since the service began, looking somewhat interested in his story. He continued, "Grabbing a rescue line, the father had to make the most excruciating decision of his life....to which boy he would throw the other end of the line. He only had seconds to make the decision.  
The father knew that his son was a Christian, and he also knew that his son's friend was not. The agony of his decision could not be matched by the torrent of waves. As the father yelled out, 'I love you, son!  
He threw the line to his son's friend. By the time he pulled the friend back to the capsized boat, his son had disappeared beyond the raging swells into the black of night. His body was never recovered."  
By this time, the two teenagers were sitting straighter in the pew, waiting for the next words to come out of the old man's mouth. "The father," he continued, "knew his son would step into eternity with Jesus, and he could not bear the thought of his son's friend stepping into an eternity without Jesus. Therefore, he sacrificed his son. How great is the love of God that He should do the same for us." With that, the old man turned and sat back down in his chair as silence filled the room.

Within minutes after the service ended, the two teenagers were at the old man's side. "That was a nice story," politely started one of the boys, "but I don't think it was very realistic for a father to give up his son's life in hopes that the other boy would become a Christian."

"Well, you've got a point there," the old man replied, glancing down at his worn Bible. A big smile broadened his narrow face, and he once again looked up at the boys and said, "It sure isn't very realistic, is it? But I'm standing here today to tell you that THAT story gives me a glimpse of what it must have been like for God to give up His Son for me."

"You see....I was the son's friend."

## 主日分享

### 將臨期第四主日- 聖誕節的奧跡

今天禮儀中給我們聆聽的三篇讀經都

與聖誕節的奧跡有關係。福音敘述的是聖母往見表姐依撒伯爾的事跡。依撒伯爾認出了瑪利亞是天主的母親：“吾主的母親駕臨我這裡，這是我那裡得來的福氣呢？”。依撒伯爾能夠如此稱呼瑪利亞，因為她充滿了聖神。瑪利亞拜訪表姐這件事跡就構成了聖誕奧跡的準備。準備耶穌來到世界上為散佈愛的活力，為通傳普遍性的仁愛與寬宏大量之情。聖誕奧跡是一個恩賜的奧跡，聖若望說：“天主竟這樣愛了世界，甚至賜下了自己的獨生子”。

第一篇讀經準確指出救世主應當誕生的地點。這裡我們也看到天主選擇極其簡陋的白冷完成大事。

第二篇讀經給我們指出耶穌來到世上是甘心符合與完成天主旨意的情感。耶穌確認古代殺牲祭祀的儀式不能中悅天父。所以祂說：“看，我已來到！天主！我來為承行你的旨意。”為了救援、救贖與愛情，祂奉獻自己。耶穌奉獻了自己，也是願我們能在愛德中奉獻我們自己。聖誕節的喜樂正是建立在這種活力上。聖誕節是天主恩賜的開端，一直伸展至耶穌復活的奧跡而完全戰勝死亡。

錄自梵蒂岡電台

## 信德年

2012年10月11日

2013年11月24日

打開信德之門

### 本堂為教友實行再慕道的金句：

每日十分鐘默想聖經及研習教理；

信德若沒有行為，自身便是死的。

雅各伯書 2:17

### 教宗本篤十六世第 46 屆世界和平日 文告主題“締造和平的人是有福的”

文告中首先提出了困擾今日世界的一些邪惡，如仍在持續的流血衝突、戰爭的新威脅、因貧富懸殊的增長和無節制金融資本主義使自私和個人主義佔主導地位的思想觀念造成的緊張及對立。對和平的威脅除了國際恐怖主義和犯罪活動外，還有曲解宗教真正本質的原教旨主義和狂熱主義。此外，教宗在文告中也指出世界飢餓的

悲劇遠比金融危機嚴重。談到宗教自由遭侵犯與日增加的現象，教宗指出：“在有悠久基督信仰傳統的國家也不幸屢次發生宗教不容忍事件，基督信仰尤其蒙受侵害。”教宗也提到生命和家庭的權利繼續遭踐踏。

面對上述局勢，教宗以福音的真福為綱領邀請世人建設一個“以真理、自由、愛和正義為基礎”的社會。他在文告中表示：“依靠天主和祂諾言的人在世人看來往往很天真或遠離現實。”但情況恰恰相反，那些不依靠天主，幻想用人的計謀去建設和平的人，才不切合實際。事實上，若沒有天主，到最後盛行於世的還是以權力或盈利為准則，即各種罪惡形式：個人主義、暴力、貪婪和權力控制慾、不容忍、仇恨和不正當結構，將個人置於天主之上。為此，教宗指出：“和平的前提是消除相對主義的獨裁和完全自以為是的道德論點，這種論點阻止人認出天主寫在每個人良知上不可撇開不談的自然道德律。”祇有這樣，和平才有實現的可能，換句話說，和平不再是“夢想”和“烏托邦”，也不是一種假象。真正的和平是“天主的恩賜和人的行為”。和平就是與天主、與自己、與鄰人及與整個受造界和好。

教宗在文告中最後指出：“天主教會堅信需要再次宣講耶穌基督，祂是各民族全面發展及和平的首要締造者。按照耶穌真福八端的教導，締造和平的人就是為他人謀幸福的人，這種幸福滿溢靈魂和肉身，今天和明日永遠長存。”

詳細內容請參閱梵蒂岡電台網址

## 堂區活動

### 聖誕話劇

我們將於12月24日晚上7時在上禮堂舉行聖誕話劇，‘A Christmas Carol’，現歡迎堂區所有弟兄姐妹好來觀賞。詳情請聯絡 Abigail Wong.

### 信德年聖經教理問答比賽

為響應教宗本篤十六宗座文告，召開信德年，即從2012年10月11日，梵蒂岡第二屆大公會議召開五十周年之際開始，到2013年11月24日，耶穌

基督普世君王節結束。卡城永援聖母堂將舉辦信德年聖經教理問答比賽以提升各教友對聖經的認識及加深對信仰的知識，各堂區善會將派代表參與比賽，歡迎各位教友踴躍參加這項難得的盛事，既有趣亦能加深信仰，可謂一舉兩得，何樂而不為。

日期：星期日，2013年1月20日

時間：午餐—下午12時30分至  
1時15分

問答比賽—下午1時15分至  
3時15分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

### 青年會電影晚會—「3 Idiots」

三名大學生法罕、拉加、與藍丘共居一室，結為好友。內容就是描述他們三人的故事。

歡迎堂區內所有青少年參加。

澳門教青派票給所有老師觀賞此影片

日期：十二月二十九日(星期六)

時間：下午五時晚餐 Pizza 及 potluck

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

### 堂區小巴接載時間

平安夜，堂區小巴將於六時三十分在保祿樓開出，六時四十五分在香港花園接載教友，彌撒後堂區小巴將接載教友回保祿樓及香港花園。

12月25日(聖誕日)及1月1日(元旦求恩彌撒)，堂區小巴將於十時十五分在保祿樓開出，十時三十分在香港花園接載教友，彌撒後堂區小巴將接載教友回保祿樓及香港花園。

### 教區公益金，齊來獻愛心

主題是「愛永存不朽」(格林多人前書第十三章八節)2012年教區公益金「讓我們一起來行動」(TIA)，籌募經已展開。本堂今年的目標是50,000元，捐款信封可在聖堂入口處拿取。截至11月27日，捐款已累積至\$52,800元。就讓我們立即行動，繼續慷慨解囊。在此感謝各位教友，並願主降福您們！

### 活動一週

星期一 24

聖誕夜彌撒

時間：晚上7時聖誕劇

晚上8時30(英、國、粵

三語彌撒)

星期二 25

聖誕日彌撒

時間：早上9時30分英文禮儀

早上11時正中文禮儀

星期六 29

聖母軍

(聖母軍聖母無玷聖心支團)

時間：9時45分(開會)

地點：聖堂二樓騎士會室

青年電影晚會-"3 Idiots"

時間：下午5時至

下午10時30分

星期日 30

公教家庭及牧靈關愛組

聖誕聯歡會

時間：晚上六時正

地點：本堂上禮堂

## 師主篇

### 第二十二章 世人之苦

然而在這苦難中誰能略得平安呢？惟獨為天主而忍耐的人，乃才能得平安。那些意志薄弱，理智昏愚的人常說：你看某人的生活過得多麼舒服，你看他多麼富足，多麼尊貴，有多大的權柄，多麼受人奉承！你當抬頭向天默觀天上的福樂，就看出世福的虛假來了；世福不穩當，常叫人煩惱；願意保存不失，還該耗費精神，受驚恐。所以財產夠用，就該知足；至於盈千累萬，那也不算福樂。 待續

## 心靈小品

### 聖誕馬槽耶穌聖嬰態像的意義

教宗談到耶穌聖嬰說：“每日活出聖誕馬槽所象徵的意義，也就是基督的愛、他的謙遜、以及他的貧窮。教宗繼續談耶穌聖嬰小態像說：“祝福耶穌聖嬰像叫我們想起聖誕馬槽乃是生活的學校，在這個學校裏我們可以學習到真正喜樂的秘訣。喜樂不在於擁有許多東西，而在於感受到天主的愛，在於把自己奉獻給他人，在於彼此相親相愛。我們看看聖誕馬槽：聖母瑪利亞和聖若瑟不像是富裕的人，他們的孩子出生在諸多不便當中。雖然如此，他們的心充滿喜樂，因著

他們彼此相愛，互相幫助，尤其知道天主在他們的生活歷史中施展作為，這位天主就臨在小耶穌身上”。至於聖誕馬槽四周的牧童呢？教宗說：“他們有什麼理由喜樂呢？那位剛誕生的嬰兒當然無法改變他們貧困的生活環境。但信德卻能幫助他們看出裹著繻襪、躺在馬槽中的嬰兒，乃是天主給他所愛的眾人、包括牧童在的許諾已經實現的標誌”。教宗因此向各國信友結論說：“親愛的朋友們，看，真正的喜樂在於什麼：在於感受到我們個人和團體的存在蒙受一個偉大的奧跡所眷顧，所充滿，這個偉大的奧跡就是天主的愛。要能夠歡欣喜悅，我們需要的不僅是東西，更包括愛和真理的事物；我們需要接近我們的天主，祂能夠溫暖我們的心，能夠回應我們內心的期待。這位天主顯示在生於童貞瑪利亞的耶穌身上。因此，我們安放在聖誕山洞馬槽中的耶穌聖嬰態像乃是一切的中心，是世界的中心。所以，讓我們祈禱，好使每個人，就如童貞瑪利亞一樣，能夠接納成為嬰兒的天主為生活的中心，祂是真正喜樂的泉源”。

梵蒂岡電臺訊

## 靈修小故事

### 愛就要勇敢說出來

從五年前我的父親和我交惡了，從那時起這事就沒有真正解決。我們彼此避免遇見對方，除非聖誕節或其他家庭聚會中非見面不可。儘管如此，我們還是幾乎不交談。所以，上星期二我回到家時，我告訴我自己，我要告訴我父親我愛他。說來很怪，但做這決定時我胸口上的重量似乎就減輕了。我一回到家，就衝進房子裡告訴我太太我要做的事。她已經睡著了，但我還是吵醒了她。當我這樣告訴她時，她還沒真的起床，忽然抱緊我，打從我們結婚以來，這是她第一次看我哭。我們聊天、喝咖啡到半夜，感覺真棒！

第二天，我一大早就精神奕奕的起床了。我太興奮了，所以我幾乎沒睡著。我很早就到辦公室，兩小時內做的事比一天做的還要多。九點我打電話給

我爸，問他我下班後是否可以回去。他聽電話時，我只是說：「爸，今天我可以過去嗎？有些事我想告訴你。」我父親以暴躁的聲音回答：「現在又是什麼事？」我跟他保證，不會花很長的時間，最後他終於同意了。五點半，我到了父母家，按門鈴，祈禱我爸會出來開門。我怕是我媽來應門，而我會因此卻懦，乾脆告訴她代替算了。但幸運的是，我爸來開了門。我沒有浪費一點的時間，我一踏進門就說：「爸，我只是來告訴你，我愛你。」我父親似乎變了一個人。在我面前，他的臉變柔和了，皺紋消失了，他開始哭了。

他伸手擁抱我說：「我也愛你，兒子！而我竟沒能對你這麼說！」這一刻如此珍貴，我一點也不想移動。我媽滿眼淚水的走過來。我彎下身子給她一個吻。爸和我又擁抱了一會兒，然後我離開了。長久以來我很少感覺這麼好過。但這不是我的重點。兩天後，我那從沒告訴我他有心臟病的爸爸，忽然發病，在醫院結束了他的一生。我並不知道他會如此。

所以我要告訴大家的是：「你知道必須做的，就不要遲疑。如果，我遲疑著沒有告訴我爸，我可能就沒有機會了！把時間拿來做你該做的，現在就做吧！」