

May the God of hope fill
you with all joy and peace
all year through!

祝新年快樂
在新的一年，
願主的喜樂與平安
充滿你的每一天！

New Year Mass Schedule

December 31 Thursday (New Year's Eve
Thanksgiving Mass)

9:00 a.m. -English Mass

5:00 p.m. -Cantonese Mass

January 1 Friday (New Year's Mass)

9:30 a.m. -English Mass

11:00 a.m. -Cantonese Mass

2015 年新年彌撒時間表

12 月 31 日 星期四

(除夕-歲末謝主彌撒):

早上 9 時-英語彌撒

晚上 5 時-粵語彌撒

1 月 1 日 星期五

(元旦求恩彌撒)

早上 9 時 30 分-英文彌撒

早上 11 時正-粵語彌撒

Theme Sharing

Feast of the Holy Family

Today's celebration of the above Feast is a timely reminder that we need to follow the examples of the Holy Family and to live in intense family love which is rooted in our heavenly Father.

All the readings of today's Liturgy of the Word touch upon the family. In the first reading, Hannah's incessant prayers to God for a male child are answered. She gives birth to a son, Samuel and then offers the child in the Temple for the service of God. In the second reading, John reminds us that we are not just members of our own family. We are children of God and we belong to his big family as well, and this status confers immense dignity on us. In the gospel, we see how Jesus, as a human, grows up

like one of us. From his birth until his death on the cross, Jesus faces challenges in life as we all do with obstacles, joy, hope, understanding as he matures in age, wisdom, and increases in divine and human favour. In the words of the Opening Prayer, let us pray to our heavenly Father: "Help us to live as the Holy Family, united in respect and love; and bring us to the joy and peace of your eternal home. Amen."

Pope's Monthly Prayers Intention

January General and Missionary Intention

Universal: Interreligious Dialogue

That sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice.

Evangelization: Christian Unity

That by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions.

News & Others

Pope Francis -49th World Day of Peace

Theme: Overcome Indifference and win
Peace

Indifference in regard to the scourges of our time is one of the fundamental causes of the lack of peace. Today, indifference is often linked to various forms of individualism which cause isolation, ignorance, selfishness and, therefore, lack of interest and commitment. Increase of information does not mean per se an increase of attention to the problems, if it is not accompanied by solidarity-based openness of conscience. To this end, it is essential the contribution that can provide—besides the family—educators, teachers, people of culture, media practitioners, intellectuals and artists. Indifference can be won only responding together to this challenge.

Peace is to be worked at: it is not something that one gains without efforts, without conversion of mind and heart, without a sense of creativity and positive engagement in discussion. Such an action must urgently have recourse to build a sense of responsibility and awareness creation about the serious problems and challenges afflicting our time, such as, fundamentalism,

intolerance and massacres, persecutions on account of faith and ethnicity, disregard for freedom and the destruction of the rights of entire peoples, the exploitation of human beings submitted even to the different forms of slavery, corruption and organized crime, war and the plight of refugees and forcibly displaced persons. Such training and awareness creation should seek, at the same time, also opportunities and possibilities to fight these evils: the creation of a culture of law, education in dialogue and co-operation are, in this context, the fundamental forms of a constructive response.

The field for daily peace-building, overcoming indifference, is located in different forms of slavery of nowadays' world, on which was dedicated The Message for the 1st January 2015: No longer slaves, but brothers and sisters. We should continue this commitment with heightened conscience and cooperation. Peace is possible where the rights of every human being are recognized and respected, heard and known, according to freedom and justice. The Message for 2016 aims to be a starting point for all people of good will, particularly those who work in the education, media, culture, each one acting according to their possibilities and according to their best aspirations to build together a more conscious and merciful, and, therefore, more free and fair world.

2015 Year Of Consecrated Life

Apostolic Letter From His Holiness, Pope Francis

The Horizons of the year of
Consecrated Life

Finally, in a special way, I address my brother bishops. May this Year be an opportunity to accept institutes of consecrated life, readily and joyfully, as a spiritual capital which contributes to the good of the whole body of Christ, and not simply that of the individual religious families.

"Consecrated life is a gift to the Church, it is born of the Church, it grows in the Church, and it is entirely directed to the Church". For this reason, precisely as a gift to the Church, it is not an isolated or marginal reality, but deeply a part of her. It is at the heart of the Church, a decisive element of her mission, inasmuch as it expresses the deepest nature of the Christian vocation and the yearning of

the Church as the Bride for union with her sole Spouse. Thus, "it belongs... absolutely to the life and holiness" of the Church. In the light of this, I ask you, the Pastors of the particular Churches, to show special concern for promoting within your communities the different charisms, whether long-standing or recent. I ask you to do this by your support and encouragement, your assistance in discernment, and your tender and loving closeness to those situations of suffering and weakness in which some consecrated men or women may find themselves. Above all, do this by instructing the People of God in the value

of consecrated life, so that its beauty and holiness may shine forth in the Church. I entrust this Year of Consecrated Life to Mary, the Virgin of listening and contemplation, the first disciple of her beloved Son. Let us look to her, the highly-beloved daughter of the Father, endowed with every gift of grace, as the unsurpassed model for all those who follow Christ in love of God and service to their neighbour. Lastly, I join all of you in gratitude for the gifts of grace and light with which the Lord graciously wills to enrich us, and I accompany you with my Apostolic Blessing.

Misericordiae Vultus

Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy
Francis, Bishop of Rome, Servant of The Servants of God, to all who read this letter
Grace, Mercy, and Peace.

In this Holy Year, we look forward to the experience of opening our hearts to those living on the outermost fringes of society: fringes which modern society itself creates. How many uncertain and painful situations there are in the world today! How many are the wounds borne by the flesh of those who have no voice because their cry is muffled and drowned out by the indifference of the rich! During this Jubilee, the Church will be called even more to heal these wounds, to assuage them with the oil of consolation, to bind them with mercy and cure them with solidarity and vigilant care. Let us not fall into humiliating indifference or a monotonous routine that prevents us from discovering what is new! Let us ward off destructive cynicism! Let us open our eyes and see the misery of the world, the wounds of our brothers and sisters who are denied their

dignity, and let us recognize that we are compelled to heed their cry for help! May we reach out to them and support them so they can feel the warmth of our presence, our friendship, and our fraternity! May their cry become our own, and together may we break down the barriers of indifference that too often reign supreme and mask our hypocrisy and egoism! To Be Continued.

Parish Activities

A Heartfelt Thank You From Our Pastor Fr. Joseph Nguyen

I would like to sincerely thank Fr. John Mak, Fr. Bill Trienekens, Deacon John Wu, Deacon Edward Lam, Sisters, Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Lay Groups and all parishioners for their continued support to our parish throughout the year. According to the Year of Consecrated Life, your generosity and sharing with others of God's gifts, is a perfect example of our response to the call of Jesus: "You are my witnesses." Love is the soul of mission and we are first and foremost invited to be credible witnesses by the way we live as Disciples of Christ. Keep up your good work! May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit and wishing you a joyful and peaceful New Year!

Tuesday Evening Mass Cancelled

Tuesday Evening Marian Devotion Mass will be cancelled on December 29.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on January 2

The January's Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be led by Pastoral Care Team on January 2 from 10am to 11am. Fr. Nguyen will listen to Confession. Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

Movie Night – "Faustina"

Date: January 2 (Saturday)
Time: 6 pm Potluck, 6:30 pm Movie
Place: OLPH Upper Hall
Faustina (Polish: *Faustyna*) was a Polish nun. When serving in the convent "Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy" in Warsaw, she reported having visions of Jesus and conversations with him, which she wrote about in her diary. Thus devotion to the Divine Mercy was due to the apparitions of Jesus received by Faustina. Faustina was canonized as a saint by Pope John Paul II in

2000.

Weekly Activities

Thursday December 31

New Year's Eve Thanksgiving Mass

9:00 a.m. English Mass

5:00 p.m. Chinese Mass

Friday January 1

New Year's Mass

9:30 a.m. English Mass

11:00 a.m. Chinese Mass

Saturday January 2

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Time: 10:00a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Place: OLPH Church

Legion of Mary (meeting)

Time: 11:00a.m.

Place: K of C Room at OLPH Church

R. C.I.A (Mandarin)

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Place: K of C Room

Movie Night – "Faustina"

Time: 6:00 p.m. potluck

6:30 p.m. movie

Place: OLPH Upper Hall

Sunday January 3

R. C.I.A (Cantonese and English)

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Sunday School

Time: 10:00a.m.-1:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Office Building

Queen of China Meeting

Time: 12:30p.m.-2:30p.m.

Place: Board room

K of C Matteo Ricci 10119 meeting

Time: 12:30p.m.-2:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Church K of C room

Catholic Family Fellowship Meeting

Time: 11:00a.m.-2:00p.m.

Place: Upper Hall

Stories Faith Sharing

They Won't Let Me In

It was a beautiful Sunday morning. People were filling the church to its full capacity! As they entered, each was given a bulletin filled with announcements, topic of today's sermon, what songs they would sing and who to pray for. At the end of the line stood an older man. His clothes were filthy and you could tell that he had not bathed in days. His face was covered with whiskers, for he had not shaved for a very long time. When he

reached the usher, he removed his tattered old brown hat in respect. His hair was long, dirty, and a tangled mess. He had no shoes on his feet, and wore only soiled black socks to cover the sores upon his feet. The Usher looked at him turning up his nose at the old man and said, "Uh, I'm sorry sir, but I'm afraid we can't let you in. You will distract the congregation and we don't allow anyone to disrupt our service. I'm afraid you'll have to leave." The old man looked down at himself and with a puzzled look on his face, he placed his old brown hat back upon his head and turned to leave. He was sad as he loved to hear the choir sing praises to the Lord. He loved to watch the little children get up in front of the church to sing their little songs. He carried in his pocket a small worn out Bible and loved to see if the minister preached a passage from the Bible that he had underlined. But he was respectful, and didn't want to cause any commotion, so he hung down his head and walked back down the steps of the big brick church. He sat down on the brick wall near the edge of the church yard and strained to listen through closed doors and windows to the singing going on in the church. Oh how he wished he could be inside with all the others. A few minutes had passed by when all of a sudden a younger man came up behind him and sat down near him. He asked the old man what he was doing? He answered, "I was going to go to church today, but they thought I was too filthy, my clothes too old and worn, and they were afraid I would disrupt their service. Sorry, I didn't introduce myself. My name is George." The two men shook hands, and George couldn't help but notice that this man had long hair like his. He wore a piece of cloth draped over his body tied with a royal purple sash. He had sandals on his feet, now covered with dust and dirt. The stranger touched George's shoulder, and said: "George, don't feel bad because they won't let you in. My name is Jesus, and I've been trying to get into this same church for years -- they won't let me in either."

Read More Know More

Prayer must be courageous

"When we speak of courage we always think of apostolic courage – going out to preach the Gospel, these sort of things... But there's also (the kind of) courage

(demonstrated) before the Lord. That sense of paralysis before the Lord: going courageous before the Lord to request things. It makes you laugh a bit; this is funny because Abraham speaks with the Lord in a special way, with this courage, and one doesn't know: is this a man who prays or is this a 'phoenician deal' because he's bartering the price, down, down... And he's tenacious: from fifty he's succeeded in lowering the price down to ten. He knew that it wasn't possible. Only that it was right... But with that courage, with that tenacity, he went ahead."

In fact, he observed, Jesus himself praised the woman who tenaciously begged for the healing of her daughter. Tenacity, said the Pope, even though it's tiring, is really "tiresome." But this, he added, "is the attitude of prayer." Saint Teresa, he recalled, "speaks of prayer as negotiating with the Lord" and this "is possible only when there's familiarity with the Lord." It is tiring, it's true, he repeated, but "this is prayer, this is receiving a grace from God." The Pope stressed here the same sort of reasoning that Abraham uses in his prayer: "take up the arguments, the motivations of Jesus' own heart."

I will stop here: praying is negotiating with the Lord, even becoming inappropriate with the Lord. Praying is praising the Lord in the beautiful things he shares and telling him that he bestow these beautiful things on us. And (appealing to him) who is so merciful, so good, to help us!"

Pope Francis then urged everyone to spend no more than five minutes each day to read Psalm 102.

主日分享

聖家節

今天我們慶祝聖家庭節。我們的家庭也應該追隨聖家的榜樣，生活在強烈的家庭之愛內，建立於由天主父那裏得到的愛。

今天的三篇讀經都向我們宣講家庭關係的問題。第一篇讀經介紹亞納向天主堅持不斷的祈禱，而得到天主的恩賜，生了一個男孩，撒慕爾，現在她將孩子抱到聖殿，把他獻給聖殿服務天主。第二篇讀經提醒我們：我們是天主的子女——我們不只是人類家庭的成員，我們還是天主家庭的成員，

這個身份給以我們無上的尊嚴。福音則告訴我們，耶穌真正的吸取了我們人性的存在，從懷孕到死亡，祂經歷了所有的我們每一個人應該經歷的成長過程。祂竟然也是慢慢成長起來的，不僅是年齡方面，而且在智慧和恩寵各方面。這樣的耶穌是一個真正的人耶穌；祂也經驗了我們所有的人一樣的困難和喜樂、希望和人在成長過程中特有的穎悟。

讓我們用今天彌撒的集禱經向天父祈求：天主，你以聖家作我們家庭生活的美好榜樣。求你賞賜我們，一生追隨聖家互愛互助的美德，將來也能歡聚天庭，共享永福。亞孟。

錄自梵蒂岡電台

教宗及福傳祈禱意向

一月祈禱及傳教意向

總意向：為宗教交談

願不同宗教信仰之間的誠摯交談，能結出正義與和平的果實。

福傳意向：為基督徒合一

願藉著交談、弟兄姊妹般的友愛及聖神的恩寵，使基督徒能克服分裂。

新聞及其他

教宗方濟各 2016 年世界和平

日文告

主題為：「克勝冷漠，贏得和平」

文告強調，和平的首要阻礙是拒絕天主，對近人冷漠。不過，人有能力以善制惡，克服根植在社會各領域的冷漠。

本屆世界和平日文告不祇談冷漠，也談希望。值得我們關注的是，人藉著天主的恩寵能夠戰勝惡；人不該聽天由命，向冷漠投降，而應盡一份力量，與天主、與近人、與受造界和好。教宗指出，為守護這希望，我們必須把愛、同情和慈悲作為一項真正的人生義務，時常回應主耶穌的邀請，慈悲如同我們的天父。

文告列舉了當今社會因冷漠而經常出現的惡：貪腐、破壞環境、對別人沒有同情心。教宗因此指出，為對抗冷漠，人必須從心深處徹底歸依，在天主恩寵的助佑下，以團結互助的精

神真心向他人開放。這一切都要求我們努力建設真正的慈悲文化。

此外，教宗稱家庭、教育工作者及傳播界人士應是促進自由、彼此尊重及團結互助的主角。在舉出一些媒體業者在獲取及傳播消息的方式上過於失職的反面實例後，教宗也提到一些努力實踐關懷與慈悲的典範，例如：從事人權及愛德工作的組織，尤其是那些援助處境困難的移民的工作。教宗稱這些行動正是身心的慈悲作為，並且感謝那些響應教會的號召接納難民家庭的善心人士。

慈悲禧年為我們提供機會，省思每個人在心存有有的冷漠，以便克服這冷漠，努力改善我們周遭的現實。教宗在世界和平日文告結尾也念及所有處在脆弱或劣勢境遇的人，呼籲停止死刑，實行大赦。教宗祈求聖母的轉禱，籲請各國領導人抵抗戰爭、消除貧窮國家的債務、採取不損害胎兒出生權利的合作政策。來源：梵蒂岡電台

2015 奉獻生活年

教宗方濟各致全體度獻身生活者書函

獻身生活年的願望

最後，我向我的主教弟兄們說幾句話。希望這一年成為欣然接受獻身生活會的機會，作為貢獻整個基督奧體的屬靈資源，而不單是個別修會團體的資源。「獻身生活是給教會的恩典，自教會誕生，在教會中成長，它是完全指向教會的」。為此，正是因為是給教會的恩典，它不是孤立的或是邊緣的實體，而深切地是教會的一部分。它是教會心中，其使命的重要因素，表達了基督徒聖召和教會渴望的深刻本性，是與其唯一淨配結合的新娘。如此，「獻身生活絕對屬於教會的生命和聖德」。

為此，我要求你們，個別教會的牧人們，在你們團體中推動不同神恩，表示特別的關切，無論是歷史久遠的或是近代的。我要求你們支持和鼓勵，幫助辨別，在某些獻身生活者可能遭受到的受苦的軟弱環境上，表達你們的慈心和愛的陪伴。尤其是教育天

主子民有關獻身生活的價值，使其美和聖德，在教會中發光。

我將此獻身生活年託付給瑪利亞，她是聆聽和默觀的童貞，她愛子的第一位門徒。讓我們仰視她，天父至愛的女兒，祂賦予了她一切恩寵，她是所有追隨基督，愛天主並為近人服務者的無人可超越的模範。

最後，我與你們一起，感謝主慈祥地給了我們此恩典和光明，並以我的宗座降福陪隨你們。

慈悲面容

慈悲特殊禧年詔書

天主眾僕之僕、羅馬主教方濟各願所有閱讀本函的人士，充滿恩寵、慈悲及平安

在這聖年，我們期盼獲得向生活於社會最邊緣人士開放心懷的經驗：邊緣人士是現代社會所造成的。今日社會有多少生計不穩和痛苦度日的情形！多少人無聲地飽受遍體鱗傷的煎熬，因他們的呼喊被掩蓋、被富人的冷漠遮蔽。在這禧年中，教會奉召要去治療這些創傷，以慰藉之油紓緩，以慈悲包紮，以精誠團結和不懈的關懷醫治。我們不可流於貶抑人性的無動於衷，或一成不變的日常任務，導致我們發現不到新事物！我們要抗拒只懂破壞的憤世嫉俗心態！我們要張開眼睛，看到世界的不幸，看到弟兄姊妹因尊嚴被漠視所受的傷痛。讓我們承認，我們被催促要聆聽他們的喊！我們要走到他們當中，支持他們，使他們因我們的臨在、我們的友誼、我們的手足之情而感受到溫暖！願他們的呼喊成為我們的呼喊。讓我們與他們一起打破冷漠的藩籬，冷漠實在極度猖獗，並掩飾我們的善和自我中心！

待續

堂區活動

阮明聰神父的衷心感謝

我誠意感謝麥神父、Fr. Bill Trienekens、鄔執事、林執事、所有修女、堂區牧民議會、所有善會及各位教友對堂區的支持及付出。

為響應奉獻生活年，大家的付出，慷

慨地與他人分享天主的恩賜，正如主耶穌基督教導我們，為主作見證，在愛德的引領下，善盡宗徒的使命，共同用行動去見證基督，以彰顯天主的愛。大家繼續努力吧！

願主耶穌基督的恩寵與你們的心神同在，並祝大家新年平安快樂！

星期二黃昏彌撒取消

12月29日(星期二) 晚上黃昏彌撒取消。

一月顯供聖體

永援聖母堂一月份的顯供聖體由牧靈關愛組帶領，時間為一月二日上午十時至十一時。當天除了朝拜聖體外，阮神父將為教友聽告解。請各位教友盡量參與！

電影晚會-傅天娜修女

日期: 1月2日(星期六)

時間: 6時 POTLUCK; 6時30分電影

地點: 永援聖母堂上禮堂

傅天娜 (Faustyna)，波蘭修女，因在波蘭華沙仁慈之母女修會 (Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy) 的服侍，以及多次見證耶穌基督的顯靈，並與其對話且記載在日記裡，奉耶穌之命向世人宣揚救主慈悲敬禮 (神聖慈悲敬禮)，2000年被教宗宣報為聖人。

活動一週

星期四 12月31日

除夕-歲末謝主英文彌撒

時間: 早上9時

除夕-歲末謝主中文彌撒

時間: 晚上5時

星期五 1月1日

元旦求恩彌撒

時間: 早上9時30分英文禮儀

早上11時正中文禮儀

星期六 1月2日

顯供聖體

時間: 上午10時至11時

地點: 永援聖母堂

聖母軍

時間: 上午11時(開會)

地點: 聖堂二樓騎士會室

成人慕道班 (國語)

時間: 下午3時至5時

地點：聖堂二樓騎士會室
 電影晚會 — 「傅天娜修女」
 時間：下午六時 (potluck)
 約六時半放映

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

星期日 1月3日

成人慕道班(粵語及英語)

時間上午 9 時 30 分至 12 時 30 分

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

主日學

時間：上午 10 時至 1 時

地點：寫字樓大廈, 聖堂騎士會室

聖母會開會

時間下午 12 時 30 分至 2 時 30 分

地點：聖堂會議室

利瑪竇騎士會 10119 開會

時間下午 12 時 30 分至 2 時 30 分

地點：聖堂騎士會室

公教家庭開會

時間：上午 11 時至下午 2 時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

靈修小故事

黑暗與光

在少年時期，我有一份送報的工作，每天我都得將報紙派發給 140 多戶人家。這些住家分佈在兩條街，中間隔著一個墳場。我送的是早報，因此在凌晨三點就需要出門。在逐家派報時，我需要步行穿越那一片漆黑的墳場。陰森可怕的墳場總是讓我毛骨悚然，有時候我還會因為極度恐懼而拔腿狂奔，直跑到另一條街的路燈下，那時，心中對黑暗的恐懼才被亮光驅散。

聖詠的作者明白恐懼與黑暗之間的關係，也知道上主勝過一切恐懼，所以不論是黑夜的恐懼或陰暗的邪惡勢力，都不足以令我們驚慌畏懼，我們有上主差派祂的獨生子，成為世界的光。在上主的慈愛、恩典與真理，如光照耀之下，我們便能得著勇氣、支援與力量，為祂而活。

靈修小故事

讓我們懷著勇氣和恆心祈求天主

祈禱也需要勇氣，“要勇敢、恆心地

祈求上主”。這樣可能會疲憊不堪，但這才是祈禱，這才是向上主祈求恩寵。教宗方濟各表示：不僅在宣講福音時需要勇氣，祈禱時也需要勇氣。教宗說，亞巴郎勇敢地向上主祈求恩典。這似乎有些可笑，因為亞巴郎以一種特別的方式與上主說話，他用的是這種勇氣，人們不知道眼前這位是個祈禱的人，還是個腓尼基商人，因為他一直在討價還價，堅持不懈，從 50 人減到 10 人。上主知道這是不可能的。祂知道祇有一個義人，那就是亞巴郎的侄子羅特”。

教宗接著說，聖女德肋撒稱祈禱是“與上主談判”。教宗方濟各最後說，祈禱是“在我們所擁有的美好事物上讚美天主，懇求祂賜給我們這些美好事物”。因此，教宗提議用聖詠 102 篇讚美天主：“我的靈魂，請向上主讚頌”，向上主說“禰是寬恕仁慈的，禰為我主持公道”。讓我們在祈禱中“懷著這些源自天主的美德”不斷前進。
 教宗方濟各