

In Touch

The Cathedral Magazine - Spring Edition 2023



**Lighten
Our
Darkness**

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL HONG KONG

Diocese of HK Island Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

香 港 聖 公 會 聖 約 翰 座 堂

In Touch

ISSUE 033

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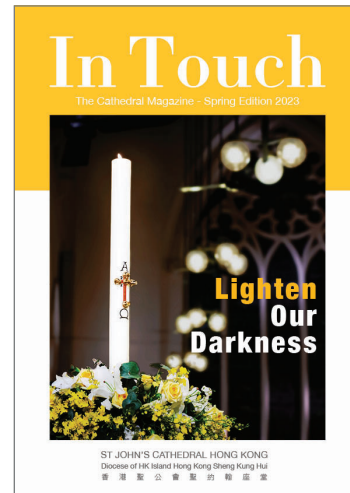
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Dean's Message

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Blessings to you.

Life began to return to normal last December after the Hong Kong SAR government significantly relaxed COVID restrictions. We no longer need to scan our LeaveHomeSafe app and Vaccine Passes and we can eat and drink on the Cathedral premises. These details might seem rather ordinary, but COVID restrictions have disrupted our lives for almost three years.

We are truly thankful to God for such changes.

The theme for the Cathedral in 2023 is 'Lighten Our Darkness', and I suppose the changes that started at the end of last year have added light to this annual theme. We have been through different times of darkness from 2019 to 2022, and so now it is an excellent time to pray using the Collect written by Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury in the sixteenth century, that shows the light of God to shine through our darkness. More so, we can spread the light from God throughout our communities.

Returning to normal, it is great to see crowds gathering on the Cathedral grounds once more and know that activities such as the Diocesan Thanksgiving and Dedication Service, 'Count Your Blessings' Dumpling Making Workshop, Provincial Education Day Evensong, Michaelmas Fair Walkathon 2023 were held successfully. Not only that, our Cathedral Welcomers have started serving tea or coffee in Li Hall after Sunday services. These are all essential signals that Cathedral life has been revitalised.

Now that the borders with mainland China have reopened and tourists from around the world are again coming to Hong Kong, we look forward to meeting more friends at our Cathedral. Christians are always ready for God's mission, and I hope our Cathedral community will see more new members join our services in English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Tagalog.

As St Paul writes, *'Proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable.'* (2 Timothy 4.2)

May God be with us as we slowly return to normal.

Sincerely yours,
Dean KK



各位主內弟兄姊妹：

願主祝福大家！

去年十二月香港特區政府大幅放寬防疫限制後，市民的生活開始復常。我們毋須再使用「安心出行」程式及疫苗通行證之同時，亦可以在座堂內飲食。這些細節看似尋常不過，然而也反映出防疫限制嚴重影響了我們的生活接近三年之久。

感謝上帝為我們帶來這些改變。

座堂於 2023 年將教會主題定為「照耀我們的黑暗」(Lighten Our Darkness)。去年底的這些轉變更加彰顯這個主題的意義。2019 至 2022 年間，我們經歷了不同的黑暗時期，現在正好讓我們以十六世紀坎特伯里大主教克藍瑪大主教的祝文祈禱，以示上帝恩光照亮我們的黑暗；並且，我們可以在所屬群體當中散發從上帝而來的光芒。

復常的過程中，我們喜見大家在座堂共聚，一起參與崇拜和各項活動，其中包括教區新年感恩及委身崇拜、「幸福餃子」工作坊、教省教育日晚禱崇拜，以及座堂賣物會步行籌款等。此外，座堂司事 (Welcomers) 亦已重新開始於主日崇拜後以茶點招待教友。這些都顯示出座堂生活正逐漸復興起來。

隨着與內地邊境的重開，來自世界各地的旅客將再次來到香港，我們也預期在座堂見到更多的朋友。基督徒時刻裝備自己，以實踐上帝的使命；盼望有更多的人前來座堂參與我們的英語、粵語、普通話及菲律賓語崇拜。

如聖保羅說：「務要傳道；無論得時不得時總要專心。」（提摩太後書 4 章 2 節）在我們逐步走上復常之路時，願上帝時刻與我們同在。

主佑！

座堂主任牧師
陳國強謹啟

Lighten Our Darkness

‘Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.’

These lines, taken from the Book of Common Prayer, have brought solace to Christians during times of anxiety for over 450 years, and they now provide a key message for the St John’s community and Hong Kong for 2023.

Late last year the Very Revd Kwok-keung Chan (the Dean) and his team were scratching their heads trying to come up with a theme for 2023. The plan was to hit upon a key message that would encompass all the activities held at St John’s and provide a central theological and spiritual direction.

‘We brainstormed various options but none quite worked. We thought of ideas like “Getting back to normal” and other similar ideas. But none were quite satisfactory,’ said the Dean.

Then Fr Robert suggested these lines from the Evening Prayer service.

‘We all agreed since the phrase “Lighten Our Darkness” reminds Christians that Grace is present despite the darkness and that the transformative power of Faith does not ebb away with the dying of the light of day,’ says the Dean.

His hope is that the theme will offer hope to those who have suffered during the recent challenges: the social unrest, concerns for Hong Kong, the COVID-19 pandemic, the closing and then opening up of borders, and worries about the climate and the global economy, to name but a few.

‘The difficulties we have all faced have been immense. Before the pandemic, we could not have believed that St John’s would ever close its doors or that the school summer holidays would be held in March and April!’ he adds.

The plan is to deploy the theme in sundry different ways, as an overarching message for large-scale events such as the Lenten Retreat in early March, the Council’s Away Day in June, the Blessing Hong Kong service in July, the Dedication Festival in September celebrating the 174th Anniversary of St John’s Cathedral, the Count Your Blessings service in October, and the Thanksgiving Weekend later in the year.

Other ideas include a laminated bookmark with a photo of light shining on the Paschal Candle, an initiative that might also help with stewardship and donations, as well as a Sermon Series at Evensong from February to June at which specially invited guests will speak on this theme.

One such hope is that Fr Laurence Freeman, Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation, might be able to give a talk based around the theme (see p.5 for the recap).

‘We will let all the heads of fellowships, groups and departments know about and help to promote this theme throughout 2023, not just for our own St John’s community but also the wider Hong Kong public,’ says the Dean.

The idea is to reach out to different communities, schools, government officials and heads of social service units and let them know about our message.

‘Every little step we take adds to lightening our darkness,’ the Dean says.

Locating the nature of God through meditation

A single bell rang out as the lights in St John’s Cathedral dimmed. For the next few minutes, the only sounds were birds chirping in the gardens outside the Cathedral and distant chatter. Candles flickered in the darkness of the nave; the rest was silence.

The congregation had been invited by Fr Laurence Freeman, OSB, the speaker at a special Choral Evensong on 19th February, to join him in meditation.

‘Close your eyes, lightly, breath normally, allowing the gift of life to flow in and through us,’ he said, ‘and then we begin to repeat our word, *Maranatha*.’

This ancient word, with roots in Aramaic, the language Jesus would have spoken, is a mantra for Christian meditation that means something akin to ‘Come, Lord’. Its use in meditation is to still the mind and draw closer to God.

Fr Laurence, a Benedictine monk and the Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation, was guiding those present at Choral Evensong through a contemplative meditation practice whose roots stretch back to early Christian mystics. One such theologian was John Cassian, born about 330 years after the death of Jesus Christ and who was known as one of the Desert Fathers. The contemplative practice of these ascetics who lived in the Egyptian desert from about the 3rd century onwards formed the basis of monasticism within the Christian tradition.

One of the key messages that Fr Laurence wished to impact as the Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation is the ‘power of the small’. He stressed the difference between the notion of power and force, noting how force used to compel power can lead to violence and oppression. Power, from a Christian perspective, should be to hold power without force, by focusing on the small, and by looking inwards for spiritual strength.

He started his talk with the parable of the mustard seed from all three synoptic gospels, the shorter version being Luke 13. 18-19: ‘*[The kingdom of Heaven] is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and put in his own garden. It grew and became a large tree, and the birds of the sky lodged in its branches.*’ That is, if you have faith in the small, then God’s Glory can take root and grow.

By focusing on the small – through meditation, prayer, reflection and contemplation – Christians can overcome the ego, dispel vanity and overwhelm material distractions to locate something more authentic in themselves, the seed that will connect them with God. It is in the midst of meditative prayer, with a focus on repeating the mantra *Maranatha*, that Christians can locate the nature of God. ‘Small does not mean insignificant, but authentic,’ Fr Laurence said.

Fr Laurence, who had made St John’s the last stop on his week-long sojourn in Hong Kong, also referenced the book *The Cloud of Unknowing*, a work of Christian mysticism dating back to the 14th century that prompts the idea that by surrendering your ego and venturing into ‘unknowing’, you may begin to glimpse the nature of God.

By pondering something as small as a grain of mustard seed, we can say even to a mountain, that is, the mountain of one’s ego, to move, from here to there, and it will move, said Fr Laurence.

‘And then nothing will be impossible for you.’

 Michael Gibb

 Michael Luu / Evelyn Chan



Living into Lent

What does Lent mean to you? Will you do anything special to mark this church season? Or is it something you're aware of in the back of your mind, but easily forgotten after Ash Wednesday?

Lent is the season of 40 days leading up to Good Friday and Easter. It's a time of preparation. The gospels tell us that as a preparation for his public ministry in the little hillside towns and lakeside villages of Galilee, Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days. Away from family, work and the distractions of daily life in Nazareth, Jesus could focus his attention on God the Father. We can imagine Jesus seeking God through prayer and fasting, listening to hear God in the silence.

We cannot all take leave from our busy lives and daily work for 40 days. But each of us can make this a season of preparation, a time when we too resolve to study, pray, fast, and seek God.

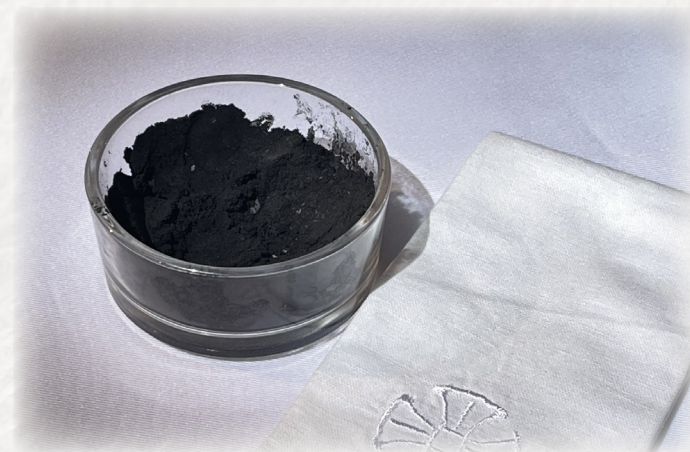
Preparing for what?

Jesus was preparing to go out and tell people by word and action the good news that God is with us and for us. If Lent is a season of preparation for us, what are we preparing for? Preparing to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ? That has meaning if death and resurrection are visible in our lives, if they are something we experience. Then how to prepare? Through awareness of our sin, and repentance, we rejoice at the death and resurrection of Christ, because his story of dying and rising is also our story.

Sackcloth and Ashes

Sackcloth is the most uncomfortable kind of thing you can imagine wearing, harsh and scratchy and itchy. Wearing sackcloth next to the skin one would never have a moment's peace; it would drive you crazy until you did something about it.

In several Old Testament stories people put on sackcloth as a sign of repentance. You don't have a moment's peace until you have dealt with the sin you have committed. Only then can you take off the sackcloth and blissfully put on your soft clean clothes again. Often wearing sackcloth is accompanied by sitting in ashes, metaphorically dying, before rising again through repentance into new life.



Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. We are not required to wear sackcloth and sit in ashes, but many of us will go to church to receive the sign of the cross in ash on our forehead, as a reminder of our mortality and a symbol of repentance. 'Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.' What do you do after that service? Do you keep the ash on your forehead for the day, or go directly to wash it off? In ancient times people disfigured their faces to show their grief, but that could easily become a public display calling attention to themselves rather than a genuine act of humility. Jesus warns against such empty piety in Matthew 6.16-18, a gospel reading you may hear on Ash Wednesday.



Fasting

Matthew and Luke say that Jesus fasted in the desert during those 40 days. Lent was a time when traditionally Christians would fast in imitation of Christ, abstaining from rich foods and luxury treats. Maybe you give up wine or chocolate for Lent. It's a small sacrifice, a symbolic act of penitence. But is this the kind of fasting that God requires of us?

Another Ash Wednesday bible reading you may hear is Isaiah 58.1-12.

People ask God, 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Through the prophet God replies, 'Look, you serve your own interests on your fast-day. You fast only to quarrel and fight... Such fasting will not make your voice heard on high. Is this the fast that I choose, to bow down your head, and lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a day acceptable to the Lord? 'Is not this the fast I choose: to loosen the bonds of injustice, and let the oppressed go free? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, to shelter the homeless poor, and clothe the naked?'

After reading that we may wonder whether the ashes on our forehead or giving up alcohol have any value at all beyond their symbolism. And that's the point. I wouldn't say don't do it, but if they are no more than symbols they are worthless. These things only acquire true meaning if they are a reminder to oneself of one's duty to God, accompanied by repentance, a change of heart, fasting from evil and instead, following a new way of life: living into Lent.

Seeking God: The Way of St Benedict

Why study as our Lent Book for 2023 a book about St Benedict and the Rule he wrote for monks in the 6th century AD? What does a Rule for monks and monasteries written 1500 years ago have to do with life in 21st century Hong Kong?

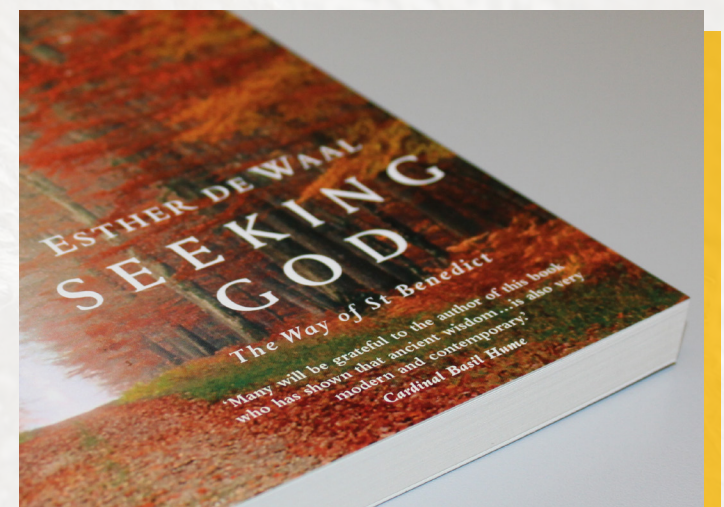
Esther de Waal wrote this book 30 years ago when her husband was Dean of Canterbury Cathedral, and she was a busy mother of teenage children as well as being hostess for innumerable guests from all over the world who came to the Cathedral and the Deanery.

In the midst of this stressful life she found in the Rule of St Benedict a way that leads closer to God.

The book is above all practical. Each area of life covered by the Rule – Listening and Stability, Change and Balance, the importance of Material things, how we relate to other People, how Authority is to be exercised, and, underpinning all, Prayer – has something to say to us in our daily lives. The instructions for the monks and the life of the monastery are interpreted for our own situations, making the Rule not something only for monks but for us all, if we are truly seeking God.

And what is Lent about, if it's not about seeking God?

 The Revd Will Newman



'Seeking God: The Way of St Benedict' is available from the Cathedral Bookstore.

Seniors' Christmas Party: Finding **HEART** at St John's Cathedral

What a joyful afternoon!

In partnership with the HKSCH Welfare Council, St John's Cathedral planned, prepared and hosted a special Christmas celebration for seniors from the Western District in the Li Hall on Saturday 10th December 2022.



Twenty seniors were invited via Social Workers from the Western District Elderly Community Centre.

Our parishioners Jeannie Chan, Maddy Foo and Caius Ng meticulously planned the afternoon in consultation with social workers JoJo Ng, Natalie Law, Twiggy Wong and Emily Lau.

Fifteen cheerful St John's volunteers brought joy and attentiveness, assisting with the activities and programme. The theme was finding HEART at St John's Cathedral.

At 2pm the seniors arrived by bus and were greeted by the volunteers. After a 'comfort' break the programme began.

The Very Revd Kwok-keung Chan, Dean of St John's Cathedral, welcomed the guests and wished them God's blessings in the holy season.

The first activity was a treasure hunt around and inside the Cathedral. In the photos you can see the participants pointing to and identifying cathedral objects and artifacts. After correctly finding each item or object the seniors received one letter from the word 'HEART'. The seniors had fun and were animated by the activity. The volunteers interspersed the story of St John's Cathedral

as they journeyed around the Cathedral. Volunteers and organisers were assigned one on one with the guests. Many selfies were taken inside the Cathedral near and around the altar, crib and Christmas tree.

After another short break the programme resumed with Christmas performances of dance and music from the Cathedral Sunday school children: a solo dance by Wong Sum Yin, a Liuguin recital and a poem recitation by Chan Lok Kwan, and group carol singing led by Cheung Tin Chi, concluding with everyone singing *Jingle Bells* and *We wish you a merry Christmas*.

A big thank you to Rita Chan for organising this memorable programme. The elderly guests were delighted by the participation of the children who later presented individually-made Christmas cards from the Sunday school children to each senior.

The guests sat at tables accompanied by their new church friends. The next activity was the creation of a collective Christmas card. Each person at the table drew or wrote on a huge card and then the card moved clockwise to the next table where once again drawings and greetings were added by each person. The result were six wonderfully bright and stunning cards in which every single person had taken part in making.

Nearing the end of our time together, Christmas gifts were distributed courtesy of St John's Cathedral: a \$100 voucher to buy something useful in the supermarket.

Lastly, everyone posed for a photo in front of the banner prepared by our partners in the HKSCH Welfare Council.

At 5pm the seniors left by bus, happy to have participated in a lively afternoon and to have made new friends.

This Christmas party lacked only one thing: food! At the time it was still not permitted to eat together. Nevertheless, on arrival at the community centre take out boxes were given to each guest with heartfelt wishes from St John's Cathedral for a blessed Christmas.

Thank you to the volunteers, organisers, donors and supporters who made this such a joyful and special afternoon.

 The Revd Mark Rogers



'Count your blessings' dumpling making workshop

The afternoon workshop took place in the Li Hall on Saturday 7th January 2023, gathering 60 participants.

'The Dean is not only good at preaching but also making good dumplings,' said Natalie Law, member of the Michaelmas Fair 2023 Committee and coordinator of the event. 'We are pleased to have brothers and sisters, clergy and staff of St John's joining us. It's an opportune time, at the beginning of the year, for us to come together for some fun.'

In Chinese culture, the dumpling – as a symbol of fortune – is one of the traditional dishes shared at family meals during the Chinese New Year. Young and senior participants at the workshop learned to make their own dumplings whilst having fun and experiencing the fellowship of our St John's family. 'It's an opportunity for family and friends to bond, to share love and create unforgettable memories together,' Natalie added.

For their attendance, participating families not only got to take their own hand-made dumplings home, but also received a dumpling-making gift set.

 Michael Luu



Recent Highlights from the Life Enrichment Centre

Light up! for social inclusion

A full-house Cathedral filled with music and singing performed by groups of youth and people with disabilities revealed the power of love and urged support for a more inclusive society.

More than 400 guests enjoyed a series of songs brought by 65 performers at St John's on 13th February 2023. The performing parties included the Tender Loving Care Choir, St John's Cathedral youth groups, Brio Singers and Lunar Antz. A special appearance by singer-songwriter Phil Lam added colour to the night with two solos: 頌讚詩 ('Hymns') and 一雙手 ('A Pair of Hands').

The charity concert titled 'Light up! Inclusive Charity Concert' was the first major programme of St John's Cathedral Life Enrichment Centre (LEC) in 2023. Echoing the Cathedral's theme of the year - Lighten Our Darkness – the concert aimed to enhance participants' self-confidence and empathy, develop their interests and promote positive physical and mental development.



'It's our hope to enable young people to contribute to the community and care for the needy in society,' said Vanice Chan, Service Coordinator of LEC.

Members of St John's drama teens and youth ministry contributed not only to the singing performance but also the logistics support for the event. From assisting the wheelchair performers to handling audience reception, familiar youth faces were seen 'on duty' before and during the concert.

Julianne Doe, Chairperson of Advisory Board of LEC, expressed that 'through beautiful music performances in the concert, young people from LEC and friends from Tender Loving Care and other groups are doing exactly what Jesus has taught us - to be a light to men.' The meaningful event was concluded with a closing prayer led by the Rt Revd Matthias Der, Bishop of Diocese of Hong Kong Island.



LEC Run Group races in public competition

For the first time, the Run Group of LEC joined the Pocari Sweat Run Fest 2022 on 27th November. A total of 22 LEC runners participated in the event and successfully completed the 5km run!

Form 5 student Uriah Ip – wearing the LEC jacket with the slogan 'Aspire to Inspire' – said he had never thought that he could manage the 5km run because he was not good at running. However, with the encouragement and support from his LEC peers, he finished the run and felt so contented that he actually could run!

'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.' (Philippians 4.13) If you are inspired by Uriah and want to join the Run Group, please send a message by WhatsApp/ Signal to 6083 9391.



Life Building Mentorship

Funded by the St John's Cathedral Endowment Fund, the Life Building Mentorship Project is run by LEC in cooperation with St. Paul's Co-Educational College (SPCC) and social services groups. With the objectives to helping Form 1 students from SPCC develop their interests, equip themselves for the future, and enhance their all-round development, the Project also allows mentors from the Cathedral to model Christian compassion and care for the students.

Twelve mentees from SPCC along with twelve mentors from the Cathedral have been enrolled for 2022-2023. The project was launched with an opening ceremony on 22nd October 2022.

Mentees, mentors and parents were divided into groups as they played interactive games to get familiar with each other. Meanwhile, the Revd Amos Poon offered them a Cathedral Guided Tour, which was a great opportunity for the mentees and their families to have a better understanding about this historical and spiritual place.



Various activities have been organised under the Project, including a half-day camp at Lei Yue Mun in November, a visit to elderlies' home and a career talk at SPCC. The mentees and their mentors also joined the Cantonese Sung Eucharist with Carols at the Cathedral during Advent. They were able to sense and share the Christmas spirit through giving gifts and cards, as well as appreciate a deeper understanding about the true meaning of Christmas.

Our Hope for 2023 - Sharing Love and Nurturing Understanding: Stories of Harmonious Households

Since the COVID-19 outbreak in 2020, Hong Kong households, including migrant domestic workers who work there, have braved the challenges of the pandemic.

Employer families indeed had their share of worries, but migrant domestic workers who work and live in their workplaces have been vulnerable to high stress and anxiety levels too. Unable to return home for more than two years, limited rest days, and constant fear of getting sick – these concerns continue to impact the migrant community.

During those times, the Mission For Migrant Workers (MFMW) has continued to explore ways to engage different groups, allowing them to understand the situation better and show more care and respect. We have collected write-ups from students and employers on how they have coped with COVID-19 together with their domestic workers. Here are two of the most poignant stories.



Lydia's family and their Filipina domestic worker, Lia

Lia started working for Lydia and Carl amid the fifth wave of the COVID-19 outbreak. Soon after, Lia suffered from gallstones, a very painful condition. Unfortunately, she couldn't get timely surgery in Hong Kong's overburdened public medical system, and her medical insurance covered only HK\$10,000 for the whole treatment. Lydia and Carl immediately offered to help financially and emotionally. They accompanied Lia to private doctors and opted for a medical plan to relieve her as soon as possible.

Luckily, she could still undergo surgery in a public hospital after a slot became available. Lydia and Carl covered whatever wasn't covered by the insurance, including surgery, traveling, and recovery fees. More importantly, they cared for Lia like family, visiting her in hospital and preparing a strict diet for her recovery. When Lia left the hospital, they celebrated together by ordering fried chicken. It was one of the sweetest memories they shared.

With this chapter behind them, Lia, Lydia and Carl have embarked on their journey as a happy household. They care for each other, cheer each other up, and share stories. As parents, they exchange tips about their children and parenthood. Lydia and Carl treat Lia like a family member and friend. Lia loves their child like her own.

'Lydia and Carl are the answer to my prayers. Every day I feel so grateful and blessed,' Lia affirmed. 'We always try to love our new family. When we receive trust, we give back trust.'

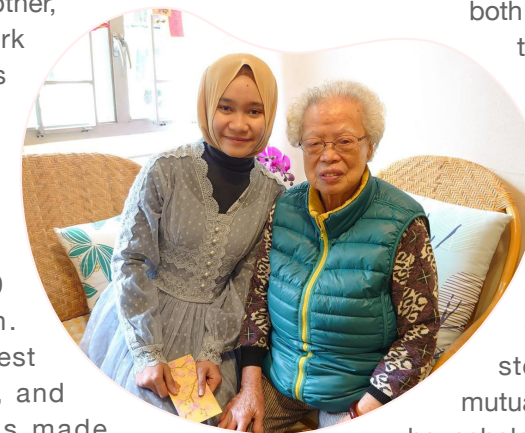
From Lydia's perspective, the key to being a better employer is to forget about employment for a moment and treat workers as human beings. Every relationship requires trust, communication, and empathy. With all those components, building a happy home isn't far-fetched.



Phyllis's 90-year-old mother and Indonesian domestic worker, May

Phyllis lives with her 90-year-old mother, who has dementia. The housework in Phyllis' house and her mother's daily needs are taken care of by an Indonesian foreign domestic worker, May.

In mid-February 2022, the fifth wave of the COVID-19 outbreak in Hong Kong began. May asked for a rapid antigen test because she had a sore throat, and the result was positive. Phyllis made arrangements for May to quarantine at home.



This experience of home isolation has brought May closer to the family, and Phyllis has encouraged other employers to trust their workers. Phyllis believes that both she and her mother were not infected then because May asked for a test early on. If the employers and their domestic workers have a good relationship, they can quickly discover the infection and isolate.

We want to remember 2022 through the lens of these 'Happy Home' stories because they remind us that mutual understanding and harmony in the household are possible.

The fifth wave caused much worry in Hong Kong, especially with the number of infections and death rising every day. Families with elderly relatives and children were under much stress. At the same time, some employers asked migrant domestic workers to leave their homes, a tragic experience that touched the hearts of many people.

However, Phyllis prepared daily nutritious meals for May and placed them at her door. At the same time, May wore a mask when she left her room and carefully disinfected the bathroom after each use.

We have to remember that without migrant domestic workers, our lives would be much more challenging. Indeed, Hong Kong's caregivers deserve greater recognition, respect, and care.

Now with Hong Kong and many more countries and regions relaxing their anti-pandemic measures, we hope that the working conditions for migrant domestic workers will improve in 2023. These stories remind us that we can always share love and care, nurture mutual understanding, and support each other as employers or workers.

Johannie Yan

Au revoir, Teresa...

At the end of 2022, with great sadness we bade au revoir to Teresa Topacio (2nd from right in photo) who had been the manager of St John's Cathedral's charity shop 'Castaways' for the past fourteen years before her retirement.



She brought with her copious experience of running a shop and a delicate way of blending professionalism with the volunteer helpers, not always an easy task. Being fluent in three languages helped to smooth out any problems in communication with customers and the many people who pass by Castaways on their way to various destinations in Hong Kong.

Teresa has been a good colleague and friend to all of us who work at Castaways, and has promised to come and see us from time to time. We wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

Stella Carter

Crossing Paths

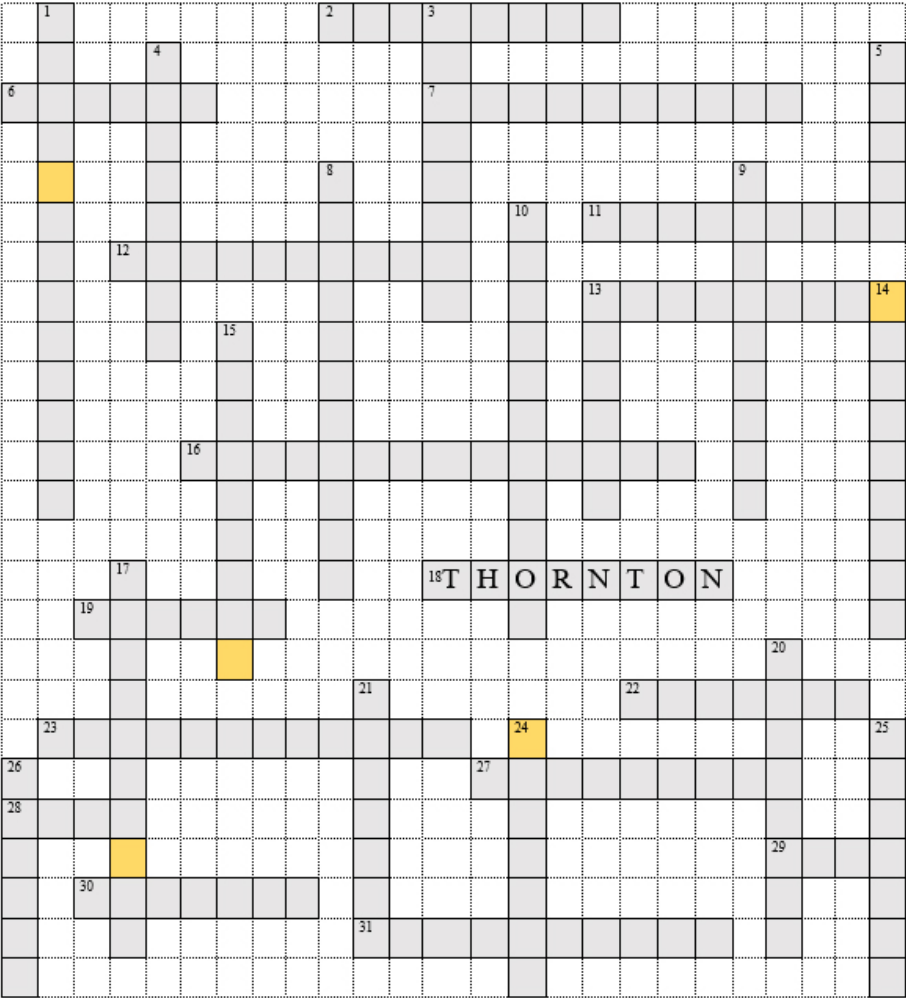
Did you find the Almighty Treasure in our last issue? Think you know the Cathedral well? In this issue of In Touch, we challenge you to do some crossword puzzles!

No, not just a puzzle but puzzles – something with a bit of a twist. Have you heard of a Double-Crosser? Here are two puzzles and two sets of clues. You will have to decide which answer fits into each crossword. To give you a start, we have filled in one word for each grid. The rest is left to you.

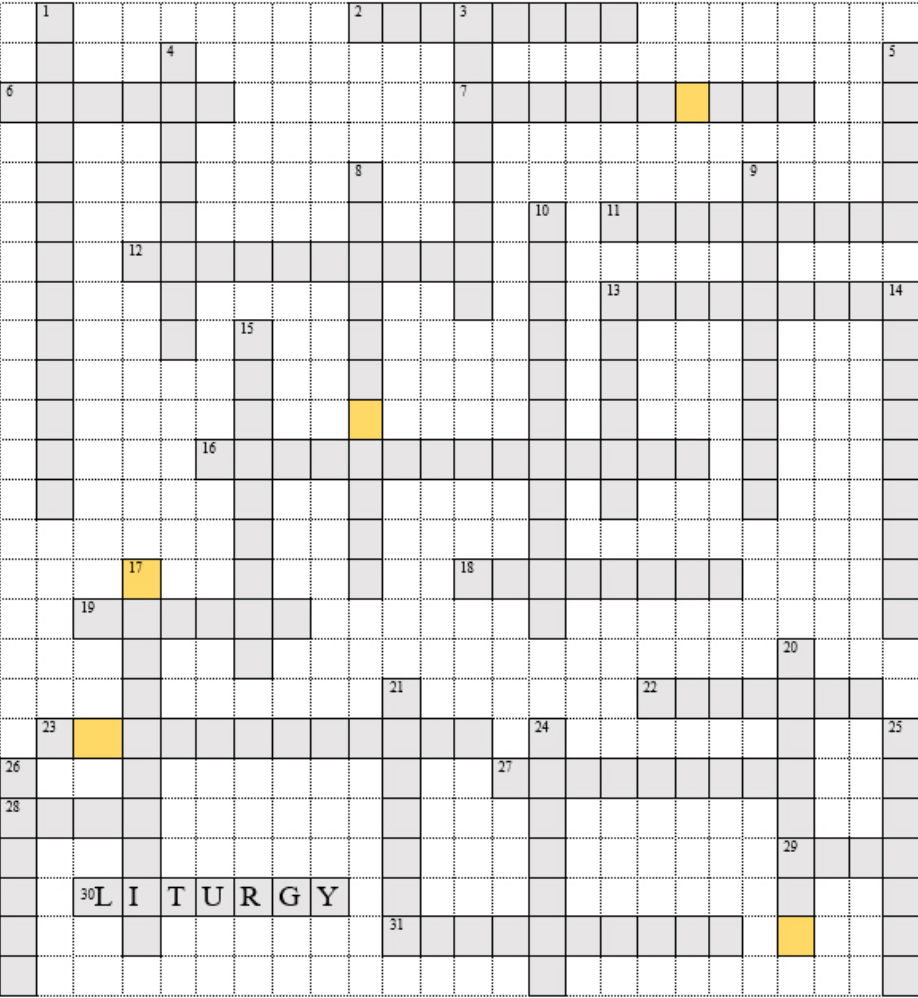
Are you ready?

Stuck with a clue? Try take a walk around the Cathedral. Yes, we mean it! All of our answers can be found on the Cathedral grounds, literally. Still think you know all about the Cathedral? May be. May be not. Good luck and happy searching!

First Puzzle



Second Puzzle



Final Twist

So, how did it go? Not too bad, right?

Craving for more? You have probably noticed from the two puzzles that some of boxes are highlighted in yellow. Gather the letters for an anagram. This will be a little message to you as a concluding touch:

Thank you for playing. We hope you had fun.

 Jeremy Hsu, Jason Wong

Down

1.	Who was our 6 th Bishop? Enter his name without a space. Skip middle name.
	Our 5 th Bishop appointed in 1907. Skip middle name.
3.	In the candle prayer, 'O most merciful...?'
	On whom does the Light of Grace shine upon?
4.	The path in the garden is a tradition dating back to the _____ times.
	What was the type of fleet which transported cargo and people in WWII?
5.	In the icon of Jesus, the text on the book says 'Ego sum Alpha et...?'
	The type of text written on the book in the icon of Jesus.
8.	Go put a light in St Michael's Chapel. May there be fire from the Lord to burn up that impurity in you.
	The icon of Jesus is called the Christ...?
9.	The outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace.
	While at St Michael's Chapel, find out the last name of the private who died on 18 th December 1941.

10.	The Dove of Peace serves as a reminder for us to be _____ in the world.
	The place to which we are sent, centered on God.
13.	The flickering lights at St Michael's Chapel.
	Which part of the chancel does preaching take place?
14.	Celebrated at the service as a memorial of the death and resurrection of Jesus.
	In the icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Child Jesus was held as the source of?
15.	One of the sevens from the life of Jesus depicted in the South windows.
	People rejoiced at this willing response, because in the loyalty of their hearts, they had given willing to the Lord.
17.	The presentation of the chime in the tower of the Cathedral is to commemorate...?
	What does the Dove of Peace represent? No space please.
20.	What flowers are at the bottom part of the Light of Grace?
	Pray for this on our city as you stand before the Light of Grace.

21.	Smith, Alford, Burdon, Hoare and more. Who are they?
	What type of fleets once served Hong Kong during WWII?
24.	A ritual of initiation.
	The path which leads to the Cathedral.
25.	The decorative wall at St Michael's Chapel.
	A state in India, commended by the 28 (AC) Squadron Royal Air Force when it presented the flag at Shek Kong in 1955.
26.	The base of the eagle, symbolising the world.
	Last name of the Dean in 1956.

Across

2.	The spot where you stand quiet and composed before walking the path.
	The word <i>Cathedral</i> in Greek.
6.	The path in the garden is sometimes described as a _____ walk.
	Following Across 2, because the path is a _____ place.
7.	What can you do at the Quiet Chapel?
	Surname of William and Edward, merchant navies who died at 37 and 46.
11.	Person responsible for military communications, Fleming William was one.
	The traditional name of the icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
12.	Find the Cathedral flag. A word that starts with 'E'.
	The stained glass window in the north transept reminds us to be?
13.	The Duke who formed the 1 st Battalion by merging two regiments affiliated to Middlesex.
	Persons being held captive during war. The 1 st Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment was one of them.

16.	The dove of peace represents a symbol of peace and?
	Which ingredient is contained in the bait placed around the Cathedral?
18.	Another word for troops who once used the Cathedral upon its completion.
	Middle name of the Captain who was killed under the Walls of Canton.
19.	Memorial tablets once kept in the Cathedral were destroyed by the enemy who occupied the?
	Another word for bait found around the Cathedral grounds!
22.	May Peace _____ on Earth.
	Go to St Michael's Chapel. The last name of a former Legco member who died on 4 th October 1907.
23.	On the East main window, above Christ is call the Sun of...?
	An assembly of persons brought together for worship.
27.	The pathway that leads us closer to God.
	Name of the charity shop for accepting the nearly new.

28.	Which window was that altar of the Cathedral originally placed?
	The Italian artistic workshop that designed the Light of Grace.
29.	Look up John 19:19.
	The part of the Cathedral set apart for the laity.
30.	Time when St Michael's Chapel will be closed.
	What kind of food does the Cathedral like you to donate?
31.	Look for the plate for the Cathedral Garden, with gratitude for the...?
	An altar-piece made by prisoners. Which internment camp was it from?

Acrostic Poems

inspired by the Book of Psalms

Praise the God
Almighty
Everlasting Father
Our saviour
Now we shall celebrate
I shall praise You
Almighty God

By Paeonia Leung

Joy is the word of the Lord
Almighty is He
Delight is his word to speak
Everlasting God can He be
Not anymore we shall die, but live eternally

By Jaden Lee

Joyfully praise God
And pray everyday
Dedicate and devote our life to the Lord
Enjoy your life and
Never give up on God

By Jaden See

Pray for God everyday
Enjoy chatting with God
Over land and sea
Note down the beautiful things
Your life will be easy

By Peony Lee

Almighty Lord, thank you for giving me a great family
Understanding your word in the bible
Delighted that I can read your word
Rise you to the top
Everyday we praise you
Yummy food that you give us

By Audrey Li

Kindness is something I want to learn from God
Oh my dear God
Kindness is something I want to learn from God
Oh my dear God

By KoKo Koenig

Merciful God please help me get through challenging times
Amen
Thank you for your kindness
Thank you for your love
Help us go through everything that comes our way
Everlasting fate shall be in your hands always
Worship God as He did so much for us

By Matthew Tan

Let us love one another
Enjoy each other's company
Amen
No one can replace my Father in heaven
Never will I leave my Father
Amen

By Leanna Ya

Run with me and sing with me
Almighty God
Your servant is here to serve you
May you bless me with wisdom, courage and joy
Oh my Lord
Never leave me alone
Dear Lord I am your faithful servant

By Raymond Leung

Jesus is our Lord
And He knows more than us
You will always be with him
Dearth has arrived to him
End your day with a prayer
Never worry as God helps you


By Jayden Lam

Voice of our Lord is special
Important to listen to what He has to say
Know He is right and always right
Tell the world what He has to say
Offer your life to him and praise him
Run to him if you are in need
Imagine he wasn't there, what would you do
Almighty Father, we praise you for all you have done

By Viktoria Koenig

Emmanuel
Teach me to be kind and grateful
Holy Holy Holy
Almighty Father
No one can replace my Father

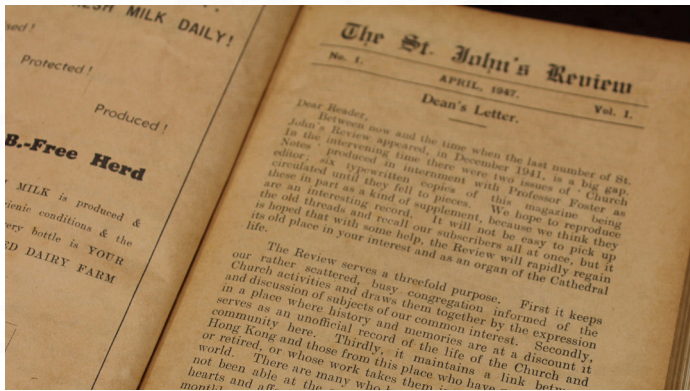
By Ethan Hackman

 Members of Junior Church & Discoverers

A Look Back in Time

The first issue of St John's Review to be published after the Japanese occupation ended in 1945 offers readers today a fascinating glimpse into the minds and lives of those connected to the Cathedral community during those immediate post-war years.

Bearing in mind that many, but not all, of those who worshipped at St John's had been interred between 1941 and 1945, and had witnessed tremendous horrors and deprivation, what is striking is the somewhat routine content of the April 1947 issue. A sense of British sang-froid hangs heavily in the air.



We learn from Dean Rose in his Letter that two issues of 'Church Notes' had been produced in the Stanley Camp with Professor Foster serving as editor. But the six typewritten copies had unceremoniously fallen apart as they circulated among internees. (My sources inform me a copy of this publication is available in Hong Kong. Your faithful correspondent is hard on the case and will report back should a copy be located.)

Meanwhile, even though the Deanery was in ruins, sundry other associated buildings had been obliterated. Urgently, \$300,000 was needed to restore the interior of the Cathedral, whose roof was in danger of crumpling and whose windows were unlikely to survive the next typhoon. St John's quickly began a full programme of services for friends and loved ones who had perished during the war years.

We read that visiting preachers were passing through the city, the number of children in schools had already reached pre-war levels, and the people of Hong Kong were healthier than ever before! The magazine notes encouraging figures for 'infant, adult and maternity mortality' but adds impassively that the health stats might seem rosier because the war had 'killed off many of the undernourished and weaker sections of the community,

leaving behind a more robust population'. Mmmmm, well that's one way of looking at it.

The magazine also makes space for a dispassionate five-page essay on hawkers and how best to get rid of them plus a more gracious article about the work of the Boys' and Girls' Association on behalf of abandoned children living precariously on the city's streets.

This rapid recovery was due in part to the likes of Yorkshireman Canon Copley Moyle, aged 76, who had returned to Hong Kong after an absence of 18 years to help with services such as officiating at marriages, even for some of the children he had baptized as infants.

Ruminating on Canon Copley Moyle's spirit and devotion to St John's and Hong Kong, the editor writes, 'In a place like Hong Kong, where memories fade and where changes are so rapid, it is all the more remarkable to see how amid changes and swift oblivion, the Church provides continuity, memory and stability.'

Perhaps the most poignant section of the April issue in 1947 was the Dean's report to the Annual Meeting of Cathedral electors on 20th March 1947 in which he thanks all those individuals who enabled a semblance of Cathedral life to continue during the occupation, both in the Stanley camp, at the Cathedral for a time, and in occupied Hong Kong for those not interred.

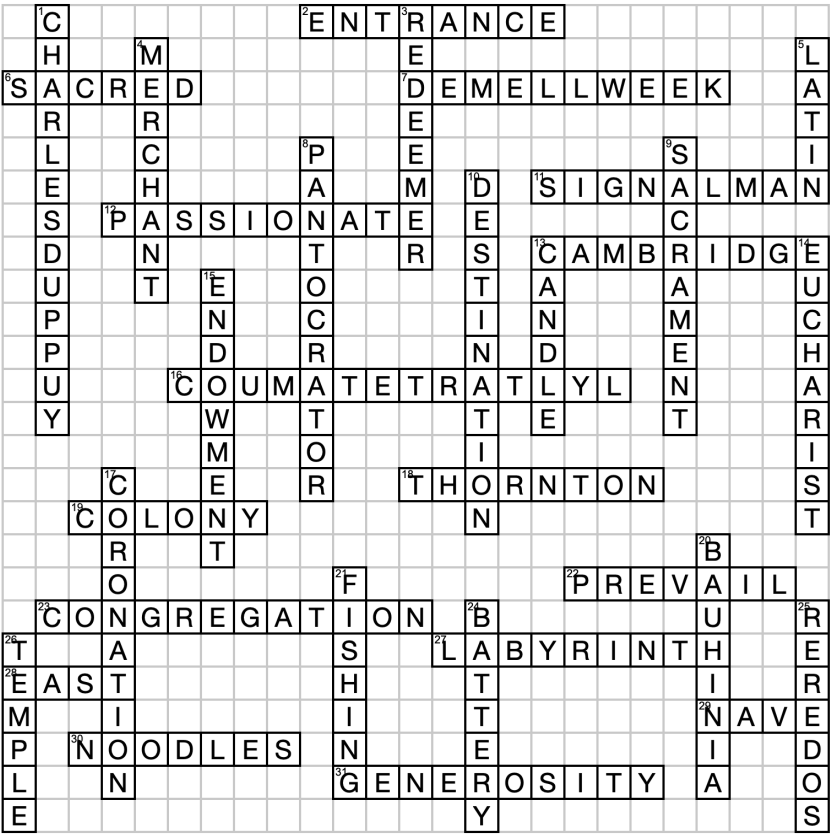
There is not a single word of bitterness, anger or blame in the Dean's report, only a strong sense of unity, enrichment and gratitude, a sense that life will get back to normal, to keep calm and carry on, that the accounts are in order, and that God's love is ever-present.

Michael Gibb



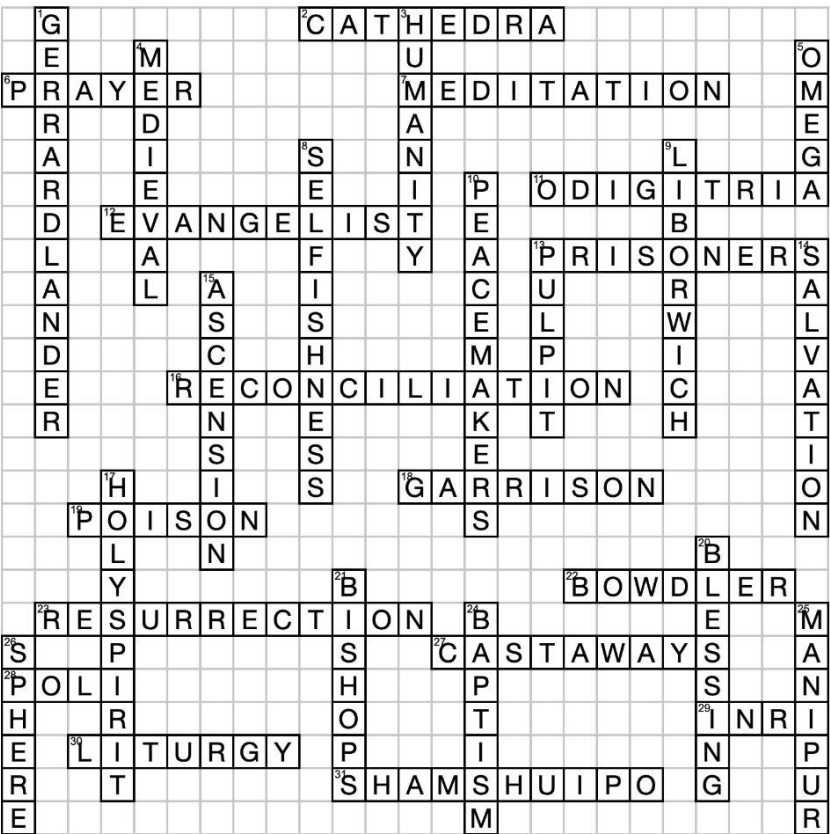
Crossing Paths
Answers

First Puzzle



Across	Down
2 Entrance	1 Charles Duppuy
6 Sacred	3 Redeemer
7 Demellweek	4 Merchant
11 Signalman	5 Latin
12 Passionate	8 Pantocrator
13 Cambridge	9 Sacrament
16 Coumatetrtyl	10 Destination
18 Thornton	13 Candle
19 Colony	14 Eucharist
22 Prevail	15 Endowment
23 Congregation	17 Coronation
27 Labyrinth	20 Bauhinia
28 East	21 Fishing
29 Nave	24 Battery
30 Noodles	25 Reredos
31 Generosity	26 Temple

Second Puzzle



Across	Down
2 Cathedra	1 Gerrard Lander
6 Prayer	3 Humanity
7 Meditation	4 Medieval
11 Odigitria	5 Omega
12 Evangelist	8 Selfishness
13 Prisoners	9 Liborwich
16 Reconciliation	10 Peacemakers
18 Garrison	13 Pulpit
19 Poison	14 Salvation
22 Bowdler	15 Ascension
23 Resurrection	17 Holy Spirit
27 Castaways	20 Blessing
28 Poli	21 Bishops
29 INRI	24 Baptism
30 Liturgy	25 Manipur
31 Shamshuipo	26 Sphere

Major Services

at St John's & Daughter Churches

St John's Cathedral

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

<div>25</div> <div>MAR</div>	<div>The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary</div> <div>12.00nn</div> <div>Sung Eucharist</div>	<div>8</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Holy Saturday</div> <div>8.00pm</div> <div>Easter Vigil</div>
<div>2</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Palm Sunday</div> <div>9.30am</div> <div>Liturgy of the Palms, Procession & Sung Eucharist (Bi-lingual)</div> <div>1.30pm</div> <div>Liturgy of the Palms & Sung Eucharist (Tagalog)</div> <div>5.00pm</div> <div>Tenebrae Service</div>	<div>9</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Easter Day</div> <div>9.00am</div> <div>Sung Eucharist Renewal of Baptismal Promises</div> <div>5.00pm</div> <div>Festal Evensong</div>
<div>6</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Maundy Thursday</div> <div>9.30am</div> <div>Chrism Eucharist</div> <div>8.00pm</div> <div>Sung Eucharist with the Washing of Feet & Watch until Midnight</div>	<div>18</div> <div>MAY</div>	<div>Ascension Day</div> <div>7.30pm</div> <div>Sung Eucharist</div>
<div>7</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Good Friday</div> <div>10.30am</div> <div>Liturgy of the Day (Mandarin)</div> <div>12.00nn</div> <div>Children's Liturgy</div> <div>1.30pm</div> <div>Liturgy of the Day</div>	<div>28</div> <div>MAY</div>	<div>Day of Pentecost (Whit Sunday)</div> <div>5.00pm</div> <div>Sung Eucharist with Baptism & Confirmation</div>
		<div>31</div> <div>MAY</div>	<div>Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth</div> <div>7.30pm</div> <div>Sung Eucharist</div>

Please visit our website for the latest updates about service arrangements.

Discovery Bay Church

SKH Wei Lun Primary School
Lantau
Tel: 2987 4210
URL: www.discoverybaychurch.org.hk

	<div>Every Sunday</div> <div>10.00am</div> <div>Sung Eucharist</div>
<div>2</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Palm Sunday</div> <div>10.00am</div> <div>Eucharist with Blessing of Palms</div>
<div>7</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Good Friday</div> <div>11.00am</div> <div>Walk to Stations of the Cross at Trappist Monastery</div>
<div>9</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Easter Day</div> <div>10.00am</div> <div>Eucharist of the Resurrection in Wei Lun School</div>

Emmanuel Church

Béthanie Chapel
139 Pok Fu Lam Road, Pok Fu Lam
Tel: 2523 4157
URL: www.emmanuel.org.hk

	<div>Every Sunday</div> <div>10.15am</div> <div>Sung Eucharist</div>
<div>2</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Palm Sunday</div> <div>10.15am</div> <div>Blessing of Palms, Procession & Sung Eucharist</div>
<div>7</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Good Friday</div> <div>10.15am</div> <div>The Liturgy of Good Friday</div>
<div>9</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Easter Day</div> <div>10.15am</div> <div>Sung Eucharist of the Resurrection & Renewal of Baptismal Promises</div>

St Stephen's Chapel

St Stephen's College
22 Tung Tau Wan Road, Stanley
Tel: 2813 0408
URL: www.ststephen.org.hk

	<div>Every Sunday</div> <div>10.00am</div> <div>Sung Eucharist</div>	<div>7</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Good Friday</div> <div>10.00am</div> <div>Children create an Easter Garden, and hear the Easter Story</div> <div>11.00am</div> <div>Stations of the Cross</div>
<div>2</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Palm Sunday</div> <div>10.00am</div> <div>The Stanley Passion Play, including Holy Eucharist</div>	<div>9</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Easter Day</div> <div>10.00am</div> <div>Family Eucharist to celebrate Easter, followed by an Easter Egg hunt for children</div>
<div>6</div> <div>APR</div>	<div>Maundy Thursday</div> <div>8.00pm</div> <div>Commemoration of the Last Supper, with Eucharist and Footwashing</div>		



ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL 聖公會聖約翰座堂

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