

In Touch

The Cathedral Magazine - Summer 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



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TAIZÉ COMES TO HONG KONG



Taizé is coming to St John's Cathedral. This summer, the Taizé Community will hold an International Meeting for Young Adults in Hong Kong. Read the full story on page 4 to page 5. (Photo by Conrad Yu)

WALK BY FAITH



The annual Michaelmas Fair Walkathon got our parishioners, friends of St John's Cathedral, and students from the HKSKH schools into their walking shoes. The route started at St John's and took the steep gradient to the Peak, and the event ended with a lunch in the cathedral. Enjoy our selection of photos on page 12 to page 13. (Photos by Billy Leung and Conrad Yu)

In Touch

In this issue, we are heralding St John's role as host to the annual Taizé International Meeting for Young Adults. Taizé is all about young people, and giving those of them who may be uncertain or curious about faith a way to follow. The movement is probably more generous in its definition of youth than youth itself and stretches it to age 35. The Cathedral holds Taizé services at 6pm on the fourth Sunday of most months, and age is no bar to showing up to those. The place looks like it will be buzzing with under 35s from all over the world for 4 days in August. The daily programme of meetings is just for them, but older souls, including those of us with rocking chairs on our Octopus cards, are welcome to the daily prayers.

We report on a visit by a group from St John's to the Toungoo diocese where they encountered more young people in large numbers. Debbie McGowan was over there already, teaching some of them as was Christopher Hall from St Stephen's. The group was there to give specialist advice and assistance where it could. Reports from the members suggest that they ended up learning as much as they could teach. There were a total of eight Hong Kong people present at one time, seven of them lay people. Wouldn't it be interesting to see the equivalent number of Toungoo laity here for a few days, if only to look at us and ask, if they can be dissuaded from usual politeness, why we live in such an insular way, and worry in the way we do?

One of our articles says goodbye to a man who has been prominent in allaying people's worries in Hong Kong for many years. We will miss Dr Mark Gandolfi's faith, ebullience and determination in running the St John's Counselling Service

and, at In Touch, we will particularly miss his regular, incisive columns on relationships, which were very popular with readers. Dr Mark's going also highlights how much the Counselling Service, which moved from its origins in qualified clergy to be more professionally self-determining under lay counsellors, is still an arm of the Cathedral's outreach ministry. His replacement is being sought by the Trustees and the Service remains a Cathedral responsibility.

We feature a trip undertaken by almost the entire clergy team to Taipei to visit the Episcopal Diocese of Taiwan. It was a learning experience for them and a return for the Dean, who spent some of his youth there, and for Fr Robert who worked there. One gets the distinct impression that the clergy enjoyed themselves and relaxed, off-site, in an enjoyable place with kind hosts. It's the sort of therapy Dr Mark would doubtless recommend, and we should support it from time to time because we get the benefit when they come back.

We are essentially a news magazine, but we always like to run pieces that talk about faith. Fr Mark Rogers does that with simple eloquence in his piece on the meaning of the Cross. There are those who are emphatic that the Cross is about taking punishment for us. Others, including Rome, say it is mysterious. Fr Mark's four uses of the 'X' gives us manageable ways to think about it. In one of them – X as a significant place – he comes close to how many of us actually respond, that is intuitively, rather than dogmatically. Fr Mark articulates the sense we have that this was an act of love for us, and after which nothing can be the same.

We Need Your Help to Save The Environment

A little step by all of us can make a sea change to our environment. The Joint Ministry Committee of St John's Cathedral has recently decided that St John's will use less plastic in the cathedral grounds, and to stop using plastic utensils is the first target.

In response to the appeal, In Touch would like to invite our readers to join us in protecting the environment. There are two ways to get involved:

1. Pick up the magazine at the Cathedral

The Cathedral Office keeps a subscription list of In Touch and mails hard copies of the magazine to readers and parishioners quarterly. If you choose to pick up the magazine at St John's Cathedral, less plastic bags will be used for delivery. Please inform us by filling out and returning the form below to the Cathedral Office if you would like to unsubscribe from the mailing list.

For those who wish to continue receiving In Touch by mail, we wish to assure you that the Cathedral Office uses biodegradable plastic bags, and the bags are 100% degradable.

2. Read the magazine online

Starting from 2017, the In Touch editorial team has been exploring the possibilities of digital publishing. In 2018, we have started publishing In Touch on Issuu, an online digital publishing platform, which provides readers with a more convenient reading experience, regardless of the mobile devices or computers they are using.

The link to the online version of In Touch is posted on the cathedral website. For more details, visit the cathedral website: <http://www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk/>.

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 or by mail: St John's Cathedral, 4 – 8 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong. Attention to: Ms Maggie Chan

THE DEAN'S MESSAGE

A historical and successful summit between North and South Korea in late April was not only a surprise to many but it gave people around the world a sense of new hope for the future. We pray that this new beginning will bring to fruition a lasting peace for the Korean peninsula, and that it will spread to all those living in warring regions.

The summit reminds me of what the psalmist says, "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred lived together in unity." (Psalm 133:1) In Hong Kong, we seem to live in relative peace and concord without the fear of widespread violence and war. However, when I talk to people, I find many are actually living in disharmony and loneliness, due to grudges, alienation or hatred. Even among the people we are supposed to be close to, often time there is little connectedness. In restaurants, it is not uncommon to see a family sitting around the dinner table with people occupied with their smart phones and having little eye contact or conversation. When was the last time we put aside what we were doing, especially the electronic devices in our hands, and attentively listened to and were completely with another person? We live in a world that strives for speed and quick fixes. We sometimes forget that in order to have a meaningful relationship we need to have quality time together, openly sharing our joys and struggles, and walking in each other's shoes. Without that kind of attentive and intentional interaction, it is difficult to build affection, trust, and intimacy, which give meaning and life to relationships.

Sadly in my pastoral work, I see some marriages breaking up, family members second guessing each other and people judging others because of past hurts. Would that be the way God wants us to live? No. Jesus Christ came to bring us peace and called us to be peace-makers. Jesus came to give life and give it abundantly (John 10:10). We need to respond to this call, starting at where we are with the people around us. We start by looking into people's eyes, seeing them as precious because they are loved by God. We start by walking with one another as brothers and sisters, recognising that we all have flaws and sins and are in need of the transforming power of Jesus. We start by being the first to let go of our past hurts and give new beginnings a chance.

This coming week, when we come home after a long day, smile. When our loved ones speak to us, turn off the television and put aside our smart phones and truly listen. Stay attentive to the conversation. Have eye contact. Give words of encouragement instead of complaint, sympathy instead of judgements, and understanding instead of rejection.

"How pleasant and good it is when kindred live together in unity." That is what God desires of us, because he wants us to live a life of abundance.

God bless you all!

Dean Matthias +



各位：

南韓及北韓於四月底舉行歷史性的峰會，兩韓首腦的會談取得成果，不但讓許多人感到意外，更撥開了瀰漫全球的陰霾，令人在憧憬未來時，帶有一絲新的盼望。我們祈求今次峰會的成果可以為朝鮮半島帶來長久的和平，並將和平帶到世界其他飽受戰亂的地區。

兩韓峰會讓我想起詩人所言：「看哪，弟兄和睦同居，是何等的善，何等的美！」（詩篇133章1節）我們在香港的生活似乎相對和平，毋須懼怕戰爭及暴亂，然而，當我與人交談時，我發現其中不少人因為怨恨、憎恨或疏離感，實際上是活在紛爭及孤獨中。即使我們在摯親身旁，也往往缺少溝通。我們不難於餐廳裏看到一家人變成「低頭族」的情景——人人只顧盯着自己的手機，缺乏眼神或語言交流。對上一次我們放下手上的工作（尤其放下機不離手的電子產品），全副心思專注聆聽另一個人說話，是什麼時候呢？

我們生活在追求速度的世界，到處流行速食文化。有時，我們忘記了與他人建立真誠的關係時，其實需要付出優質的時間，與他們相處，分享彼此的快樂及掙扎，站在對方的角度思考，與他們攜手同行。

缺乏願意聆聽的心，不願為彼此築起溝通之橋，人與人之間亦難以建立起感情、信任及親密感。然而，正是這三項要素，為一段關係賦予意義及活力。

可惜在我的牧養工作中，我看到婚姻關係破裂，家庭成員互相猜疑對方，人們因往日的傷痕而論斷他人，這樣的生活方式，是上帝樂於見到的嗎？不！耶穌基督降生為人，為我們帶來和平，也呼召我們成為和平使者，耶穌來了，是為叫人得生命，並且得的更豐盛（約翰福音10章10節）。

如若我們要回應呼召，就要從身處的地方、身邊的人開始：開始與他人有眼神接觸，看他們為寶貴，因上帝愛他們；開始與他人同行、看他們如兄弟姐妹，因我們都有缺點及罪，需要耶穌的大能以轉變生命；開始與往日的傷痛說再見，不再耿耿於懷，因我們值得擁有重新開始的機會。

未來一周，當我們經歷漫長的一天後，回到家中，笑一笑吧！當摯愛對我們說話時，讓我們關上電視，放下手機，用心聆聽，專注對話，凝望對方。多鼓勵對方而非批評，帶着同理心而非論斷的心，諒解對方而非否定。

「看哪，弟兄和睦同居，是何等的善，何等的美！」上帝渴望我們過這樣的生活，因祂希望我們的生命活得更豐盛。願上帝祝福你！

座堂主任牧師
謝子和 謹啟

Taizé Comes to Hong Kong



TEXT BY / THE REVD WILL NEWMAN
PHOTOS BY / CONRAD YU & OLDDOG

Imagine a Christian community that welcomes tens of thousands of young adults from all over the world every year. Imagine a church that can hold 8000 people or more – or can be made smaller and more intimate. Imagine these things in a small village in rural France, surrounded by green fields. This is the Christian Community at Taizé.



Taizé is a place where people, mostly young adults, visit to learn from the brothers in the community and to share their faith with each other, returning to their home churches strengthened and refreshed for their life journey. Brother Roger, the founder of the community, described it as 'A Pilgrimage of Trust and Reconciliation'. Taizé is a place of exploration and discovery, where young people, who may not be at all sure of their faith, may find a way to follow. I visited Taizé for a week at the end of August 2003 with a group of young adults from the parish where I served in England, and we found it a wonderful, energising experience, like a spring of living water in a dry and thirsty land.

Now Taizé is coming to Hong Kong, and to St John's! Each year the Taizé Community holds an International Meeting for Young Adults, and this year it will be in Hong Kong. Four brothers from Taizé have already arrived here to prepare and organise the event, and many more brothers will be here for the meeting. **From August 8th-12th young adults from all over the world will gather to take part in Taizé Hong Kong.** St John's Cathedral, together with the Roman Catholic Cathedral, will host Midday and Evening Prayers in the style of Taizé during these days.

Brother Han Yol of Taizé explains: 'We want to encourage the participants of the Meeting to be more involved in their own local churches, parishes, and communities. So we would very much like the preparation for the August Meeting to be a service for the churches in Hong Kong. We also take part in various activities for the poor, and for the homeless.'

The purpose of the Meeting is to grow in young adults a sense of solidarity

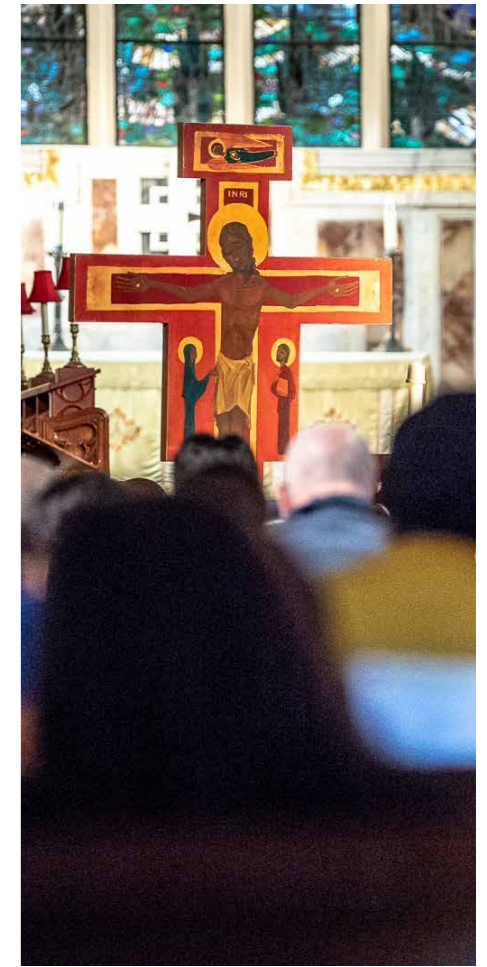


and responsibility for others, and to encourage them in their search for God. They will meet with Christians from other traditions and countries, building bridges between countries, individuals, and cultures.

The daily programme includes common prayer together in the style of Taizé, biblical reflection, and silence; meeting in small groups with those from different backgrounds; and workshops on themes related to faith and social commitment.

So what is the style of prayer at Taizé? It's different from our normal Anglican worship. In place of church hymns, Taizé has songs, short phrases of scripture or words of prayer sung and repeated many times. As the song is repeated, it's not difficult to pick up the tune and join in, and then it becomes your own prayer. And with people all around you joining in, it feels like being carried on a wave of prayer. After a bible reading, there is an extended time of silence for several minutes, a time to come close to God in the stillness. This distinctive style of worship encourages a deeper spirituality, and an opportunity to listen to what God may be saying to you.

Worship in the Taizé style also includes powerful visual imagery. At the front of



the church, a large picture of Christ on the Cross is flanked by long coloured drapes, lit up by a small forest of scattered candles. This is the focus that draws the eye to Christ. It is both strong and attractive, and also peaceful and restful, encouraging meditation and reflection.

Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, said 'A person may have spent many years going to church, reading the bible, saying prayers, and yet never quite have seen the Church – the Church which is the new creation, the New Jerusalem, the hope of humanity. In the Taizé Community, a Christian can say 'I have seen the Church for the first time!'

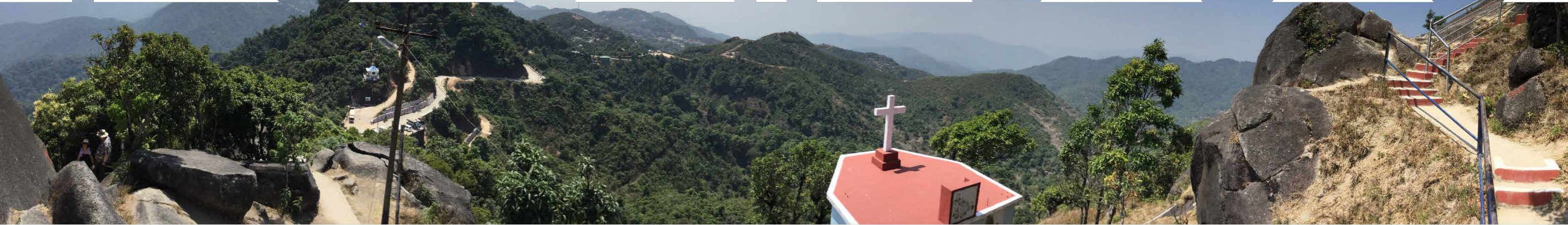
So young adults (18-35), please visit Taizé Hong Kong's Facebook page, fill in the registration form, and make a date for those days in August. And our regular worshippers, of course, are also welcome at the Midday and Evening Prayers.

On the 4th Sunday most months at St John's, you can experience Evening Prayers in the style of Taizé. Open to all ages!

For more details, visit the cathedral website:

<http://www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk/>

T O U N G O O



EXPLORATION TRIP TO TOUNGOO WITH PARISHIONERS

TEXT BY / STUART WOLFENDALE
PHOTOS BY / THE REVD CATHERINE GRAHAM & ENOCH LIEU



In another journey that brought the two communities closer, six members of St John's Cathedral visited our linked Diocese of Toungoo in Myanmar from 3rd March to 12th March for ten days. The idea was that individual members of the group would have skills and experience which they could share with groups at Toungoo. As in previous visits, this was a trip of exploration into what could be helpful from Hong Kong and what could be learned in return.

Led by the Revd Catherine Graham on her second trip to Toungoo, the group included Dr Fiona Lo who was interested in looking into in the homegrown health programme which the Toungoo diocese runs, and her son Enoch, a undergraduate student in politics and economics in England, who was keen to come with her. Andrea Nye from St Stephen's was there, especially interested in the diocesan kindergartens, and Lee Clubb, accompanied by his wife Helen, wanted to hear about what information technology (IT) was available to the diocese and think about the best use that could be made of what they have. And if this was not enough of St John's in Myanmar, Debbie McGowan was already in Toungoo conducting the second of her English language teaching programmes, arranged with the Cathedral. Also doing some

teaching was Chris Hall of St Stephen's who had gone on his own initiative as a volunteer.

After a night in Yangon and a visit to the Cathedral there, the group arrived at Toungoo to a reception by singing children and hotel accommodation which, though perfectly adequate and hospitable, was appropriately that bit outside the Hong Kong visitors' comfort zone, with features like a horizontal shower spray in Mother Catherine's room. ('I collected the water in a bucket and poured it.')

Catherine was consistently impressed by the joy people in Toungoo took in the gospels, down to the simple level of joining in heartily in singing. 'It was something we could learn from at St John's, and I told them that in a sermon I preached at St Paul's Cathedral,' she says. 'We were a group of people used to luxury, seeing a church in a distant, poorer place supporting each other in the name of God.'

She was struck by how the people ministered to one another and how quickly and readily the community came together in support and action. There was a meeting of Mothers' Union and Men's Fellowship members from the whole diocese, which took place in one of the parishes. That parish fed (from just its



own resources) all those attending; over 600 people. Four catechists graduated from the St Peter's Bible College whilst the group was there. Everybody was fed from huge pots of rice set out in a nearby field. 'The catechists appeared joyful, and not just because we were there,' points out Catherine. 'They would be going into the villages with no salary. Even the parish priests only get US\$30 a month and farm to supplement that.' Yet these men (they do not ordain women) mediate in land disputes and dangerously prickly sectarian issues which still affect the region, and they turn lives around in villages with social



problems such as alcoholism.

Mother Catherine led some training on discipleship and the Lord's Prayer. Fiona met with the health care committee and investigated the remarkable service provided by lay people trained in basic health care through USPG grants to provide a form of district nursing. Andrea spent time in the surprisingly extensive kindergarten system and with music groups. She felt deeply humbled by what she saw. Lee met with young people in the diocese over IT facilities and found that in Toungoo, they are further behind than he expected.

A highlight of the visit was a journey to Naw Bu Baw Prayer Mountain in Karen state, 45 km from Toungoo. The Anglican parish here and its St George's church had been out of reach of Toungoo for 25 years because of warfare. As that subsided, in 1994, 2,500 young people of all Christian denominations, including Anglicans, Roman Catholics and Baptists, decided to create something devotional that would bring them together. Lee Clubb describes its impact.

'The route there has fantastic views, making



it a great scenic trip. We were told by Father Phillip, the Anglican priest who is on the caretaker committee for the site, that due to IDPs (Internally Displaced People), the area around Prayer Mountain is 99% Christians and it is a major religious site for Myanmar's Christians. It has 374 steps to reach the top and is over 4800 feet above the sea level. A huge cross marks the top of this mountain and it can be seen for miles. As we walked up the steps to the top, we noticed many wayside prayer rooms built on the side of the stairway. On the very top of the mountain, there is a large prayer room shaped like a ship. We were told it was a symbolic representation of Noah's Ark. Our group had a prayer meeting in this "ship" room led by Mother Catherine.

Afterwards, we were taken to St George's Church, which seats 1000, and treated to a great meal by Father Phillip and his family.'

The Bishop of Toungoo, the Rt Revd John Wilme spent time with the group each day and took them to other churches in the diocese. On visits to further flung parts of the diocese, he would, in previous years, be away for months and in persistent danger. In more recent, better connected times, it would be for hours or days. Even lately, his car rolled over in rain and mud yet he managed to walk away from that. Ever calm, modest and knowledgeable, he brought running water, health care and other initiatives to Toungoo. He retires soon and he will be missed.

DEBBIE'S TEACHING TRIP TO TOUNGOO

TEXT & PHOTOS BY / DEBBIE MCGOWAN



Rudyard Kipling wrote "This is Burma, it is quite unlike any place you know about". Even more than a century later, this is very true.

It didn't feel like another year had passed before I was flying back to Yangon in January for a 2nd year of voluntarily teaching English to the wonderful people in Toungoo. I had such an amazing visit last year, I wondered whether this time would live up to expectations...but of course it did!

This year, I was able to better plan my timetable with Hilda, Principal of the English Language Centre – I taught at 2 pre-schools on alternate mornings, both sets of pre-school teachers, St Peter's Bible School students, Diocesan Office, daily adult evening classes and the St Paul's Cathedral Sunday School children too, about 450 students in all!

Some of the students were more confident this year, asking me to teach particular subjects. For example "What NOT to say to a foreigner", or "How to read the news like a BBC broadcaster"! They continued to be very keen students, really dedicated to improving their English, a pleasure to teach.

This time I was fortunate to be joined by one of my UK friends, Mark Powell, who joined me for a couple of weeks – this was really helpful when I lost my voice, so he was able to take my lessons!

Readers may remember that last year I travelled a few hours north of Toungoo to a remote place called Leik Tho, where, through the generous donations of the Cathedral and many friends and family around the world, the Diocese had been able to turn hopes into reality by renovating a derelict structure into a youth hostel for 20 teenagers. We visited again this year and it was truly humbling (and almost overwhelming) to see the fantastic work the Diocese has done. It was the first time that the students had met foreigners



but after their initial wariness, they sang to us and seemed happy to be continuing their secondary education.

Another highlight was meeting with the 80 Mother's Union representatives who had gathered for their AGM. They were thrilled with the gifts of shampoo, body lotion, hand cream, lip pencils etc that I had been able to hand out. Thanks to all those who gave me their unwanted airline/hotel toiletries – they were very well received!

So do I have any plans to go back for a 3rd year of teaching? Well, at the end of this year, it will be the 25th anniversary of the Toungoo Diocese and the retirement of Bishop John. Together with the installation of a new Bishop, there will be a weekend of celebrations on 5-6th January 2019. Bishop John has invited the original delegation (The Dean, Catherine, Rita and myself) to attend the celebrations and I have already accepted.

Additionally, we hope there will also be a small group from the Cathedral choir to sing at these celebrations. Bishop John, The Dean and Felix see this as a great opportunity to further cement the close partnership that has developed between SJC and the Toungoo Diocese.



Before & After



Youth Hostel



CATHEDRAL CLERGY STUDY TOUR TO TAIWAN 2018

TEXT BY / THE REVD ROBERT MARTIN
PHOTOS BY / ADAM MOK



Some may ask, 'Why visit the Diocese of Taiwan?' or 'What's so special about the Church in Taiwan?' The answer is quite simple. The Diocese of Taiwan is a sister Chinese-speaking diocese within the Anglican Communion, sharing with the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (HKSKH) a common Anglican heritage of Faith and Order.

The **Episcopal Diocese of Taiwan** (台灣聖公會) is the Anglican diocese in Taiwan, and a member diocese of the Episcopal Church of the United States. It was established in 1954, five years after Chinese Episcopalians fled from mainland China to Taiwan following the defeat of the Nationalists in 1949. It is a member diocese of Province 8 of the Episcopal Church. As much of the early Anglican leadership in Taiwan was provided by American military chaplains, Taiwan became linked to the Anglican Communion through the Episcopal Church.

A small but vibrant expression of Anglicanism

The diocese, by Episcopalian standards, is small and consists of only twelve parishes across the island, stretching



from Taipei City in the north, to Hualien County in the south. Small, however, does not necessarily mean weak and the diocese is active both in social outreach and evangelistic work. A new Mission Church has recently been planted in the Taoyuan District, near Taipei.

A Sister Diocese

The links between the HKSKH and the Diocese go back a long time and are very deep. Theological students from Taiwan Diocese often come to do some of their studies at Ming Hua Theological College here in Hong Kong. One such student, Revd Antony Liang, was recently ordained to the diaconate by the Right Revd David Jung-Hsin Lai (賴榮信主教), Bishop of Taiwan, in St John's Cathedral, Taipei. The ordination was attended by friends and colleagues from the HKSKH



as an expression of our friendship and unity within the Anglican Communion.

Please keep our Taiwanese Anglican brothers and sisters in your prayers and together we proclaim – 'One Church, One Faith, One Lord!'



*The Revd
Wu Wai Ho*

CATHEDRAL CLERGY STUDY TOUR TO TAIWAN REFLECTIONS

Religion in Taiwan

The traditional religions practised in Taiwan are Buddhism, Taoism, and folk religions. Apart from a small number of purely Buddhist temples, most of the island's traditional places of worship combine all three traditions.

The gods and goddesses revered by most Taiwanese are Chinese in origin, although a few are entirely local. They are deified persons who actually lived in the past and made important contributions to society.

Christians are a small minority, yet Christians played a leading role in the 20th-century history of China and Taiwan. Both Sun Yat-sen and Chiang Kai-shek became Christians in early adulthood, and Lee Teng-hui, Taiwan's first native-born president, was also a Christian.

However, less than 10 % of the population in Taiwan is Protestant or Catholic today. The single most influential denomination is the Presbyterian Church, which entered Taiwan in the 1860s. The Episcopal Diocese of Taiwan (台灣聖公會) is the Anglican diocese in Taiwan and a member diocese of The Episcopal Church of the United States. It was established in 1954, five years after Chinese Episcopalians fled from mainland China to Taiwan following the Chinese Communist Revolution in 1949. In 2016 the Diocese of Taiwan included 1,225 members.

On entering the building, the first thing you notice is a bright painting of a Christmas angel on the wall to your right. The angel was painted by the youth of the church. It was the church's youth leaders who addressed us and guided us around the church. This is a dynamic church, growing fast. The young people are proud of their church and active in inviting their friends to their weekday meetings and, when they are ready, to the Sunday services.

Our guides explain that one of the goals of the church is to be able to have a regular-sized church. I'm sure they will accomplish this goal soon.



Adam Mok

Church of the Good Shepherd

On our second day, we visited Good Shepherd Church in Taipei and attended the Holy Eucharist with the local parishioners there, celebrated by the vicar, Fr Keith Lee. It was wonderful to worship God in such a lovely local parish.

The church building is designed and built as a structure of traditional Chinese quadrangle dwellings, which comprise the main hall, two wing-rooms on both sides, and a pleasant courtyard. The main hall is shaped like a Confucian temple, inside of which all the furnishings and ornaments are in Chinese style. Congregations are seated closer to the sanctuary than in a western church, so that the church setting makes each participant feel at home. We shared our family story by reading the scripture, we listened to the family teaching during the homily, we prayed for the family members during the intercession, and most importantly, we shared a sacred family dinner during the holy communion. The visit was a wonderful experience.

This is the church where Dean Matthias spent his childhood when his father was the Vicar.

During our visit, the Dean met his old Sunday School teacher, who assured us that he was a good boy then!



*The Very Revd
Dean Matthias*

St John's University and Advent Church, Danshui

Education is one of the key ministries carried out by the Episcopal Church in Taiwan. Many parishes run kindergartens. The church also runs St John's University in Danshui, a polytechnic tertiary institution which is a continuation of the former St John's University in Shanghai. For me, it was a trip full of nostalgia as this was where I spent four years of my childhood when my father served as the vice-president.

The university offers engineering, business, and hospitality programmes. On campus, the iconic chapel, Advent Church, provides a spiritual support for both the students and the local residents. At the entrance, an immersion baptismal font with water cascading awaits all visitors. High above the altar was a 30-foot tall artistic rendering of Jacob's ladder reaching up to heaven, with a beautiful stained glass ceiling manifesting the celestial glories. The marble altar displays a pair of hands making an offering, and stands on top of the tomb of a former bishop. Over the years, many students have come to faith through the University chapel. In fact, up to half of the clergy in Taiwan diocese became Christian through their study at St John's University. What a wonderful witness that is! Two years ago, Advent Church raised funds and built a pastoral centre, providing a welcoming space for fellowship, nurturing and community events, which has proven to be another successful ministry for outreach and evangelism.



*The Revd
Hugh Phillipson*

Jack Edwards

On the third day of our visit, we travelled north to the coastal mountainous district of the island. While we were there, we visited a memorial garden on the site of a former World War 2 prisoner-of-war camp for captured Allied soldiers. These prisoners were forced to work in the nearby copper mines. This required them to walk up and down the mountains and then deep into the mines. The total climb was equivalent to climbing the Eiffel Tower every day. There, in extreme heat, they tried to meet tough daily production quotas of copper ore. If they failed, they were cruelly beaten and starved. The majority of prisoners died under these appalling conditions. But one survivor was Jack Edwards, a Welshman from Cardiff. In Hong Kong after the war, he became a well-known campaigner for the rights of ex-servicemen and their widows. I knew him well from his days when we both sang in the Welsh Male Voice Choir. At the Memorial Garden marble wall we found his full name, Sgt. James Edwards (Royal Signals Regiment), and also a photograph of him in the nearby museum. Jack's greatest triumph in his campaign against the British Government was the award of pensions to Chinese veterans and their widows in Hong Kong and the grant of British passports to survivors, wives and widows prior to 1997. He died in 2006.



*The Revd
Dwight Dela Torre*

Moving Story

One of the most meaningful and sobering moments in our visit to Taiwan was the visit to the Kinkaseki Prisoner of War Memorial Camp. Initially I had my misgivings about still sticking to that part of our itinerary. It was raining. It was cold.

But my reaction later on changed. The Kinkaseki POW Camp, at its peak capacity, held more than 1,000 allied soldiers. At the site now, only a small portion of a wall remains. All the rest is a simple garden but evoking respect for the history of the place.

On the black granite memorial wall were the names of those who were interred there. One of the names etched was that of James Edwards whom Fr Hugh knew. James Edwards

or Jack as he was popularly known, was once a member of the choir of St. John's Cathedral, and, I found out later on, campaigned for the right of the widows and children of Hong Kong soldiers to be granted British passports prior to the handover of Hong Kong to China in 1997. At the gold mine museum nearby -- the mines were worked on by the POW's -- a picture and the name of James Edwards is also there.

It was a sobering experience absorbing the history of the place. Under our umbrellas, we gathered for prayer in the open memorial for those who perished in the camp, for James Edwards, and for world peace -- and that was powerful.



*The Revd
Will Newman*

Swords into ploughshares, artillery shells into crosses

On our final day in Taiwan we met with Bishop David Lai. As well as treating us to several different kinds of Chinese tea, and explaining to us his theology of tea, Bishop Lai also told us the story of the Kinmen Crosses, and how he had a vision of turning weapons of war into symbols of peace. In 1958 in the Second Taiwan Straits Crisis, the Taiwanese island of Kinmen (Jinmen), (which lies close to the mainland) came under daily artillery attack from the PLA. Thousands of artillery shells rained down on the small island, but not all of them exploded. Bishop Lai told how he persuaded a manufacturer on Kinmen to cut the metal casings of the dud shells to form the shape of a cross, and he showed us an example of the Kinmen Cross. It was a moving and beautiful illustration of Isaiah's prophecy of the nations beating swords into ploughshares (Isaiah 2.4).



Ruth Phillipson

An unexpected question

An unexpected question came my way from a Taiwanese clergy person, "What is the attitude of St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong to homosexuality?" In fact it wasn't a difficult

question to answer because I simply reiterated the Cathedral statement that we are an open and inclusive church, welcoming all.

The question was then applied to the clergy, to which their response was the same as mine.

I was initially stunned by the frankness but my responses came easily and naturally because they reflect my own views.



*The Revd
Desmond Cox*

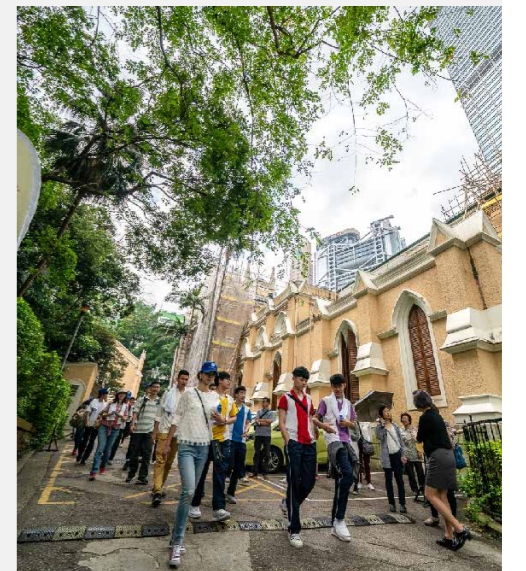
Church Partnership Visit to Taiwan

A church partnership visit to any parish or diocese in the Anglican Communion is not only a great privilege but also a wonderful educational and spiritual experience, as clergy and parishioners exchange views, attitudes, and liturgical traditions. On our recent partnership visit to Taiwan, we visited St John's Cathedral and The Church of the Good Shepherd in Taipei. Apart from exchanging views and experiences, this was a special time for all of us, as both the Dean, the Very Reverend Philip Lin, and the Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, The Reverend Lee, had done their post-graduate liturgical studies at Ming Hua Theological College and served part of their time at St John's Cathedral and other parishes in the province.

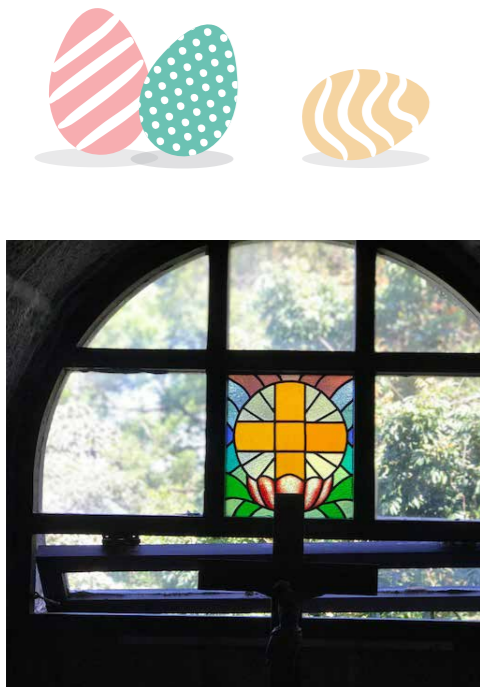
We are never too old to have new experiences, so it was good to worship with our hosts and to experience their hospitality and care, not only on-site but also when we spent a half day with them and the Bishop. We heard about their histories and their various ministries, of how the church lives its life in its own culture, and what they had learned when here in Hong Kong. A visit like this makes us realise we are part of the one global family of the Anglican Communion. Although we are all diverse in character and nature, we all have a bond in unity, and we also share each other's joys and burdens.

MICHAELMAS FAIR WALKATHON 2018

PHOTOS BY / CONRAD YU, OLDDOG,
BILLY LEUNG & PATRICK FUNG



PALM SUNDAY & EASTER



PHOTOS BY / STAFF REPORTER, ECHO



LENT RETREAT



FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP CHOR IN EMMANUEL

TEXT BY / MARCELA COLLINS
PHOTO BY / FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP CHOR

It was a very beautiful and sunny Sunday on the 4th February 2018; when the Filipino Fellowship Choir went to Bethanie Chapel in Pokfulam for fellowship with the congregation at that serene place. This old chapel reminds me of the commitment of early Christians who worshipped in this simple chapel, then full of historical icons. There was a warm welcome from Fr Robert Martin.

Under the leadership of our young choirmaster, Felix Yeung, armed with our song sheets (and because it is a very special occasion for us), we wore our gating, our traditional Igorot attire. Felix is such an inspiration to us because he taught us how to sing in our own dialect properly, as well as on the right notes! The great elation to everyone's heart is; he is learning Kankanaey - our Igorot language. 'Iyaman ken Apo Dios' (thanks be to God). Of course he taught us how to sing Cantonese songs. This young man is so versatile.

The first song that we sang was Ali Kayo (in English as 'all of you come'). It is a very appropriate song for the beginning of the Eucharist, as everybody is invited to come into the house of the Lord and worship



him in spirit, with all our heart, our mind and our strength. The congregation were encouraged to sing with us. I do believe at that moment the angels in heaven also sang with us.

The congregation joined us gladly when we sang the post-communion hymn in Cantonese, '求引領我心' (Lord, lead my heart) and there was a great blessing to all of the people present during the service. The sermon from Fr Robert Martin gave us hope to learn another language.

During the distribution of holy communion, the Filipino Fellowship Choir sang O Chios ay missag-en (which translates as 'God is near us' or 'God is with us'). After the Eucharist, we were treated to sumptuous

pastries, cakes and of course coffee and tea. We also had opportunities to meet members of the Emmanuel Church.

There were still blessings to come because when we got back to the Cathedral, Mrs June Li prepared lunch for us! It was really a double blessing.

The Filipino Fellowship Choir practices every Sunday after lunch. If you think you are able to come and join us, you are more than welcome. The criteria are that you have to be committed to the practices and also that we pray together. Come and experience joyful singing under Felix. You don't need to be able to read music, but be able to sing a tune. We are looking forward to other invitations in the future.

SACRED SILENCE

TEXT BY/ ADAM MOK
PHOTO BY/ ARON YUEN

'Silence' seems to be a strange word to the modern world. Living in such a busy city, silence is also a luxury to modern people. We get used to being surrounded by all kinds of voices; talking, music, phone alarms, and even meaningless noises. To take ourselves away from the noisy world into a place which is completely silent sounds like a crazy idea. However, sometimes we can't find God unless we stay silent. Maintaining silence makes us concentrate on our inner world and the relation with God. That's why the Gospel tells us, 'Blessed are those who are pure in heart, for they shall see God.'

The Youth Fellowship arranged a Lenten retreat on March 16-18. The retreat was located at the Abbey of Our Lady of Joy, Lantau, which is the monastery of the Trappist monks. The life in the Abbey is typically monastic. There are seven regular prayers during the day starting from 3:30 in the morning. The daily routines of the monks are basically structured by the



prayers. Besides the divine offices of prayer, the brothers practice all kinds of labour such as farming, cooking, and, welcoming guests like us.

There were seven people in the retreat group. We didn't arrange too many activities to fill up our schedule. Instead, we kept plenty of silent time for each attendee. We joined most of the brothers' regular prayers, primarily chanting the psalms with plain songs. We also enjoyed walking alone in the wilderness full of the beauty of God's creation. We had simple food without chatting to each other, but appreciating

what we ate and those had offered it to us. We also read spiritual books for inner reflection without any interruptions. The only joint event was the meditation of the Stations. On the island, there is a lovely Via Dolorosa marked by 14 stations of Jesus's suffering. It is really a wonderful experience to share Christ's passion for the Lenten season.

All of us can tell you that through this silent retreat, we had come closer to our Creator and He to us. We invite you to join us next time.

FOUR Xs

TEXT BY/ FR MARK ROGERS

What is the meaning of the cross of Christ? Here are four ways to think about it, via four common uses of an X.



The cross is a big 'X' meaning 'No'.

When a teacher marks an assignment, she or he may write a big X across something that is wrong, perhaps in red ink. I had many red Xs when I was at school.

Similarly, on the cross God is saying 'No' to what is wrong with our world, and our attitudes and behaviour. In particular, God is saying 'No' to all violence. Jesus was executed because he opposed the domination of the vulnerable by the mighty and powerful of his day. The cross is God's 'No' to the taking advantage of others by those with power and privilege, it says 'No', to the exploitation of others by the mighty, and 'No' to the systems and institutions that aid and perpetuate this abuse, and the resulting pain and hurt among the poor and marginalised.

The cross is a kiss.

At Christmas time, when I was a young boy, I had to write my thank you letters to my distant aunts and uncles. I didn't like this chore but it wasn't difficult. The short note usually went something like this:

Dear Aunty Audrey and Uncle Jim,
Thank you for your Christmas card and gift.
I hope you are well.
Love,
Mark
XXXX

The Xs were kisses.

The cross is God's kiss, God's mark of love and affection.

God changes everything for the better through love. God puts love into our hearts, inspiring us to be more compassionate and understanding.

The cross is a significant place.

In fiction, pirates mark the location of hidden treasure with a big X on their pirate map. The X says, "Here is the treasure!".

The cross also is a marking place saying "Here is the treasure!". We can come to the cross of Christ with expectation that life can be changed for the better.

There is a hymn which asks us to 'Survey the wond'rous cross'. The hymn invites us to expect insight, or guidance, which is life-changing.

What do you find at the cross of Christ? An unfair death of an innocent; a painful end? The final words of Jesus reflect a sense of abandonment, a magnanimous forgiveness of his oppressors, a reconciliation with others and God, and an expression of the fulfilment of his life's purpose.

In the novel, 'Pilgrim's Progress' by John Bunyan, the man Pilgrim finds the cross a relief from his burden of sin. The story is allegorical, Pilgrim carries his sin on his back like a heavy sack that weighs him down so he can barely walk. At the cross, the sack falls away and he is set free. He walks tall and proud, with a new found dignity.

St Paul wrote that for many the cross of Christ is folly and madness, but to those who believe, it is the power of God. That power changes everything for the better.

The cross is a road junction.

At the cross, we can choose a new direction in life. The fourth X is, therefore, a crossroads or junction.

We can choose to turn away from domination, having found a significant place where we can change our lives and become more compassionate, transforming the world for the better.

HIGHLIGHTS: MFMW SERVICE REPORT 2017

TEXT BY / STAFF REPORTER

The Service Report 2017 released by the Mission For Migrant Workers (MFMW) revealed that labour-related problems, grave working and living conditions, and agency malpractices remained as the most widespread concerns of foreign domestic workers (FDWs), who sought services and information from the MFMW last year.

Meanwhile, recovery of monetary claims by FDWs notably increased by HK\$3.6 million in 2017, up 17 percent from 2016.

Highlights of the Service Report 2017:

1. Labour problems

A little over half (52%) of the FDWs who sought the help of the MFMW reported labour issues, ranging from violations of provisions of the employment contract, premature termination of the contract, and failing to pay wages and benefits stipulated by the Employment Ordinance.

2. Grave working and living condition

The MFMW also reported that two out of every five of their clients do not have their own private room and have

alternative sleeping arrangements, showing that suitable accommodation is still a grave concern.

Additionally, the report showed that 9 out of every 10 clients experience long working hours and insufficient rest, with 63 percent reportedly working 11 to 16 hours a day, while 34 percent worked more than 16 hours. One-third of FDWs are made to work even before they take their day-off, while a quarter of them (25%) complain about insufficient food provision.

3. Malpractices of recruitment agencies

Two out of every five clients reported they are victims of illegal recruitment activities by erring agencies. Illegal recruitment refers to malpractices by agencies that violate recruitment agency rules in Hong Kong and in their countries of origin.

The most extensive malpractices, according to the report, are the illegal collection of fees, overcharging and fraudulent loans that oftentimes result in debt bondage of migrants.

While Hong Kong's law puts a cap of 10%

of the first month's wage for recruitment charges, the actual amount collected is much higher, under the guise of registration or training fees. Fraudulent loans are forced upon FDWs that sometimes take five to seven months for them to repay.

About half (49%) of FDWs paid \$5,001 to \$10,000 to agencies, while 15 percent of them paid more than \$15,000.

4. Promoting harmony, educating employers

'Happy Homes', a new project launched in September 2017, promoted stories of harmonious relations between employers and FDWs that the MFMW hoped could be emulated by others. Ten stories were collected and featured in the MFMW's Facebook page from October to December 2017.

Meanwhile, 32 households were given recognition as "Happy Homes", and 22 families in total had attended two separate public recognition days. The Employer Awareness Programme saw about 20 employers seeking information to guide them in their relationships with their domestic workers.

HELP ATTENDS STUDENT ASSEMBLY AT SECONDARY SCHOOL

TEXT & PHOTO BY / HELP

Staff members of HELP for Domestic Workers (HELP) were invited to Fanling Rhenish Church Secondary School to participate in the human library assembly on 6 March 2018, based on the book entitled 'Migrant Domestic Helpers: Strangers at Home'. The aim of the assembly was to help students understand more about the situations and struggles of domestic workers in Hong Kong.

Case Manager Raquel Amador and Student Education Coordinator Michelle Augustine were delighted to attend.



Raquel gave a presentation on HELP and explained what HELP does, which was then followed by a lively discussion. The students were very engaged and asked

some excellent questions. This was a great opportunity for them to talk face to face with members of HELP and gain an insight into their work.

POSSIBLE CHANGE IN MANDATE OF HIV EDUCATION CENTRE TOWARDS LIFE ENRICHMENT

TEXT BY / STAFF REPORTER

In January 2018, the Cathedral Council authorised a special task force to look into a Life Enrichment Centre. The provisional plan is that the HIV Education Centre may transform into the Life Enrichment Centre under the supervision and guidance of the HKSCH Welfare Council.

Following the recommendations of the Outreach Review adopted two years ago, the Council has approved launching a new outreach initiative around 'Life Enrichment' with an emphasis on nurturing the youth of Hong Kong. A task force led by Julianne Doe has been established to bring this to fruition. This programme will work closely with the HKSCH Welfare Council and some of the Anglican schools.

The HIV Education Centre is striving to offer more programmes with wider life education for youth. It will officially reposition itself to the Life Enrichment Ministry armed with a broadened mandate, in order to address the current needs in Hong Kong.

'We would like to thank everyone for your friendship and kind assistance. As the Centre develops to be a Life Enrichment Centre, we would be grateful for your prayers and support. Thank you very much,' said Elijah Fung, Manager of the HIV Education Centre.

SHORT FILM CONTEST AWARD CEREMONY TO BE HELD

Sponsored by the St John's Cathedral Endowment Fund (2004) and Hop Yuen Charitable Foundation Fund, the 'Stand up for HIV zero discrimination' Short Film Contest was launched in both Macau and Hong Kong last year. Around 160 teenagers and young adults from Hong Kong & Macau enrolled in the contest. Submissions of their short films were received in April 2018.

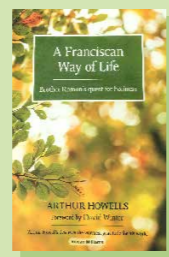
The Short Film Contest Award Presentation Ceremony will be held on 7 July 2018 (Saturday) from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm, at 3/F South Tower, Function Rooms, The Salisbury, YMCA of Hong Kong.



R.S.V.P. by email: manager@sjhivctr.com
(on or before 15 June 2018)

WHAT ARE WE READING?

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



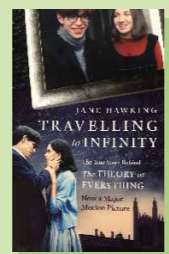
A Franciscan Way of Life: Brother Ramon's quest for holiness

Be inspired by one man's unflinching faith in God. This is the first biography of Brother Ramon, written by his friend Arthur Howells, with warmth and spiritual insight. It tells of his life's pilgrimage, his quest for holiness as a Franciscan friar, his inner voyage of discovery and transformation, his love of God, and his influence on others. The selection from his writings which concludes the book illustrates his spiritual journey.

Brother Ramon, who died in 2000, was a much-loved writer and sought-after teacher, guide and priest, always pointing others to Christ. He was a man who delighted in life and people, and who chose solitude to practice the presence of God.

Publisher: The Bible Reading Fellowship

Author: Arthur Howells



Travelling to Infinity

In a compelling memoir Professor Stephen Hawking's first wife, Jane Hawking, relates the inside story of their extraordinary marriage.

As Stephen's academic renown soared, his body was collapsing under the assaults of motor neurone disease, and Jane's candid account of trying to balance his 24-hour care with the needs of their growing family will be inspirational to anyone dealing with family illness. The inner-strength of the author and the self-evident character and achievements of her husband make for an incredible tale that is always presented with unflinching honesty. The author's candour is no less evident when the marriage finally ends in a high-profile meltdown, with Stephen leaving Jane for one of his nurses, while Jane goes on to marry an old family friend.

In this exceptionally open, moving and often funny memoir, Jane confronts not only the acutely complicated and painful dilemmas of her first marriage, but also the fault lines exposed in a relationship by the pervasive effects of fame and wealth. The result is a book about optimism, love and change that will resonate with readers everywhere.

Publisher: Alma Books Ltd

Author: Jane Hawking

THE END OF THE BEGINNING

TEXT & PHOTO BY / DR MARK L GANDOLFI



I trust some of you by now have seen the movie Darkest Hour, starring Gary Oldman, about Winston Churchill and his quandary in World War II after he replaced Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain. Many scenes and dialogue made a deep impression upon me, subsequently encouraging me to read up on Winston Churchill and his life story. Among many fascinating quotes and stories I came across about Winston Churchill was:

'This isn't the end. This isn't even the beginning of the end. However, this is the end of the beginning.'

Over the past 11 years, I have been blessed and honoured to have served as the Executive Director and Clinical Psychologist for St. John's Cathedral Counselling Service. The Counselling Service has over the past 11 years become known in the community as a professional, caring, safe and affordable well-being centre for our church communities and Hong Kong residents and visitors. The journey from 2007 saw our outreach ministry become closely involved with on-campus school counselling, crisis management services at schools and businesses when human tragedy struck. It became a preferred internship – a training site for counseling and psychology students, and a counselling centre that gave witness to our clients of a loving Cathedral that cared and opened our arms for comfort, support and growth. That beginning and the sustainment of our reputation over the years could not have been made possible without the support and prayers of our beloved Dean and Cathedral staff, trustees, the council, and

the counsellors and staff at the Counselling Service itself. I shall forever remain deeply moved by that ongoing support that began in 2007.

Concurrent with my tenure at the Counselling Service was the decline of the negative stigma of mental health services and the international growth in funding and research on the human brain and its role in our well-being. I wonder what is the next chapter for mental health. For example, we now understand more deeply the role stress plays in the instigation of over 70% of physical diseases and psychological disorders. Proper diet, exercise, a good night's sleep, having our basic needs met, being gainfully employed and staying connected with others are sometimes "just what the doctor ordered" to reduce our unhealthy stress. But some, if not many, of these elements were not available, or if they were, the stress remained, contributing to the 23% increase in client services each year to our care. We have done well in responding to the treatment of stress, but the prevention aspect of well-being was always tugging at my thoughts late at night. What more can we do?

That question has been answered and it is with deep sadness but also anticipatory joy that I begin a new chapter in well-being. In the late fall I will be working with a team of healthcare professionals to establish a well-being centre in Thailand that focuses on prevention as well as treatment for stress, substance abuse, depression, PTSD and anxiety, with advanced treatment modalities of microbiome science (probiotics) and intravenous laser therapy that is approved for medical care in the U.S., Europe and Thailand (<http://www.dr-weber-laser-clinic.com/en/our-therapies/intravenous-laser-therapy/>). This new chapter in my life is also a wonderful new chapter and beginning for the Counselling Service to collaborate with centres like mine in Thailand and others to take a more preventative role in mental health and stress for Hong Kong.

I trust Hong Kong will continue to embrace our outreach ministry as a place of optimism and compassion, that our counsellors will remain resilient in their calling and that our loving Cathedral and God will bless the Counselling Service every morning. As Hermann Hesse once said, 'there is a miracle in every new beginning,' and I shall continue to pray for our Counselling Service that every new day, even though my tenure has come to an end, will be a prosperous, joyful and blessed beginning. Thank you for being part of my journey and reading my columns. It has been an absolute joy sharing with all of you what positive psychology and counselling can do for our well-being. It's never too late to start a new journey with stress management!

Let's Get Moving...

PHOTOS BY / STAFF REPORTER

LEISURE SPORTS & HEALTH CARNIVAL



SPRING CHURCH CLEANING



CATHEDRAL NEWS



PROCEEDS OF FUNDRAISING CONCERT TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PRISONERS

Seeing the growing need for the Prison Ministry Scholarship Fund, St John's Cathedral hosted a fundraising concert last autumn and raised over \$600,000 for the fund. This year in March, Dean Matthias, Fr Will Newman, Viola Ip, and volunteers presented a cheque for \$600,000, proceeds of the fundraising concert, to the Commissioner of the Correctional Services to

fund scholarships for prisoners who wish to further their study. The Cathedral expressed its heartfelt thanks to the organising committee of the concert. Committee members included Mrs Christine Chan, Mrs Betty Cheng, Mr Ronald Yuen and Cathedral staff.

(Photo by CSD)

CONGRATULATIONS TO BISHOP JOHN ROUNDHILL

Congratulations to the Very Revd John Roundhill, Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, Bendigo, who was consecrated bishop at St John's Cathedral in Brisbane on 14th April. Fr John served at St John's Cathedral as a chaplain, and later on as Sub-Dean. Dean Matthias was invited to be one of the co-presenters at the Consecration Service and represented the church of Hong Kong.

(From left to right) Herbert Huey, Bishop John Roundhill, Dean Matthias, and Estella Huey



We offer our congratulations to the following parishioners of the Cathedral who graduated from the Ming Hua Theological College this year. Dean Matthias was the preacher in the graduation ceremony.

- Master of Theology:** Cheung Ting Kin
- Master of Divinity:** Lau Wai Lun
- Certificate of Foundational Liturgical Studies:** Chui Ka Lai, Tong Wai Lun, Wong Kwong Chau Andrew
- Certificate of Intermediate Liturgical Studies:** Chui Ka Lai, Tong Wai Lun
- Certificate of Introduction of Ignatian Spirituality:** Chan Mei Mui Simmy, Joanna Wong, Mak Yuen Yee Lois, Wong Kwong Chau Andrew, Yeung Kwok Choi Birdy
- The Ven Cheung Siu Kwai Education Fund for Academic Achievement Award:** Andrea Kan



Forthcoming Services at St John's & Daughter Churches

JUNE - AUGUST 2018



St John's Cathedral

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



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

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

Every Sunday

10.15AM Sung Eucharist



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

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

Every Sunday

9.30AM Sung Eucharist



Discovery Bay Church
SKH Wei Lun Primary School, Lautau

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

Every Sunday

10.00AM Sung Eucharist

3rd June (Sunday):
Corpus Christi

11.45AM Baptism & First Communion (Children)

10th June (Sunday):

9.00AM Worship For All
'Who are my brothers and sisters?'

29th June (Friday)
SS. Peter & Paul

7.30PM Sung Eucharist

8th July (Sunday): Sea Sunday

9.00AM Worship For All

22nd July (Sunday)

9.00AM Sung Eucharist (RTHK broadcast)

6th August (Monday)
The Transfiguration of Our Lord

7.30PM Sung Eucharist

15th August (Wednesday)
The Blessed Virgin Mary

7.30PM Sung Eucharist

said within themselves, This man blasphemeth.
4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

5 For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?

6 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

7 And he arose, and departed to his house.

20 * 7 And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment:
21 For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.

22 But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

23 * 7 And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the

CHAPTER 10.

1 Christ sendeth out his twelve apostles, enabling them with power to do miracles, to give them their charge, to teach them, to comfort them against persecutions, and to promise a blessing to those that receive them.

AND when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, James the son of Zebedee,

speake: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

21 And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death.

22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

23 But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for in this city, saith the Lord, shall not

Mat. 10: 1-42.
Lk. 9: 1-17.
Lk. 10: 1-17.
Lk. 11: 1-17.
Lk. 12: 1-17.
Lk. 13: 1-17.
Lk. 14: 1-17.
Lk. 15: 1-17.
Lk. 16: 1-17.
Lk. 17: 1-17.

St John's Cathedral

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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 Jenny Wong Nam

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ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

2018



TEXT BY / ANDREW ASHLEY PHOTO BY / STAFF REPORTER

There were two overarching themes at this year's Annual Church Meeting: an inspiring sense of optimism and the incredible amount of activity at St John's and its daughter churches. Dean Matthias summed it up when he said, 'I'm so proud to be the dean of this cathedral when I tell people about all that we're doing here.'

The numbers are very positive. Average Sunday attendance is up, stewardship giving is up and the accounts show a substantial surplus, enabling St John's to continue doing God's work.

But the church is about far more than statistics. As well as covering St John's many ministries and events, the Dean's report highlighted this year's Deepening Our Faith programme, which will prepare us for our 170th anniversary in 2019. Work is already underway on a series of exciting events, including a St John's Carnival to enhance our visibility in the heart of Hong Kong, a Public Lecture by a distinguished theologian and a Thanksgiving Service followed by a banquet.

More good news, too late to be printed in the report, was announced at the meeting. The Revd Frankie Lee, currently a minor canon of St George's Chapel in the grounds of Windsor Castle,

will return to Hong Kong as a cathedral chaplain in December this year. Felix Yeung will be Director of Music for the Lambeth Conference in 2020, an impressive recognition of the music ministry at St John's.

Ron Lye, chairman of the Fabric & Furnishing Committee, and Fr Robert gave a fascinating account of the project to install stained glass in the clerestory windows, which has just been approved by the Church Council after some "spirited discussion". Progetto Arte Poli, the renowned Italian company, will design and install the glass, producing a brilliant effect without changing the original architecture or reducing the light streaming into the cathedral.

In one hour, the ACM can only provide a snapshot of everything that happens at St John's. But it's all there – worship, ministry, music, outreach, education, stewardship and the cathedral building itself. Full details of the many and various activities at St John's can be found in the Annual Report, in the printed version or online. As Dean Matthias said in encouraging everyone to read the report, 'It's fascinating – and not just when you can't sleep!'

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