

Chinese Religious Leaders Make New Year Resolution

Promise Cooperation for a Better World

HONG KONG, FEB. 12, 2010 ([Zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org)).- Bishop John Tong Hon of Hong Kong and local religious leaders are saying that religions should join hands to build a better society for humanity.

Leaders of local religious communities, including Buddhist, Confucian, Catholic, Protestant, Muslim and Taoist, affirmed this in a message for the Lunar New Year, celebrated Sunday.

In the message, Bishop Tong said that religious leaders should promote "spiritual development on the basis of modesty, gratitude, forgiveness and love. By strengthening religious faith, we hope that people will turn away from sinful living and join hands in building a better world for humanity."

The message is dated Feb. 8 and will be published on New Year.

The leaders affirmed their shared concern for "young people who live in self-indulgence ... [practicing] outrageous conduct like falling into drug abuse and thus ruining their futures, selling companionship for money with no sense of shame, and promoting mass suicide via the Internet."

Inculturation

The Lunar New Year is also bringing the local Church a lesson on inculturation.

Since Ash Wednesday this year falls on the fourth day of the Lunar New Year (Feb. 17), the Church of Hong Kong dispensed the faithful from fasting and abstinence that day. However, they are obliged to choose some other suitable forms of penance or perform some works of charity, in keeping with the penitential spirit of the season of Lent.

Taking into account the Lunar New Year festivities, the rite of the giving of ashes in Hong Kong may also be postponed to Feb. 24 (during Mass) or Feb. 26 (during Stations of the Cross).

Pope Says Suffering Need Not Exclude Joy

Points to Bond Between the Ill and Priests

VATICAN CITY, FEB. 11, 2010 ([Zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org)).- The faithful can live a joy that does not forget suffering, but rather, in fact, includes it, says Benedict XVI.

The Pope made this reflection today during his homily at a Mass he celebrated in St. Peter's. Today is the liturgical feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, as well as the World Day of the Sick.

The Holy Father's homily drew two themes from the Mass readings of the day.

He observed that "the liturgy appropriately makes the Magnificat resonate, the canticle of the Virgin who exalts the wonders of God in the history of salvation: the humble and the indigent, as all those who fear God, experience his mercy, [he] who reverses earthly fortunes and thus demonstrates the holiness of the Creator and Redeemer."

The Pontiff characterized Mary's canticle at her meeting with Elizabeth as "a song that expresses the tested faith of generations of men and women who have placed their hope in God and have committed themselves personally, like Mary, to being of help to brothers in need. In the Magnificat we hear the voice of so many men and women saints of charity."

"Whoever spends a long time near persons who suffer, knows anguish and tears, but also the miracle of joy, fruit of love," he added.

Church's prayer

A second theme, Benedict XVI suggested, regards the prayer of the Church for the sick.

"The maternity of the Church is a reflection of the solicitous love of God," he said. "[...] Like Mary, the Church bears within herself the tragedies of man, and the consolation of God, she keeps them together, in the course of her pilgrimage in history.

"Across the centuries, the Church shows the signs of the love of God, who continues to do great things in humble and simple people. Suffering that is accepted and offered, a sharing that is sincere and free, are these not, perhaps, miracles of love?"



愛民頓瑪利亞進教之佑華人天主堂



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堂區通訊 *Parish Newsletter*

二零一零年二月十四日 February 14, 2010

常年期第六主日

『萬物是藉著祂而造成的。』

聖灰禮儀日應守事項

二月十七日（星期三）是聖灰禮儀日。堂區訂於當日下午七時三十分舉行聖灰禮儀。禮儀包括有感恩祭、祝福及領受聖灰。請各位教友熱心參加，開展神聖的四旬期。

按照教會的規定：在聖灰禮儀日，年滿十四歲之教友，應守小齋；年滿十八歲至五十九歲之教友，應守大小齋。謹請各位教友特別留意。

四旬期公拜苦路

本年四旬期在本堂舉行之公拜苦路日期及時間如下：

2月19日（星期五）下午七時半

2月26日（星期五）下午七時半

3月5日（星期五）下午七時半

3月12日（星期五）下午七時半

3月19日（星期五）下午七時半

3月26日（星期五）下午七時半

4月2日（星期五）救主受難紀念禮

請各位教友熱心參加，一起追憶和默想主耶穌為救贖人類所受的苦難。

本主日適逢春節大年初一。我們高興地在這一天聚集在天主台前，向天主感恩，為我們的國家和親朋戚友祈福。在這歡快喜樂的日子裏，今天的三篇經文很貼切地提醒我們應有的價值觀。讓我們用以下三點作為我們生活的反省：

（一）信賴天主才是我們幸福的泉源
耶肋米亞先知很清楚地向我們指出，凡是信賴自己的才能與財富或寄望于他人力量的人，最終必要失望。只有信賴天主的人才會得到真正的保障與幸福。我們要問自己，在我們的生活中是否時時信賴天主的安排呢？還是我們經常堅持天主要按照我們的計劃來行事呢？信賴天主意味著我們盡力而為，同時我們把一切交托給天主，相信他會為我們做出最好的安排。

（二）基督教導的價值觀相反世俗的價值觀
耶穌對真福的教導，一開始就以貧窮的人是有福的來定調。天主特別關愛窮人，這並不是因為窮人比較虔誠或比較善良，而是因為他們真的一無所有，並且生活在不人道的環境中，這是完全相反天主旨意的狀況。擁有財富雖然不是罪惡，但是擁有大量財富經常引起我們的驕傲，並且導致我們去阻擋來自天主的降福。在過年期間，我們經常以「恭喜發財」及「財源廣進」等話語來祝福朋友家人，但是我們要很清楚，錢財是絕對不可能給我們帶來幸福快樂的。身為基督徒，我們追求的不是現世的財富，而是該努力去為自己積蓄天上的財富。每當我們願意去為最小、最受忽略的小兒弟姐妹服務、付出和犧牲時，我們就是給自己在天上積蓄財寶。

（三）新春新氣象，讓我們為我們的人生定好方向
基督的復活賦予我們生活的意義和目的。如果我們相信基督，并在他身上寄予我們的希望，我們就會找到真正的幸福和喜樂。如今是我們活出福音訊息的日子，我們的未來就從現在開始。讓我們積極認真地活出天國的價值觀，把我們的生活寄托在復活主的身上，因為復活的主是我們將來復活的根源，他將帶領我們從現世的生活中邁入永恆的境界。

Sunday Collection 主日彌撒捐獻

二零一零二月六、七日
February 6 & 7, 2010

主日捐獻 Sunday Collection	\$2,694.50
還款基金 Loan Repayment	\$2,857.00
特別捐獻 Special Offering	\$ 75.00
維修捐獻 for Renovation	\$ 270.00
捐獻信封 Offering Envelope	\$ 5.00
捐助海地災民 for Haiti Victims	\$ 5.00
收集瓶罐 Bottle Drive	\$ 64.95
社交舞班 Dance Group	\$ 176.00
隱名士	\$ 243.23

收集瓶罐運動

少青會將會於 **2月27日星期六**和 **2月28日星期日**舉辦瓶罐回收。教友可在彌撒前後將瓶罐交給少青會會員；他們會代您將瓶罐投入卡車內。而瓶罐收入將用於為堂區青少年採購一套為青少年的聖經及其他靈修物資。希望教友們多多支持!

常年期第六週讀經、福音章節

6th Week of the Year Daily Reading

主日 S	創 Gn 1:27-31; 若 Jn 1:1-12
一 M	雅 Jas 1:1-11; 谷 Mk 8:11-13
二 T	雅 Jas 1:12-18; 谷 Mk 8:14-21
三 W	岳 J1 2:12-18; 格後 II Cor 5:20-6:2; 瑪 Mt 6:1-6,16-18
四 T	申 Dt 30:15-20; 路 Lk 9:22-25
五 F	依 Is 58:1-9; 瑪 Mt 9:14-15
六 S	依 Is 58:9-14; 路 Lk 5:27-32

外展活動與長者們共慶新春

新春同慶。堂區「探訪組」聯同多位教友會在二月二十日星期六下午六時至七時，到「華埠護老中心」探訪，表演節目有醒獅及歌舞助慶，並致送禮物，與長者們恭賀新年。

歡迎教友參與，請聯絡：

Agnes Chung 780 – 988 – 9679
Stella Wong 780 – 486 – 4330

候洗者甄選禮

本年度堂區三位慕道者，周勵堅 (Landy Chow)，林浩磯 (Eddie Lam) 及 蕭詠淇 (Jessica Siu)，將於二月二十日下午七時半在聖若瑟主教座堂接受由總主教 Richard Smith 主持的候洗者甄選禮。謹請各位教友多為三位候洗者祈禱！

聖座中文網站 增設中文聖經

(本報訊) 聖座中文網站自一月一日起增設網上版聖經，提供新舊約聖經(圖)。中文網站的聖經是繁體字版，每書卷設一個 pdf 電腦格式檔案供讀者下載。

此外《羅馬觀察報》英文版一月七日報導，聖座中文網站將於二〇一〇~內推出中譯版的梵蒂岡第二屆大公會議文憲、天主教教理和教會法典。

聖座中文網站：

<http://www.vatican.va/chinese/index.html>

Ash Wednesday

February 17th is Ash Wednesday. The celebration which includes Mass, blessing and distribution of ashes will take place in our church at 7:30 p.m. Please try your best to attend to mark the beginning of this holy period of Lent.

The Catholic Church requires that Fasting and Abstinence to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all faithful. Abstinence is for those 14 years old and above. Fasting is for those between 18 and 59 years old.

Outreach activity to celebrate the Chinese New Year with the Seniors

The “Visiting Group” & several parishioners of our parish will go to visit & celebrate the Chinese New Year with the seniors at the Chinatown Care Centre at 6pm – 7pm on Feb.20, 2010, Sat. with performance of Lion Dance, singing, dancing & distribute gift packs to the seniors.

Welcome to join this outreach activity, please contact:

Agnes Chung 780 – 988 – 9679
Stella Wong 780 – 486 – 4330

Adolescence Group Bottle Drive

AG will be holding a bottle drive on **Saturday, February 27** and **Sunday, February 28!!** When you bring in your cans, bottles, milk jugs, juice tetra packs, and other refundables before and after each Mass on these days, AG members will help you place them in the trailer provided by the bottle depot. The proceeds from the bottle drive will go towards purchasing a set of Catholic Youth Bibles and other youth ministry activities and resources. We hope that you will support our efforts by collecting and bringing in all your refundables!

The Way of the Cross

Devotion to The Way of the Cross will take place every Friday during Lent at 7:30 pm starting from February 19th till March 26th in the church. On Good Friday, April 2nd, The Way of the Cross will start after the Celebration of the Lord’s Passion.

Please take this opportunity to meditate on the suffering and death of Jesus for the salvation of all mankind.

Nothing More Beautiful Year 3

The following message is for Pastors and parish staff:

Good Morning,

Work is currently underway to plan Year 3 of Nothing More Beautiful (NMB).

The theme for Year 3 is:

Ecclesiology (The Church) – The Beauty of Life in Communion

The scripture passage:

God’s own people. (1 Peter 2:9)

We are looking for suggestions for speakers for Year 3, especially for witnesses. Who do you think would be great at sharing their life of faith in the Church and how their faith has grown.

If you have suggestions for the Speakers Committee, please send the names to me along with a short explanation of why you think this person would be a great witness. If you happen to have any contact information for the person you suggest, please send that along also.

Thanks so very much.

E. Lunds

Associate Director -
New Evangelization Initiatives
(NMB, Stewardship, TIM, APC)

780-469-1010

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