

In Touch

The Cathedral Magazine - Spring Edition

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL HONG KONG

Diocese of Hong Kong Island Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

香港聖公會聖約翰座堂



March - May 2018

ISSUE 014

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St John's Cathedral

4-8 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong

Tel: (+852) 2523 4157

Fax: (+852) 2521 7830

Email: general@stjohnscathedral.org.hk

Website: www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk

FELLOWSHIP OF FAITH



St John's Cathedral will miss Hugh and Ruth Phillipson and their fellowship with congregation members. They are returning to the UK after Easter Sunday this year. This photo which first appeared in St John's Review (2010) featured the Jazz Vespers service at the Pentecost with the procession led by Fr Hugh. Read full story on page 8 to page 10.



The Chinese congregation went on an outing to Lantau Island and enjoyed fellowship with each other. It was a unique experience. At the end of the day, they all got their own original noodle packages and had fond memories of the trip. Read full report on page 13.

In Touch

As Fr Will Newman points out in our lead article, the theme for the Cathedral in 2018 is 'Deepening our Faith' in the face of pain, doubt or a sense of inadequacy. This, it is hoped, will armour us in our 170th anniversary year, next year, to take up the theme of 'Faith in the City' and go with it into the world around us. At least five of the events to come this year which we are invited to take part in are explained in the article. In this edition, some of our pieces are reflecting ways in which through prayer, study and action, faith can be made more profound within us.

We have listed the Lent Courses, based on The Revd Dr John Kater's specially written book 'Following Jesus: Six Marks of Discipleship', which have been an opportunity to learn about faith. Of course, some of those will have passed by the time this is being read but we want to spread the word as far as possible about the ones which are left. Even if you go to none, the book alone is a sound purchase, not least because John Kater writes as well as he talks.

Fellowship, talking to each other about our relationship with God and simply being together, can be a great grower of faith. On the front page, we show the Chinese congregation just out and enjoying themselves, which is a sure way of putting you in a better place. Further on, we are also letting you know about two new fellowship groups. 'Grace in a Busy

Week.' (Divine grace that is, not a woman with a full schedule) will be a monthly Bible study group led by the Dean and a 'Youth Fellowship' hosted by Adam Mok, Pastoral Assistant, will aim to enrich spirituality, wisely unencumbered by the time strained experience of the elderly.

Faith is never better bolstered than when you are doing something with it. The St John's Poverty Alleviation's participation in a Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare services outing for the elderly is described in an article by Fr Mark Rogers. Ten members of St John's were part of the team. This has all the makings of a major outreach, springing from a basic Gospel command and perhaps more of us should somehow find our way into it.

Faith can be made real by the example of those who live it in the most steady and straightforward of ways. For that, we are looking at Fr Hugh Phillipson. The choir is almost literally singing his praises over two pages here. If you want a warm demonstration of how faith can be grounded in hopefulness, calm and unflagging good sense and cheer as it navigates this world, look at Hugh. He spent most of his life as a working layman and faith actually got deeper. He will be gone after Easter and so will his kindness and his lovely voice around the place, so think of him.

St John's Cathedral is a place of God's grace, welcoming all, following Christ and changing lives in the heart of Hong Kong.

Mission Statement, St John's Cathedral

THE DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

How can we live our Christian life with a sense of joy and serenity amidst all the demands and challenges in life?

We are well into Lent, a penitential season in which we heighten our spiritual disciplines to celebrate Christ's redemption for us on the Cross and to renew our life in his triumphant resurrection. While some aim to go through Lent with a sense of deep sorrow for our sins, what is more important is to discover how we may be renewed in Christ. Our Lenten programme endeavours to achieve just that. As we are part of the family of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (Anglican Church of Hong Kong), along with all the other parishes, we are using the study programme prepared by the Province. It is based on the book titled *Following Christ: Six Marks of Discipleship* written by The Revd Dr John Kater, a frequent visiting scholar known to many of us. Last year, more than 1600 Anglicans took part in the Lenten study across Hong Kong, and many felt enriched by the programme. In this year's study, Dr Kater reminds us that there are six important disciplines in order for Christians to experience a lively Christian life. Are these disciplines part of your life? Let's examine them and refresh our commitments to live by them.

1. Prayer - Prayers help us to be connected with the living God and be empowered and sustained by him. This Lent, spend an extra five minutes a day to pray. You will experience something different!
2. We are pilgrims journeying towards God - We have not arrived yet! There is so much we need to grow in life - our knowledge of the Bible, skills in serving God's ministry, and ways to experience a deeper sense of love and joy. What can we do this Lent to grow deeper in these areas?
3. We are called to be companions, walking along with others to care, love and nurture them. To weep with those who weep and to rejoice with those who rejoice is an immense privilege in life. Are there people we should contact this Lent to tell them that they are not alone?
4. Following Christ's own example, we are called to be servants of God for others, living a life of sacrifice and service. Find an opportunity to do some volunteer work or visit someone in need and seek to serve all people as we serve Christ himself.
5. We are called to be witnesses of Christ's immense love and transforming power through our words and deeds. Find an opportunity this Lent to tell others what the Christian faith means to us.
6. We are God's stewards - We should be joyful and generous in sharing our God-given gifts of time, money and talents for God's kingdom. What can we offer this Lent which best demonstrates our thanksgiving for God's love for us?

Don't think these six marks of discipleship are just ways we show our Christian faith in church. They should be the callings we live in our everyday life in our offices, our homes and among friends. When we pay attention to growing and living by all of them, our Christian living becomes more meaningful, hopeful and joyful. We become a blessing to others!

Observe a holy Lent and experience a joyful Easter! Many blessings to all of you.

Dean Matthias +



各位：

在日常生活林林總總的要求及挑戰下，我們怎樣可以活出基督徒的生命、過得喜樂及平靜安穩？

大齋期已經展開了一段日子。大齋期是一個悔改的節期，我們往往在大齋期中勤於靈修，默想耶穌基督為我們犧牲贖罪、被釘在十架上，並透過祂榮耀的復活，更新我們的生命。當有人打算懷着沉重的哀傷渡過大齋期，於我們而言，更重要的是：我們如何可以靠着耶穌基督得着更新。這正是大齋期靈修活動的目標。

作為香港聖公會大家庭的一份子，我們與其他牧區一樣，選用了由教省預備的靈修讀本《門徒六訣》(Following Jesus: Six marks of Discipleship)，相信大家對靈修讀本的作者並不陌生，他就是經常來港探訪我們的紀約翰教授 (The Revd Dr John Kater)。去年，超過1600位香港聖公會的教友參加了大齋期靈修活動。今年，紀約翰教授提醒我們，門徒有六個重要的角色，信徒應認清身份，活出應有的生命。

以下六項，你能否一一做到？誠邀你與我們一起反思門徒的角色，重新立志，實踐所思所學。

- 一. 禱告者。禱告讓我們與永活的上帝相連，與祂相遇，並讓祂加添我們的能力。我鼓勵你在大齋期中，每天多祈禱五分鐘。你將有新的體會。
- 二. 朝聖者。我們都是朝聖者，走在追隨上帝的路上，惟未到終點。我們的生命仍有許多需要成長之處，例如對聖經的認識、服侍上帝及參與事工的技巧、以及如何更深經歷愛及喜樂等。我們在大齋期中應作哪些準備，好讓我們繼續這趟朝向神聖的旅程？
- 三. 同行者。我們受呼召成為同行者，與其他肢體同行，關心、牧養及愛他們。我們得以與喜樂的人同樂，與哀哭的人同哭，是何等的榮幸。我們是否需要在在大齋期中聯絡某些人，告訴他們，他們並不孤單？
- 四. 僕人。我們跟隨基督的榜樣，受呼召去服侍上帝及他人，活出願意犧牲及事奉的生命。誠邀你參與義務工作或探訪有需要的人，當我們服侍他人時，就是在服侍上帝。
- 五. 見證人。我們受呼召成為見證人，透過我們的言語及行為，見證基督的大愛及改變的大能。誠邀你在大齋期中告訴他人，基督信仰對我們來說有何意義。
- 六. 管家。我們是上帝的管家，上帝把時間、金錢及各種天賦賜予我們，我們應當喜樂，並慷慨與他人分享這一切，善用恩賜。上帝如此愛我們，我們該如何才能表達我們對上帝的感恩之心？

我們以「門徒六訣」活出基督信仰，並不止於教會之內，更要響應呼召走出去，在公司、家人及朋友間，履行這六個職分。當我們更深入領會及履行這些角色及職分，我們的信仰生命將變得更有意義、有盼望及喜樂，從而成為他人的祝福。

讓我們謹守神聖的大齋期，同渡歡樂的復活節！願你滿有上帝的祝福。

座堂主任牧師
謝子和 謹啟

Deepening Our Faith

St John's Cathedral's Theme for 2018



TEXT BY / THE REV. DR WILL NEWMAN
PHOTOS BY / FEIFEI LI, STOCK PHOTOS

How deep is your faith?

Some of us may have a faith that has been tested through painful times of loss or suffering, a faith that brought us through the darkest times.

Others may have a faith that competes with doubt in us, a faith that may seem fragile, but is nonetheless real, longing perhaps to be strengthened but not knowing how.

Others again, even sometimes those of us who have been Christians and attended church regularly over many years, may feel that our faith is only on the surface. Perhaps we feel that we don't know enough about our faith, or that we're not good at praying or reading the bible, or that our Christian faith has not transformed our lives in the way we are told it should.

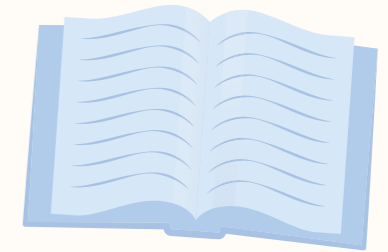
'Deepening our Faith' is St John's Cathedral's theme for 2018. Building on last year's Lent Course on 'Being

Disciples', and looking ahead to next year 2019 when we will celebrate the cathedral's 170th anniversary with the theme 'Faith in the City', this year 2018 is a year to Deepen our Faith. 'Deepening our Faith' is a phrase you'll see and hear often at the Cathedral during the year.

If 2019 is the year of 'Faith in the City', looking outwards to the wider society we serve in Hong Kong, then 2018 is in a way a year of preparation, more inwardly focussed, as we seek a deeper faith to share with the world outside the Cathedral walls.

So how can we deepen our faith? One way is through Prayer, Study and Action, and you are invited to join in some of the workshops, events, and courses that will take place at the Cathedral throughout the year (often on Saturday mornings), led by clergy and lay members of the Cathedral, that will help us to do this, along with our range of ministries.

By the time of publication, some of them will have happened already, and you may have joined in and taken part. If you missed them, there are more to come!



13th FEBRUARY – A Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper with a difference! Deepening our Faith through sharing Hospitality

10th MARCH – The Cathedral Parish Lent Retreat will be led by The Revd Dr John Kater, a familiar friend to many of us. And in our Lent Courses this year, leading up to Holy Week and Easter, we are studying John's recently published book, 'Following Jesus: Six Marks of a Disciple'.

5th MAY– 'Deepening our Faith through Music and Liturgy' will explore how our Sunday worship expresses and enriches our faith.

2nd JUNE – 'Deepening our Faith through Outreach' is about Faith in Action, 'being doers of the word and not hearers only' (as the Letter of James in the Bible says).

13th OCTOBER – 'Deepening our Faith through Mindfulness' will take us into the realm of contemporary spirituality.

8th-12th AUGUST – Taizé Hong Kong
From 8th-12th August Hong Kong will host a worldwide 'Pilgrimage of Trust', with thousands of young people from all over the world meeting together to join and share in the spirituality of the Taizé Community in France. St John's has been asked to be one of the churches where the Pilgrims will meet for prayer and worship in the style of Taizé on each of those days. If your experience of church is mostly St John's or one of the daughter churches on Sunday morning, then the experience of Taizé will open your eyes to something different: not just the distinctive Taizé chants which stay with you and become your prayer, but also the silence which gives you space and time to listen to what God may be saying to you.

Look out for other events to be arranged during the year.

Prayer – Study – Action – it's all there, and we hope that you will take as many of these opportunities as you can to Deepen your Faith at St John's Cathedral in 2018.

ABOUT LENT

TEXT BY / ANDREW ASHLEY



Lent, which stretches from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, is often seen as a bleak season in the Church's year, a gloomy interlude of restrictions and self-denial. But the reality is much more positive. Lent is a time of rediscovery and renewal.

In the northern hemisphere, Lent occurs in springtime and the name comes from the words in Old German and Middle English for 'long', referring to the days growing longer as the earth moves from winter solstice to spring equinox. This time has long been associated with the idea of growth, new life and the sense of hope they bring.

In the early Church, the baptism of new Christians took place at Easter, following instruction in the faith during the preceding weeks. The new believers recited the Creed on Holy Saturday, to show they were prepared for baptism the following day.

Over time, Lent became a time for growth, for established believers as well as for new converts. The entire community of the faithful would use

the season for self-examination and to identify more closely with the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Lent is now characterised by customs that reflect this idea of growth in the Christian life, specifically preparing for Easter through prayer and fasting. By doing this, believers try to follow Christ's example during the forty days he spent in the wilderness.

Prayer helps us to pay more attention to God. During Lent we can try to stand aside from all the noise and activity of our daily lives and spend time in closer touch with ourselves and with God.

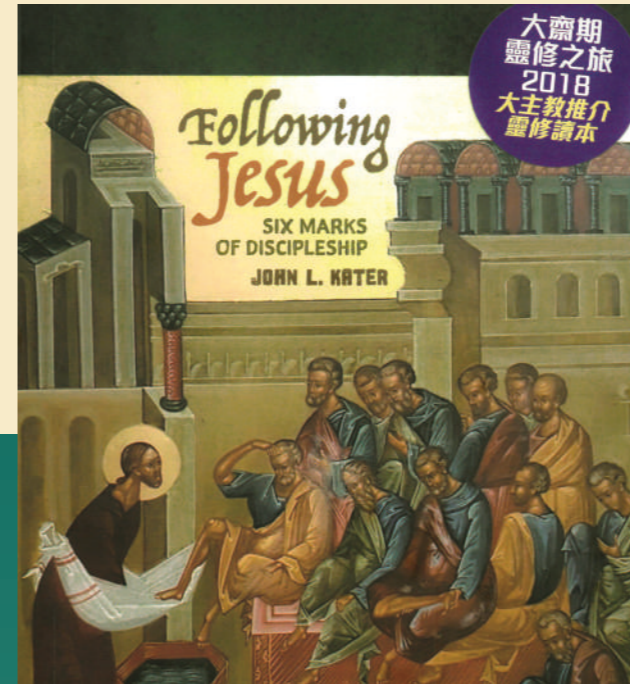
Fasting before major festivals was widely practised in the early church and Lent has traditionally been marked by abstinence, both from food and drink and from

festivities. This signifies that Christians are trying to liberate themselves from self-centred desires and focus more closely on God.

Additional giving is another practice that is widely followed during Lent, a period that encourages us to reflect on how Christ gave himself for all and to respond to the needs of others.

From Ash Wednesday, when we are marked with a cross of ashes as a sign of humility before God, through the fourth Sunday, Laetare Sunday, a day for joy, to Palm Sunday, when Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is observed, Holy Week and the glories of Easter Sunday, Lent is truly an opportunity to live through what St Paul called in Ephesians, 'the unsearchable riches of Christ'.

LENT COURSES



This year, the Province of HKSKH encourages all parishes and missionary churches to study together in Lent with the book 'Following Jesus: Six Marks of Discipleship', which is written by The Revd Dr John L. Kater.

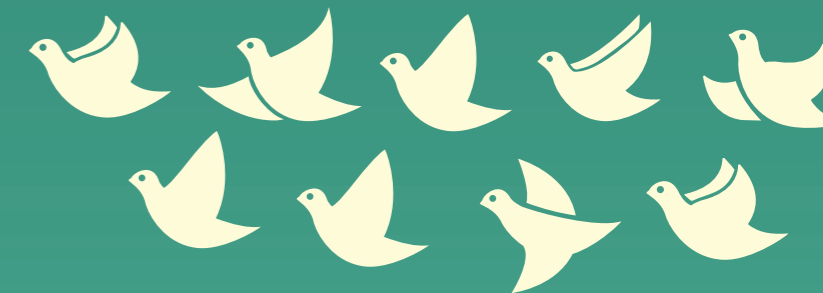
Here are the schedules of the courses of St John's and her daughter church. Do enrol in one of them and journey spiritually together this Lent.

SCHEDULES OF THE COURSES AT ST JOHN'S

SESSION	DATE	TIME	VENUE	LANGUAGE
Monday Morning	26/2, 5/3, 12/3, 19/3, 26/3	8.30am – 9.30am	Harold Smyth Room	English
Tuesday Evening	20/2, 27/2, 6/3, 13/3, 20/3, 27/3	7.00pm – 8.00pm	Upper Room	English
Wednesday Afternoon	21/2, 28/2, 7/3, 14/3, 21/3, 28/3	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Conference Room	Cantonese
Friday Afternoon	23/2, 2/3, 9/3, 16/3, 23/3	3.00pm – 4.30pm	Conference Room	English
Saturday Afternoon	24/2, 3/3, 17/3, 24/3, 31/3	1.30pm – 4.00pm	Conference Room	Tagalog
Saturday Afternoon	10/2, 24/2, 3/3, 10/3, 17/3, 24/3	4.00pm – 5.30pm	Harold Smyth Room	Cantonese
Sunday Afternoon	11/2, 25/2, 4/3, 11/3, 18/3, 25/3	12.30pm – 2.00pm	Library	Cantonese

SCHEDULE OF THE COURSE AT DISCOVERY BAY

SESSION	DATE	TIME	VENUE	LANGUAGE
Monday Morning	26/2, 5/3, 12/3, 19/3, 26/3	9.30am – 11.00am	Discovery Bay Church	English





UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

EDITED BY/ MAGGIE CHAN
PHOTOS BY / STOCK PHOTOS, ST JOHN'S REVIEW

Change is never easy. However, Hugh and Ruth Phillipson have come to a decision that it is time to make a move. They are returning to the UK after Easter Sunday this year. In other words, they will be leaving St John's Cathedral and Hong Kong for a while and coming back from time to time as they visit their family here and in Australia.

In Touch was told that the couple will live in a newly-built retirement village with lovely

landscaped grounds and club-style facilities, where they can enjoy a peaceful and relaxing life.

Before the Cathedral and congregation members formally say goodbye to Fr Hugh and Ruth, Director of Music Felix Yeung, four choir members, and Barbara Bispham of CLARES contributed the following messages to In Touch, bidding a fond farewell to the couple and wishing both of them the very best.



A FAREWELL NOTE

Our Cathedral Choir, consisting mainly of our own parishioners, also has its spiritual dimension. Every Friday, the Choir meets for intensive musical practice and halfway through there is a short interval, which I call the 'fatherly time'. Our Choir Chaplain, the Revd Hugh Phillipson, has always given us a short homily at this point. A wide range of topics, from the Sunday's Gospel to reflections on political situations around us, is covered. Besides the weekly homily, Fr Hugh also opens every choir practice with a prayer fitting for that weekend.

I have always taken the Choir Chaplain for granted. Since I joined the Cathedral Choir in October 2002, Fr Hugh has always been with us (Hugh and Ruth once moved back to the UK briefly). As we were chatting over a lunch about the role of Choir Chaplain, I asked Fr Hugh, 'Before you became Choir Chaplain, who was your predecessor?' 'There wasn't any assigned "Choir Chaplain" back in those days,' Fr Hugh answered. 'Dean Chris Phillips used to come in when he had time and did the opening prayer, stayed for a bit for as the Choir rehearsed. Then after the short homily, he left us for the remainder of the rehearsal.' On top of prayer and homilies, Fr Hugh also paid great attention to the pastoral needs of our own choir members, including home and hospital visits, phone calls and private chats, and I have been honoured to be part of some of these in the past three years.

TEXT BY /
FELIX YEUNG
(DIRECTOR OF
MUSIC)

It is indeed the Choir's blessing to have our own chaplain singing alongside us. We would occasionally miss Fr Hugh when he was assigned to celebrate the Eucharist or officiate the Daily Office, though we would hear him from the speakers in church, singing the priest's part. There have been numerous occasions during Lent, Holy Week and Easter, when we have heard Fr Hugh's rich singing voice as he led us in the Ash Wednesday litany, the Jesus part in the sung Passion, and in the Easter Thanksgiving.

Besides singing, Fr Hugh is also a skilled player of many instruments. He is a clarinetist and a trombonist, and he can also play saxophone and recorder. Since Dean Matthias came to us, we have kept the service of 'Blue Christmas'. Fr Hugh's input of serene and reflective jazz-type music into the service has touched many who were present. His jazz taste also led to our annual Jazz Vespers with the band Dixie Katz of which Fr Hugh is a member.

A farewell note on Fr Hugh would be incomplete without including Ruth. Mrs Phillipson has been a devoted and faithful member of CLARES and the Cathedral Choir. Ruth's work as robe lady of the Choir has always been immaculate; her successor will have big boots to fill! Hugh and Ruth, we will miss you terribly, and we look forward to seeing you from time to time as you come back to visit your family here and in Australia. So, we are not saying 'goodbye', but 'see you both again very soon!'

TEXT BY /
WENDY NESBITT
(CHOIR MEMBER)

FR HUGH & RUTH WILL BE GREATLY MISSED

What can one say about a man who has devoted so many years to the church in general, and the Cathedral Choir in particular? As well as singing bass with us every week, Hugh is our Choir Chaplain. This is a role he takes very seriously. His Friday evening homilies always give me something to think about. As a bonus gift, I learn new things about the Church's history or liturgy.

Fr Hugh cares very deeply about each of us. Being a section leader, I have had many meetings with him, and he shows his compassion and thoughtfulness at every one of them. He and Ruth will be greatly missed, and theirs will be difficult shoes to fill.

TEXT BY /
MARGARET SANG
(CHOIR MEMBER)

NOT A FAREWELL

I did not realise how lucky I was to join the RTHK Singers until the first rehearsal started, when I found myself amongst some distinguished singers. Hugh was one of them. Looking back, Hugh has been there almost all of my singing life. I most treasure our conversations over coffee or lunch when Hugh, as Choir Chaplain, and I shared our views on matters about the choir and beyond. All these years Hugh and Ruth have always been caring about Bryan and me. My love to them as they move on – it is not a farewell but 'till we meet again'.

TO A GOOD FRIEND, WISE COUNSELLOR & SUPPORTIVE MENTOR

I've known Hugh since the late 1970s, when Ruth and he first came to Hong Kong, and am still coming to terms with the fact that, this time, they will be leaving for good, unlike their previous short-lived absence from 2003 to 2006! Long before he became a member of St John's and the Cathedral Choir, when Hugh and Ruth were stalwarts of the English Methodist Church, Hugh and I sang in the Cecilian Singers under Geoffrey Weaver and a number of other small a capella groups. Musical highlights from those days include performances of Bach's B Minor Mass and Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610. We had many very good times together, musically and

socially, with many post-performance parties taking place in the very convivial atmosphere of Hugh and Ruth's home, where we enjoyed their generous hospitality.

I have always respected and valued Hugh's considerable ability in so many areas of work and life, his good common sense (frequently found in engineers dealing with soil and earthy matters!), a high degree of commitment, a sense of responsibility and, above all, musicality. As the Cathedral Choir Chaplain, he has been a good friend, wise counsellor and supportive mentor to us all (this is sounding like 'The Messiah'!). He also



TEXT BY /
GORDON JONES
(CHOIR MEMBER)

served for a time in the politically challenging post of Chairman of the Cathedral Choir Committee, the first time that this role had been undertaken by a person other than the choir master. Hugh's departure will leave an enormous gap in the life of St John's Cathedral, in particular that of the Cathedral Choir, which will not be easily filled. However we can take some comfort from the fact that Ruth and he hope to be frequent visitors. I wish Hugh many happy and healthy years of life with Ruth, but will not say retirement, as this is something which he will find very difficult to do (and may not be allowed to do)!

THE CHOIR WILL CERTAINLY MISS HUGH

TEXT BY /
ROD WHITTICASE
(CHOIR MEMBER)

The choir will certainly miss Hugh – a load-bearing pillar of the bass section. I remember him joining; he had a considerable musical reputation in Hong Kong and I think that many of us were slightly in awe of him, but he quickly allayed any concerns on that score. Scores being the operative word: it was never safe to leave your music where Hugh might purloin it. Bases will feel reassured that this will happen no more, but irredeemably regretful that he is leaving us.

AND, A SALUTE TO RUTH

It's all about the teamwork. The Phillipson duo's dynamism runs deep and wide in the life of our Cathedral. Throughout their many years of service, two stints beginning in 1992, with a short two-year hiatus, they have bolstered each other. From Ruth's staunch support of Hugh during his long hours of studies for the priesthood to Ruth's countless Saturdays away from home while creating exquisite floral arrangements with the St John's Cathedral Flower Guild, they have remained dedicated to the greater good – and each other, as their fifty-plus year marriage attests.

Hugh and Ruth are a 'two-fer'! Both the Cathedral Choir and CLARES are beneficiaries of what can be best expressed as their mighty synergy. Chaplain Hugh's ministry, combined with Ruth's steady leadership within each organisation, add an immeasurable boost to the energy and harmony of both organisations.

However, it is fitting for CLARES to laud Ruth in her own right. We gladly give tribute to Ruth for her prodigious compilation of the history of CLARES on the occasion of our Golden Jubilee, 13th November 2012. With characteristic

attention to detail, Ruth combed through fifty years of organised and unorganised mounds of material, contacted CLARES all over the world and brought forth a remarkable and dramatic presentation of the birth and growth of the Cathedral CLARES. We CLARES are ever grateful to Ruth for her gift of time and talent in pursuit of assuring CLARES that their mission is strong and alive, and most of all, deserving of a solid future. Care. Love. Action. Response. Effort. Service. The ethos still rings true today, as so beautifully portrayed in Ruth's historical overview. As CLARES gather each 'sorting' Wednesday in Li Hall, cheerfully man the till during Castaways' opening hours and give each other all the while camaraderie and compassion, the organisation builds on its strengths. Ruth epitomises the best of the best of CLARES.

The Cathedral congregation and its Hong Kong community outreach are legates of the Phillipson's largesse, their selfless and unwavering loyalty to bettering the world around them, through their unifocal commitment to giving of themselves to the greater glory of our Christian faith. They embody Christians in action.

Three cheers for Hugh and Ruth and their extraordinary legacy of giving more than the sum of one plus one.



TEXT BY /
BARBARA BISPHAM
(CLARES MEMBER)

Ruth has been a member of the Flower Guild for many years. This is one of her arrangements.

EXCHANGING PULPITS FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

TEXT BY / STAFF REPORTER
PHOTOS BY / STUART WOLFENDALE, THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF HONG KONG

Anglican, Catholic and Methodist ministers exchanged pulpits on Christian Unity Sunday (21st January), as part of the celebration for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. St John's Cathedral invited Vicar General of the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong, The Revd Dominic Chan, to preach at the 9.00 am Sung Eucharist, and The Revd Eden Fletcher, Senior Minister at the International Methodist Church Hong Kong, to preach at the 11.45 am Responsorial Eucharist.

On the same morning, at 11.00 am, Dean Matthias preached at the Hong Kong Catholic Cathedral of The Immaculate Conception. At the end of the service, Dean Matthias joined The Revd Dominic Chan in giving the blessing to the congregation.



Traditionally the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated between 18th and 25th January, between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul. During the week, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that 'they may be one so that the world may believe' (see John 17.21). Hearts are touched and Christians come together to pray for their unity. Congregations and parishes all over the world also exchange preachers or arrange special ecumenical celebrations and prayer services.

NEW BIBLE STUDY GROUPS TO JOIN

TEXT BY / STAFF REPORTER
PHOTO BY / ADAM MOK

The Cathedral is taking one step forward to help parishioners enrich their spiritual lives. Two new fellowship groups named 'Grace in a Busy Week' and the 'Youth Fellowship' have been formed recently to encourage parishioners to study the Bible regularly.

In the 'Grace in a Busy Week' group hosted by Dean Matthias, through studying the Bible verse by verse, participants may deepen their understanding of the verses and experience Christ in their busy lives, so that they may live out the Christian faith in their workplace. The group meets on the last Friday of each month, from 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm, at the Harold Smyth Room.

Young adults, especially undergraduates and fresh graduates, are welcome to join the 'Youth Fellowship' hosted by Pastoral Assistant Adam Mok. Through bible study, faith sharing, spiritual exercises and fellowship, they may enrich their spirituality. The group meets every Sunday at 12.00 noon in the Cathedral Library.



Sign up for the groups now:

Grace in a Busy Week

Email address: dean@stjohnscathedral.org.hk
Conducted in English, maximum 15 participants each month

Youth Fellowship

Email address: adammok@stjohnscathedral.org.hk
Conducted in English (with Mandarin and Cantonese)

HAPPY DAY TRIPPERS

TEXT BY / FR MARK ROGERS
PHOTOS BY / MAGGIE CHAN

On Saturday 27th January, a group of volunteers from St John's took thirty four seniors from the Western District out for the day.

The day trip was organised by the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (HKSKH) Welfare Services. It was part of St John's Cathedral's Poverty Alleviation Programme, ten church volunteers participated.

The excursion began at 8.45 am as the volunteers assembled outside the HKSKH Western District Elderly Community Centre near HKU MTR.

After a brief orientation, led by the centre's social workers, the volunteers boarded the bus. It moved around the district picking up the invited seniors. They came on with big smiles, looking forward to the day ahead.

An air of excitement grew as the bus began to make its way to the first stop, the Garden Bread Factory in Sham Tseng. The seniors and volunteers were allocated to groups. Together, volunteers and guests walked around an exhibition showing the history of the factory. The colourful display described the role the factory has played in bringing mass produced, affordable food to Hong Kong and elsewhere in China. The business has had some troubled history. Did you know the Kowloon factory was destroyed in the 1956 riots?

The next stop was the old fishing village of Lau Fau Shan. The volunteers accompanied their wards around the market. They saw many stalls of oysters, and members of the party purchased some. They stopped to look over the water towards the gleaming towers of modern Shenzhen. A bridge now spans the waters that once separated colonial

Hong Kong from mainland China. Stories were exchanged of people swimming across the divide, seeking a new life in Hong Kong, dodging the police above the water, and the sharks below.

The group was getting hungry and a restaurant had been booked. Sitting at tables of twelve the seniors and the volunteers feasted on nine dishes, including shrimps, fish, abalone, pork, chicken and various vegetables.

After another walk around the fishing village, the tired but happy group, set off in the bus back to Western District. On the way back the tour guide entertained the group with jokes and songs.

Thank you to the HKSKH for organising such a wonderful day trip. Thank you to all the church volunteers for making so many seniors happy.

聖約翰座堂秋季大旅行

文及圖 / MANDY



裝等工序。最後，包裝好的杯麵被放入充氣袋進行充氣，並被繫上紅繩後，便大功告成！這個集「學習」、「遊戲」及「美食」三項元素於一身的互動節目，讓場內各人樂透了，小朋友們更為雀躍，每張小臉蛋都有着藏不住的好奇與盼望，雖然人小步短，但都亦步亦趨，在透明屏風外緊緊跟隨著生產線上的每項工序，親身見證這世上獨一無二、原創杯麵的誕生過程。

隨後，各人到會場另一邊的世界歷史展覽館及3D背景區瀏覽。當看到巨型立體杯麵佈景時，各人都被此有趣的場景深深吸引，拿着各式各樣的紙牌道具留影。也許被我們熱情奔放的舉動感染，標誌着「日清食品」的著名外賣員清仔（由演員扮演）亦由工作人員陪同下隆重出場。眾人看見這位特別嘉賓的出現都顯得欣喜若狂，每位都化身為小粉絲，爭相合照，有人並頭翹手，有人「嘟嘴」賣萌，團體自拍，各適其適，相機快門的聲音此起彼落。難得清仔亦樂意配合，與各位教友齊齊舉起「V」字手勢拍照留念。此時，場內眾人的興致已到達沸點，大家盡顯搞笑本色，施展渾身解數，以種種鬼馬搞怪的姿勢和表情來拍攝出一張又一張逗趣可愛的照片。現場氣氛高漲，人人玩個不亦樂乎。

一年一度的聖約翰座堂秋季大旅行又來了。

二〇一七年度的秋季大旅行已於十一月十九日舉行，當日百多位教友於主日崇拜後，齊集在李堂，由胡偉豪牧師帶領下，用感恩祈禱方式揭開是日活動的序幕。我們一行人浩浩蕩蕩，分坐兩輛旅遊巴士啟程出發。所謂「三軍未動，糧草先行」，首站是各教友齊齊到位於灣仔的酒樓飽餐一頓，席間多位教友都對即將參與的項目顯得興致勃勃、磨拳擦掌，希望稍後能夠大展身手，一顯藝術才情。午餐過後，我們便由旅行社領隊的帶領下，兩車並駕齊驅，由灣仔直奔大嶼山以北的赤鱸角，沿途可近距離欣賞到青馬大橋的宏偉壯麗，以及馬灣海峽兩旁的秀美風景。轉瞬間我們便到達目的地——香港國際機場二號客運大樓。接著，眾教友便兵分兩路，分成兩組，在導賞員引領下輪流到「香港航空探知館」及「我的合味道工作坊」遊覽參觀。

「航空探知館」是以航空科技和歷史為主題的巨型展覽館，重點介紹香港航空業發展。展館入口的「探知跑道」豎立了多座電影《星球大戰》中的帝國風暴兵模型。此一列的黑、白機械人像在歡迎我們來到這趟航空探索之旅。館內的精緻展品及詳細介紹，令我們更加深入了解飛機的構造、機場運作方式及不同的航空知識。在「鐵鳥薈萃」展區，展示了多架不同年代、不同型號的飛機模型，參觀者可透過輕觸式電腦螢幕得知相關的航空資料。在「同遊萬里」展區內，更有細緻像真的駕駛艙，佈置着不同年代、不同等級的機艙設施。場內更設置了先進的電腦特技，讓參觀者模擬操作飛機滑降，營造出逼真及愜意的空中之旅。只是短短幾分鐘的模擬片段，不僅可以讓我們體驗到飛機師之日常工作，還讓我們領略到衝上雲霄、翱翔天際之樂趣。是項活動加深了教友們對本地航空業的了解，拓闊我們的視野，趣味盎然。

教友參觀「我的合味道工作坊」時，掀起另一番高潮。所有參加者可以透過此項精彩環節，製作自家杯麵，自行設計杯子及選擇喜歡的湯底和配料，藉著親身體驗，了解杯麵的製造過程及親手製作。在導賞員解釋活動流程後，眾教友便各自佔據有利位置，埋頭苦幹，用細膩的畫功去設計杯身，繪圖題字，創意無限。當我們選擇好自己喜歡的湯底與配料，便把杯子交予工作人員分別進行裝麵、分配、壓縮及包

縱然千般不捨，到了日落西山的時候，我們也要懷着盡興的心情，攜着「戰利品」踏上歸途。在回程時，各教友都顯得意猶未盡，有的互訴此行各樣有趣見聞，有的忙於展示其匠心獨運之自家杯麵。興奮之情，溢於言表，令歸程內滿載歡聲笑語。是日秋季大旅行之成功，有賴聖約翰座堂同事們的悉心策劃，細意安排，讓每個項目力臻完美，令人樂而忘返。怪不得每年的秋季大旅行都是座堂的重頭節目之一，令人引頸以盼。額滿向隅者，只能徒嘆奈何。

主啊，感謝祢對我們的眷顧，旅行當日天清氣朗，旅程平安順暢，讓我們期待已久的大旅行得以在一片歡笑聲中順利完成。因上主的愛，令我們走在一起。期望眾教友發揚牧區精神，彰顯美善關愛，發揮凝聚力，互相守望，踴躍參與座堂舉辦的各項精彩活動。祈願在新的一年里，上主能給予助佑，讓每位教友在信仰、健康、事業和生活上都能得到庇護和祝福，在主內每天平安喜樂。阿們。





Midnight Mass



Christmas Pageant



ST JOHN'S AT CHRISTMAS TIME

PHOTO BY / ECHO, WENDY NESBITT, DISCOVERY BAY CHURCH, LGT BANK AG, MAGGIE CHAN



Discovery Bay Church Christmas Dinner



Christmas Concert

H.S.H. Prince Philipp von und zu Liechtenstein is welcomed back to St John's for the LGT Young Soloists' Christmas Concert 2017. The ensemble is accepted as one of the finest youth orchestras in Europe. LGT Bank AG is owned by the Princely Family of Liechtenstein, which has always maintained close contact with the world of music over the centuries. Mozart composed music for Prince Alois 1 of Liechtenstein.

Office & Outreach Workers at the Staff Christmas Lunch



HUGGING POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

TEXT BY / DR MARK L. GANDOLFI (DR MARK)



DR MARK



St John's Cathedral outreach ministry, the Counselling Service, is celebrating its 41st year of caring for members of the Cathedral and the community at large by way of our positive psychology counselling programmes.

We have shared in our column before that human touch is the 'first language we learn', as highlighted in Dacher Keltner's book *Born to Be Good* (2009). Social research is full of how human touch can improve work performance, enhance our good moods, soothe a troubled soul, increase a sense of belonging, resolve conflict and even increase or spark creativity. Virginia Satir, who was instrumental in developing family therapy techniques that have healed countless broken families worldwide, once stated: "We need four hugs a day for survival. We need eight hugs a day for maintenance. We need twelve hugs a day for growth." At St John's Cathedral Counselling Service, we hug daily our positive psychology programmes, so we can empower, heal, grow and nurture our clients.

A key element of our positive psychology counselling is how we not only explore the

challenges and unpleasant life experiences of our clients for resolution, but we also seek out, nourish and empower the character strengths of our clients. Frequently known as the 'godfather' of positive psychology, Dr Martin Seligman states, 'The aim of Positive Psychology is to catalyse a change in psychology (counselling) from a preoccupation only with repairing the worst things in life to also building the best qualities in life.' This is achieved by way of our character strengths.

In short, we have six basic virtues (or categories) in our counselling model through which our clients get to 'catalyse a change in their lives': wisdom, courage, humanity, justice, temperance, and transcendence. These six virtues allow our clients to review their own twenty-four character strengths they can focus on in counselling and life, to reconcile, to heal, to learn, to grow and to start hugging well-

being once again. For more on character strengths, we encourage you to visit the following website and take a free character strength test to see and celebrate who you are: <http://www.viacharacter.org/www/Character-Strengths-Survey>.

Another positive psychology tool we use is the daily gratitude set of activities to improve our mood states and to heal and sustain relationships. We have designed three key activities especially for kids, teens and adults to use when they are struggling with work or school, have been bullied, had a loss in the family, are dealing with divorce, are becoming unemployed and/or are faced with a chronic healthcare issue. Our first activity is the gratitude journal. Being old-fashioned, we prefer our clients to have a notebook on hand. Each day before they sleep, they write in that journal two things they are thankful for that have happened in their lives. After writing those two things

down, we encourage the clients to then close their eyes, imagine that event as much as they can for at least three minutes, and then say a quiet thank you prayer to God for that experience. Practicing this simple but powerful technique consistently for more than 30 days can and does improve our well-being.

The second daily gratitude activity is what we call the 'gratitude visit', where we visit a person or write a letter (I know I should have said an email or text or twitter, but I'm old school) and thank that person for being who he or she is. A simple thank you, what we call an attitude of gratitude, is a powerful way to show others that when we 'hug' kindness and thankfulness, we increase the chances and sustainability of well-being. As Charles Snyder once stated, 'hope has proven a powerful predictor of outcome in every study we've done so far.' In other words, by practicing gratitude visits or messages to a church, to a friend's home, or to relatives in a faraway town on a regular basis, we wake up hope that our challenges in life can be resolved with shared gratitude.

The third daily gratitude activity is what we used to call random acts of kindness, but in positive psychology, we note that by being kind to others, our emotional and spiritual states also improve. Traditional random acts of kindness range from opening a door for someone, giving a donation, helping a stranger in distress, being a volunteer, asking others if they need guidance (some of my clients seek out tourists who are reading their tour maps and ask them 'do you need any help?'), and even saying 'thank you for your wonderful service' to a waiter or waitress. A kindness technique we teach children to use is to develop a random act of kindness chart (R.A.O.K. if you will) where they write down for each day of the week, an act of kindness they can share to either a teacher, a friend, a sibling, a parent, a stranger, a neighbour, a service worker, someone at church, or a friend afar. One of my favorite kindness quotes comes from Ralph Waldo Emerson, 'you cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late.' As you can now imagine, we also hug kindness



in our counselling activities at our outreach ministry before, during and after each counselling experience.

We have also learned through positive psychology that the way we think can have a direct impact on the way we feel. Our pastoral care teaches our clients, for example, the difference between "thinking positive" and "thinking optimistic." The thinking positive helps each and every one of us to live in the now (mindfulness if you will) with an attitude of gratitude, as researches and human experience tell us that climbing a mountain with a positive mindset makes that journey easier and more possible than a negative mindset. Hence, imagine the classic exercise 'is the glass half full or half empty?' With positive psychology, we ask our clients to not see a glass as half empty or half full, but instead, be thankful that at least they have a glass. It is then up to that person what he or she cares to seek to put in that glass.

On the other hand, optimistic thinking is a way to guide us in future aspirations that support, nurture and care for our well-being. The optimistic thinking technique is for tomorrow, next month or even two years

down the road; goals and future endeavors we believe may grant us a teaching about life. The optimistic thinking style does not teach us that the grass will be greener on the other side or that we will get the gold medal. Instead, we learn that optimistic thinking affirms in each and every one of us that, through a loving God and our character strengths, at least we will have a glass in the future. Again, it will be up to us what we care to seek to put in that glass. We may not get it, but at least we got into it, as the old Italian saying goes.

St John's Cathedral Counselling Service has been blessed over the past 41 years with a kind, caring, professional and positive-optimistic staff of counsellors, voluntary and paid, art and play therapists, social workers and psychologists. As our loving God reminds us, we need to 'plan to do, not just hear'. Every day I give thanks to our Cathedral for supporting our outreach ministry, our Counselling Service staff for caring for those who seek our care and comfort, and to the loving God for giving us a glass called life, and character strengths to pursue a life of well-being. Now if you will excuse me, I need to go hug a tree and say thank you to those trees for giving us shade!

The next article will highlight positive psychology tools to support and strengthen a marriage in Hong Kong with work-life balance challenges.



GIVE CARE TO CAREGIVERS

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY / THE MISSION FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

Give Care to Caregivers (GCC) is an event organised by the Mission For Migrant Workers (MFMW) three to four times a year to provide services for migrant domestic workers and household caregivers in Hong Kong.

On 3rd December 2017, 16 service booths were set up in the garden of St John's Cathedral and served workers and caregivers from 10.00 am until 5.00 pm. These booths included blood pressure checking, consultation with a Chinese doctor, reflexology, make-up and skin care training, massage, dental care, and education on financial literacy, stress-releasing laughter yoga, women's reproductive health education and information related to the Race Discrimination Ordinance.

One of the highlights in the GCC is the Migrant Christmas Wish Tree. Workers who enjoyed services can make a wish there and get their Christmas gifts.

Along with the GCC event, the MFMW held a recognition ceremony for participants in different life and work skills training workshops and seminars, and the MFMW also held the Second Happy Homes Awarding ceremony in the Li Hall of St John's Cathedral.

Over a hundred participants, who attended training workshops run by Hong Kong Red Cross, Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council and Our Lady of Maryknoll, were recognised with certificates.

The 'Happy Homes Project' appreciated the efforts of employers who maintain healthy and equal relationships with



their workers. Migrant workers who have good employers were encouraged to nominate their employer's family in the Happy Homes booth. Some workers attended the church service with their employers, and they took photos with the Happy Homes photo frame, advocating the 'Happy Homes is Possible' campaign. The MFMW believes that acknowledging the existence of 'Happy Homes' will positively influence society, and identifying and promoting the philosophy of Happy Homes can further educate the public to respect foreign domestic workers and to recognise domestic work as work, which is important for both migrants and locals.

On the day of the ceremony, over 20 families were acknowledged as 'Happy Homes' for both employers and workers, and they were awarded the seals of approval. Families sent their representatives to attend, and some brought the elderly and the children with them to share the happiness.



CONCERT RAISES \$230,000 FOR LIFE EDUCATION

TEXT BY / STAFF REPORTER

PHOTO BY / ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL HIV EDUCATION CENTRE



The fundraising concert, 'A Charitable Music Night of Inspiring Lives 2017', presented by the HIV Education Centre raised \$230,000 in total. Unlike previous years, the proceeds will go to the Centre's life education initiatives.

The HIV Education Centre has been running programmes on HIV and sexual health education for more than two decades. The past year marked a turning point in the Centre's development. The Centre is striving to offer programmes with wider educational scope.

In these currents of change, over 300 people attended the fundraising concert, which was held at St John's Cathedral on 14th November 2017, and they made donations to support the Centre for a good cause.

Performers and performing groups of the evening included Rose Yam, Vicky Wong, The Hong Kong Pianist Society, Harmonicaplus, The Hong Kong Welsh Male Voice Choir, and students from Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong.

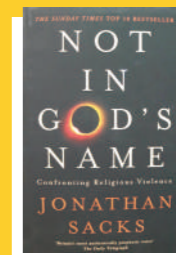
'We are proud to host this fundraising concert year after year, and make an impact on teen education with the proceeds of the concert,' said Elijah Fung, Manager of the HIV Education Centre. 'Thanks for all your support to the Centre and the concert throughout the years.'

In Touch was told that the proceeds will be used to support life education initiatives organised by the HIV Education Centre.



WHAT ARE WE READING?

Book recommendations from St John's Cathedral Bookstore and the In Touch editorial team



1 What makes people kill in the name of the God of life, or wage war in the name of the God of peace? What is it that connects religion with violence?

Not In God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence

Drawing on arguments from evolutionary psychology, game theory, history, philosophy, ethics and theology, Rabbi Sacks shows how a tendency to violence can subvert even the most compassionate of religions. He then challenges those who claim that religion is intrinsically a cause of violence, and argues that theology must become part of the solution if it is not to remain at the heart of the problem.

Publisher: Schocken

Author: Rabbi Jonathan Sacks



2 There are many ways of reading the Bible, Journalling can be one of them. Writing and colouring on the bible may offer a different way of interacting with the text, and inspiring one's spiritual journey.

NIV Journalling Bible for Colouring In

'The Journalling Bible for Colouring In' is beautifully designed with extra wide and blank margins for note taking and drawing, and 32 pages of black and white illustrations to colour in. This edition features shortcuts to key stories, events and people of the Bible, and uses British spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Publisher: Hodder & Stoughton General Division

Illustrated by Stu McLellan



3 《共融靈旅》是由世界各地聖公宗與信義宗的教牧及信徒共同撰寫的靈修反思，讓信徒可以了解彼此的傳統，親身經歷及見證基督徒如何實踐與人、與上帝共融的信仰生活。

出版社：道聲出版社

共融靈旅 聖公宗—信義宗的反思

All books are available at St John's Cathedral Bookstore





Dean Matthias (middle) shared a time of fellowship with former Dean Stephen Sidebotham (left) and Canon Christopher Hall (right)



Visiting the grave of Bishop R. O Hall at St Margaret's Church

THE DEAN IN ENGLAND, WINTER 2017

TEXT BY / STUART WOLFENDALE
PHOTOS BY / DEAN MATTHIAS

As part of our commitment to the global Anglican Communion, in early November the Dean attended the annual meeting of the Compass Rose Society in London, representing the Cathedral. The Society raises funds for the Archbishop of Canterbury to provide financial support for churches in dire need. The formation of the Hong Kong Chapter was endorsed

at the gathering and subsequently an Inauguration Service was held at St John's on 14th January.

Of his time in England, Dean Matthias says, 'I spent a night at Christ Church, Oxford visiting Dean Martyn Percy and attended Evensong and the morning Eucharist. These services, held in a beautiful place of worship which is both the college chapel and diocesan cathedral, were spiritually uplifting. The next day, I met up with Canon Christopher Hall, son of Bishop R. O Hall, Bishop of Hong Kong from 1932 to 1966, and Christopher's wife Viviane, as well as the former Dean of our Cathedral, Stephen Sidebotham and his wife Peggy. Christopher took us to Lewknor, outside Oxford, where Bishop Hall lived after

his retirement until his death, and to St Margaret's Church where his ashes were laid. Listening to many of the stories about the early days of Hong Kong and of the Cathedral from these "elders" was profoundly interesting and educational. They sent their warmest regards to the people at St John's.

'In the evening of 9th November, I had the privilege and pleasure of delivering the annual R. O Hall Memorial Lecture at Ripon College Cuddesdon. The title was "My Pilgrimage to China! Discovering God's unexpected work in Hong Kong and China". The topic was chosen to reflect Bishop Hall's passion for the Chinese people and his concern of the growth of Christianity amongst them. I spoke of the tremendous growth of the church in China and the challenges it faces which I have learned about in my visits to China.'

ALISON, WELCOME TO HONG KONG!

Alison is the twin sister of Catherine and lives in the UK. She was visiting Hong Kong for her holiday.



Twice the joy, twice the love, twice the blessings

CATHEDRAL NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO FR MARK ON RECEIVING HIS MASTER'S DEGREE

Fr Mark has completed the Master of Counselling, offered by the Monash University, in 2017. He attended the graduation ceremony in Melbourne, Australia, on 26th October 2017.

The studies advanced Fr Mark's knowledge and skill development for counselling. Through the course, major theories and counselling approaches were examined. He also got plenty of opportunities to apply theory to practice in clinical settings, contact clients, and handle cases.

This course is accredited in Australia by the Australian Counselling Association (ACA) and Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA), and it has registration in Hong Kong with the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ).

A chapter has closed and a new one awaits. May the graduation be another beginning for Fr Mark. Congratulations to Fr Mark again. Stay blessed!

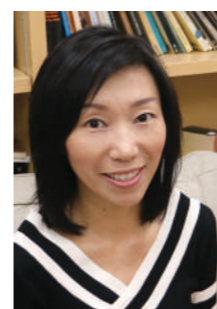


NEW ROLE FOR FR DES

Starting from 1st January 2018, Fr Desmond Cox has been appointed as an Associate Chaplain at St John's Cathedral on a part-time basis for one year. Fr Des is now 70 years old and it is a policy of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui that any clergyman turning 70 must officially retire from full-time ministry.

As an Associate Chaplain, Fr Des works a 5-day week now. Wednesdays and Saturdays are his days off. St John's Cathedral is thankful for Fr Des' work and ministry here over the years. May God bless Fr Des and his continuous service at the Cathedral.

WELCOME NEW STAFF



Meet Feifei Li, the new Chapel Secretary of St Stephen's Chapel. Feifei is a member of the St Stephen's congregation and took up the post of Chapel Secretary last year. Her work is mostly behind the scenes, involving preparing pew sheets, providing administrative support to the Chapel, and managing the Chapel's website and Facebook page.

Feifei has worked in the administrative field for a number of years. She is excited about the new job and regards it as a great opportunity to serve God. She is happy to offer assistance to the congregation at St Stephen's and she hopes she will get to know the parishioners of St John's Cathedral and the other two daughter churches as time goes by.

In her spare time, Feifei enjoys working out and dancing. When she is not physically active, she likes to paint pictures and be at peace. She enjoys reading the Bible, and sings in the St Stephen's Chorale.



Hanindha Kristy is a Global Mission Fellow with the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. She comes from Indonesia and joined the Mission For Migrant Workers as an intern in December 2017. Her daily duties include providing support to the MFMW Office and assistance to the clients of MFMW. She will be working at the MFMW until June 2019.



Jade Wong was an intern of the HIV Education Centre and she became a part-time staff member of the centre in January 2018. She provides administrative support to the centre and helps design promotional materials for the centre's events. She studies at a local university.



Natalie Tsang joined the HIV Education Centre as a part-time staff member in January 2018. Like Jade, Natalie was an intern of the centre. Natalie is also a university student. She provides administrative support to the centre and helps design promotional materials for the centre's events.

Forthcoming Services at St John's & Daughter Churches Lent, Holy Week & Easter 2018



St John's Cathedral

4-8 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong
Tel: 2523 4157
www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk

Fridays in Lent: Stations of the Cross

1.00 PM 23rd February
2nd March
9th March
16th March
23rd March

12th March (Monday)

4.30PM Commonwealth Day
Service for the Royal
Commonwealth Society
(HK Branch)

25th March (Sunday) Palm Sunday

8.00AM Said Eucharist
9.30AM Palm Procession & Solemn
Eucharist (Combined
Bi-lingual Service)
11.45AM Responsorial Eucharist
2.00PM Sung Eucharist (Filipino)
6.00PM Tenebrae Service

26th March (Monday) Monday of Holy Week

8.00AM Said Eucharist
6.00PM Said Eucharist & Stations
of the Cross

27th March (Tuesday) Tuesday of Holy Week

8.00AM Said Eucharist
6.00PM Said Eucharist & Stations of
the Cross

28th March (Wednesday) Wednesday of Holy Week

8.00AM Said Eucharist
6.00PM Said Eucharist & Stations of
the Cross

29th March (Thursday) Maundy Thursday

9.00AM Chrism Eucharist
8.00PM Sung Eucharist with the
Washing of Feet & Watch
until Midnight

30th March (Friday) Good Friday

9.00AM Said Morning Prayer
10.30AM Liturgy of the Day (Mandarin)
12.00PM 'The Way of the Cross' –
A Service for Children
1.30PM Liturgy of the Day

31st March (Saturday) Holy Saturday

9.00AM Said Morning Prayer
8.00PM Easter Vigil & First Eucharist
of the Resurrection

1st April (Sunday) Easter Day

8.00AM Said Eucharist
9.00AM Sung Eucharist
10:30AM Sung Eucharist (Mandarin)
11.45AM Responsorial Eucharist
2.00PM Sung Eucharist (Filipino)
6.00PM Festal Evensong

9th April (Monday) Annunciation of the Lord

7.30PM Sung Eucharist

10th May (Thursday) Ascension Day

8.30AM Said Eucharist
1.15PM Said Eucharist
7.30PM Sung Eucharist

27th May (Sunday) Trinity Sunday

(Sunday morning services as normal)
6.00PM Sung Eucharist with Baptism
& Confirmation

Emmanuel Church
Béthanie Chapel
139 Pok Fu Lam Road, Pok Fu Lam

Further information Tel: 2523 4157
www.emmanuel.org.hk



25th March (Sunday) Palm Sunday

10.15AM Blessing of Palms, Procession & Sung Eucharist

30th March (Friday) Good Friday

10.15AM Liturgy of Good Friday

1st April (Sunday) Easter Day

10.15AM Sung Eucharist of the Resurrection & Renewal of
Baptismal Promises

St Stephen's Chapel
22 Tung Tau Wan Road, Stanley
St Stephen's College

Further information Tel: 2813 0408
www.ststephen.org.hk



25th March (Sunday) Palm Sunday

9.30AM The Stanley Passion Play, including Holy Eucharist.
The story of Holy Week dramatically acted out from Palm
Sunday to the Crucifixion

29th March (Thursday) Maundy Thursday

8.00PM Commemorating the Last Supper, with Eucharist and
Foot-washing

30th March (Friday) Good Friday

10.00AM Children create an Easter Garden, and hear the Easter Story

11.00AM Stations of the Cross

1st April (Sunday) Easter Day

10.00AM Family Eucharist to celebrate Easter, followed by an Easter
Egg hunt for children

Discovery Bay Church
SKH Wei Lun Primary School, Lautau

Further information Tel: 2987 4210
www.discoverybaychurch.org.hk



25th March (Sunday) Palm Sunday

10.00AM Sung Eucharist with Blessing of Palms

30th March (Friday) Good Friday

11.00AM Walk to Stations of the Cross at Trappist Monastery

1st April (Sunday) Easter Day

6.00AM Ecumenical Sunrise Service on the beach in Discovery Bay
10.00AM Sung Eucharist of the Resurrection in Wei Lun School

St John's Cathedral

4-8 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong

Tel: (+852) 2523 4157
Fax: (+852) 2521 7830
Email: general@stjohnscathedral.org.hk
Website: www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk

Dean

The Very Revd Matthias Der

Cathedral Chaplains

The Revd Desmond Cox (Associate Chaplain)
The Revd Dwight dela Torre
The Revd Catherine Graham
The Revd Canon Peter Koon
The Revd Robert Martin
(Chaplain and Priest-in-Charge of Emmanuel
Church - Tel: 2523 4157)

The Revd Will Newman
(Chaplain and Priest-in-Charge of
St Stephen's Chapel - Tel: 2813 0408)

The Revd Mark Rogers
(Chaplain and Priest-in-Charge of
Discovery Bay Church - Tel: 2987 4210)

The Revd Wu Wai-ho

Cathedral Honorary Chaplains

The Revd John Chynchen
The Revd Hugh Phillipson
The Revd Jenny Wong Nam

In Touch Editorial Team

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Stuart Wolfendale
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Sub - Organist

Jonathan Yip

Communications Officer

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Ho Tat Hoi

Head Server

James Choo

Head Sidesman

Roger Cole

A LONG AGO BAPTISM THAT TELLS SO MUCH

TEXT BY / STUART WOLFENDALE

PHOTO BY / CANON CHRISTOPHER HALL

During his visit to Britain in November last year, one of the several people with long associations with the Cathedral whom the Dean met was Canon Christopher Hall, a son of Bishop R.O. Hall who was Bishop of Hong Kong 1932-66 and a notable Anglican churchman of the twentieth century. Canon Hall was baptised at St John's on 2 February, 1936 and a report of the service was published in the South China Morning Post.

The publicity was deserved not just because the baby Christopher was the son of the diocesan bishop whose office made him third in the order of precedence in the colony. Christopher was baptised by the Right Reverend Mok Shau Tsang, the Assistant Bishop of Canton, a man of sanctity and fortitude and much beloved by Bishop Hall. It was unusual for a Chinese priest to baptise an English child and even more so for an English bishop to step aside for his Chinese colleague to administer the sacrament to his own son. It was a demonstration of Hall's aim for the English and the Chinese Church to become one and for the Anglican diocese in China to be more than an outstation of the Church of England.

Canon Hall gave Dean Matthias a photograph from that day which has not been seen in Hong Kong before. The picture is of the baptismal font, decorated for the ceremony.

The font itself is familiar to us. It is an eight-sided Gothic stone basin supported by columns on a plinth, donated by Edmund Sharp, the Crown solicitor and a trustee of the Cathedral. It stands now in the North door. What is almost unknown to us in the picture is the font cover, a gift from a J.A. Barton. It is an amazingly heavy wooden lid in the form of a four foot high Gothic tower which had to be raised and lowered by a pulley and chain. This must have been as entertaining as it was impressive but it was lost during the Japanese occupation.

Canon Hall's photograph shows the font placed in the middle of what was then the Baptistry. It was an extension of the North transept, a tall chapel with Minton floor tiles and two full length windows



in memory of Edmund Sharp's wife Lucille. These windows let in more light to the north side of the church.

Just a few years after Christopher Hall's baptism, the font was moved and the Baptistry was blocked off and split into two levels to provide an upstairs changing room for lady members of the choir. Lucille Sharp's windows were cut across by the false floor. The lower chamber became the George She Chapel. The name has since been forgotten about and called the Quiet Chapel.

The fascinating photograph from Canon Hall reminds us of the extravagant decorative taste of the Victorians. It prompts us to look at an unusually dim piece of interior re-design by our forebears which followed its taking. It makes us think about how George She's part in things was forgotten and Lucille Sharp's windows were ignored. Through the cracks in human memory, remembrance slips easily.