

NEWSLETTER MAY 2018

THE GUILD OF ST. LUKE, ST. COSMAS & ST. DAMIAN, HONG KONG



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WORDS FROM MASTER

Ambrose Leung

There were lots of activities happened to the Guild recently. We have co-organized the 5th Bioethics Conference held in Caritas Institute of Higher Education on December 9-10, 2017. It was a very big conference and the main lecture hall was full. We also held a sharing session for delegates from Mainland China and Taiwan on December 11 2017 in Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital. We must thank Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital for their support and especially HCE Dr Wong Tak Cheung for his generosity. He and his team accompanied us to visit the hospital including the Hospice wards and our visitors were very interested in the visit. We had a wonderful moment. We also helped in the first Caritas Funfair in Caritas Institute of Higher Education on January 27-28 2018. Our booths were visited by Bishop Yeung, HCEs of Caritas Medical Center and Precious Blood Hospital, as well as Chancellor of CIHE. We had raised the highest amount of donation since our participation in Caritas Bazaar. Here I would like to sincerely thank our members for their help, student nurses from CIHE, as well as our many donors. After Chinese New Year we had our New Year gathering and then Passion Sunday Retreat and March for Life.

We are busy preparing for coming community service held in St Teresa Church (5/5/2018), Mother of Good Counsel Church (2/6/2018) and St Alfred's Church (9/6/18). Please try to help.

Last but not the least, our coming Annual General Meeting would be held in Caritas Restaurant on June 30, 2018. Your continuous support is our energy to move on. We hope to meet you there!

Medical Sunday

21 Oct 2017

Medical Frontiers- The Order of Malta

Events...



Dr Ambrose Leung and our Guest of Honour Mrs Desiree Jebsen representing the Order of Malta, Hong Kong

This year's medical Sunday was special. We had Bishop Michael Yeung and Mrs Desiree Jebsen from the Order of Malta as our guests of honour. We would like to express our sincere thanks to St Paul's Hospital whom provides us venue to hold the talk and gathering. Many members from the doctors' and nurses' Guild, and Pastoral care workers joined the event. Mrs Jebsen introduced to us the work of Order of Malta as the medical frontiers. After that Bishop Michael Yeung celebrated the thanksgiving mass. We all thanked God for granting us the grace to help our patients.

Florence Mok



Introduction of the Order of Malta, Hong Kong

You may have noticed a group of black robed men and women attending the last Medical Day Mass, after a talk on the Order of Malta. This was a first for the Order of Malta Hong Kong Sub-organization, although many of you have no doubt seen me in my robes previously. The Hong Kong Sub-organization was established in 2012 as a sub-organization of the Australian Association, with its own locally elected Council as governing body.

The Order of Malta is the world's oldest Catholic charity established over 900 years ago with more than 13,500 members, 80,000 trained volunteers and 25,000 medical employees (IT runs the ambulance service in Ireland and has various hospitals and clinics all over the world.) As a sovereign organization, the Order has Permanent Observer status at the United Nations and diplomatic relations with over hundred countries (you can think of it as a country without any territory). It is active in 120 countries with hundreds of medical, social and humanitarian projects. Malteser International is the global aid and relief organization of the Order that leads international disaster relief efforts. The Global Fund for the Forgotten People is the Order's fundraising arm that raises money for community-based projects focusing on those who would otherwise be forgotten.

The Hong Kong Sub-organization is involved in a number of sustainable charitable projects in Hong Kong and Mainland, including a leper village in Northern Guangdong Province, the Flying Young Programme for a number of underprivileged families who live below the poverty line and visits to the Caritas Lok Yi School for severely-disabled mentally handicapped children on a regular basis to organize fun and stimulating activities and to interact with the children beyond their regular daily routines. The global Fund has approved a lunch box project to finance the lepers undergoing rehabilitation to prepare lunch boxes for the needy in their locality, such that whilst they themselves are helped by charitable projects, they can also participate and give their help to others who have more need of other's help.

Members and volunteers also take part in the annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes, with many National Associations bringing the sick and the disabled from their countries for a pilgrimage of healing and renewal to this Marian Shrine associated with the healing of the sick. We have brought a couple of ambulatory Malades (as the sick is called in French) and it is hoped that in the future we will bring other Malades to Lourdes. Next year in October, we will also hold a holiday camp for disabled youth in the Asia Pacific region. We invite everyone who can to come and help make this camp a success. Although it will be the third time the region will be holding it, the camp has a long tradition in Europe, and it is run by the young people there. So please, let's have the young doctors come and make it rock!!

Peter Auyeung

Mass for the deceased

'Good Old Days' 26 Nov 2017

Mass for the deceased was held 26 Nov 2017 at Ricci Chapel. We were honoured to have Fr Robert Ng to celebrate the mass for us and prayed for our deceased members. After the mass, Dr David Fang shared with us the 'Good Old Days' of his Uncle Professor Harry Fang. Dr David Fang spent his childhood with Professor Fang and remembered deeply about his teaching. Professor Fang was a pioneer in Orthopedics training in Hong Kong and made great achievement in the development of rehabilitation service. After sharing, Dr Fang gave each of us a copy of 'Rehabilitation- A life's work: Dr Harry Fang Shinyang'. Here we would like to express our heartfelt thanks Dr David Fang's for his generosity.

Florence Mok



Annual Retreat

6-7 Jan 2018



夏志誠輔理主教在寶血靜修院與我們分享了聖詠23及43-43，深入分析，讓我們感受我們與主的關係

結束感恩聖祭以主顯節三王來朝作結：剛誕生的猶太人君王在心裏(瑪2:2)

我們也像三王一樣從另一條路回去，因為我們已不一樣。

我的牧者

避靜之處環境清靜幽美，兩日一夜的避靜，為忙碌醫院工作帶來一份休息和反思。感謝夏志誠主教和我們分享聖詠集二十三篇。

上主是我的牧者，我實在一無所缺...

回想多年前，聽到耶穌召叫，自己是低下頭，手拿工具，忙碌地修補著網，但心裏困惑。要是放下工具，還能靠甚麼工作？而且還有很多破損的網要修補 -- 生活的網，工作的網，關係的網。這一切修修補補粗活是理所當然，破網總不會自己修復吧！於是破了便補，補了又破。後來放下了工具和漁網，感恩地學習跟隨和信賴上主。

這些年來，走過了青綠草場，幽靜水旁，陰森幽谷，赴過各種各樣的筵席，有對頭的筵席，碰頭的筵席，有殺頭的筵席，有來頭的筵席。縱使有傷害，也是善牧所容許之內，因祂與我同在。

...我將住在上主的殿裏，直至悠遠的時日。

陳國強



My Words to God in the Annual Retreat

尋找天主

參與公教醫生會在主顯節的年度避靜，
重溫三賢士的旅程，
也回顧尋找天主的體驗。

尋找天主，特別是我的天主；
與我的天主的關係，
才是屬於我的信仰。

尋找，始於誠實面對自己，
何時敢問：『我的靈魂，
你為何悲傷，為何憂苦？』

尋找，源於渴望，渴望天主的面容，
就像詩人的呼求：『我的靈魂渴念天主，
生活的天主，我何時來，能把天主的儀容目睹？』

尋找，在靜默中，紫荊花下，
在青綠草場，幽靜水邊，
在寬慰的眼神，在溫暖的掌心。

尋找，總要力量，求獲勇氣，
『縱使要走過陰森的幽谷，
也不怕兇險，因你與我同在。』

尋找，更求賜感恩與付出，
『但願上主在白晝頒賜他的恩愛慈惠，
我夜間向賜我生命的天主歌頌讚美！』

尋找，就是為了與天主同在，
『我將住在上主的殿裏，
直至悠遠的時日。』

微風細雨中
的一夜後，帶著祝福，
便從另一條路，回來了。

蔡敏欣

兩個深刻的印象：

一、平日看聖經，我總忽略了聖詠。夏主教在避靜中的精彩講解，教我耳目一新，令我打算把聖詠從頭到尾讀一次。

二、避靜時，明明有一個多小時吃晚飯，但大多數醫生（包括我），在十二分鐘內便吃完了。不禁暗忖：我在趕什麼？

區德成

I joined the Annual Retreat organised by the GUILD on 6-7th January. It has been a very long missed experience for me, since, shamefully speaking I have not been going retreat for quite some years.

It was a rainy weekend, and after a 'long' journey, we arrived at the Precious Blood Retreat House in Fanling. It was like journeyed in the midst of the busy gloomy work life, in search for our God. Yet on arrival, we were welcomed by the warm sunny smiles of Sisters there. They were all so kind that I got the feeling of having returned to another 'home', where I could relax, tranquil, concentrate and search for Him.

We had the blessing and luck to have Bishop Ha's sharing on some Psalm chapters: 23, 42 and 43. I had deep feeling on the following verses, which were sung so many times at mass:

*The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.*

I used to simply imagine the above as a very beautiful picture that the Lord being with us, guiding and protecting me always. Bishop Ha further illustrated to us on the importance of considering the context in which it was written, the wilderness, where green pastures and flowing waters were so scarce and precious. This reminds me of the importance of 'thirsting' for the Lord, or better say, the 'thirst' of searching His way of life.

I am glad that in the beginning of this year, He gave me this chance of finding my way back to Him, to His way of life.

Selina Chan

New Year Gathering

4 Mar 2018

The annual Chinese New Year gathering was held on 4th March 2018 (年十七) at St Paul's House of Prayer. The thanksgiving mass was celebrated by Fr Robert Ng. After the mass we had BBQ at the garden of the retreat house. This year we had more than 40 participants, with members and their families. All of us enjoyed good food and good time together.

Florence Mok



Palm Sunday Retreat

25 Mar 2018



We had a half-day retreat on Palm Sunday at Wah Yan College Hong Kong. This year, we were grateful to have Fr. Baptista to share with us on the theme of "Death and Suffering". First, he reminded us about the five stages experienced by our patients when they suffer, namely denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. We then had a discussion about the meaning of suffering. Later, Fr. Baptista recommended the inspiring apostolic letter entitled *Salvifici Doloris* (11 February 1984), written by Pope John Paul II, to us. Same as last year, he heard the confession of each of us. It was a fruitful afternoon as the start of the Holy Week.

"Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church." 1 Cor. 24

Peter Anthony Fok

Bioethics Reports

Robert Yuen

**Associate Director
Holy Spirit Seminary College
Bioethics Resource Centre**

Conference on End of Life Care and First Mainland China-Hong Kong-Taiwan Healthcare Exchange

Thanks be to the generous donations from our members, we had been able to sponsor over thirty-five delegates from Mainland China and Taiwan to attend the Conference jointly organised by Holy Spirit Seminary College Bioethics Resource Centre, Guild of St. Luke, Diocesan Pastoral Commission of Hospital Pastoral Care and Caritas Institute of Higher Education from 9th to 10th December 2017 at Caritas Institute of Higher Education at Tseung Kwun O. The theme of the conference was 'End of Life Care' and prominent speakers in the field, including Vicar General Dominic Chan, Fr. Robert Ng, Fr. Thomas Law and Fr. Dominic Lui were invited to speak on this hot topic. The conference was well attended with over three hundred participants and concluded with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael Yeung. The delegates from China and Taiwan included priests, nuns, nurses and front line elderly care assistants. They learnt much from the conference and would bring the new insights into their work in China and Taiwan.

On 11th December 2017, the First Mainland China-Hong Kong-Taiwan Healthcare Exchange was organised at Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital. Prof Eric Chan, Dean of School of Nursing, Caritas Institute of Higher Education gave an interesting talk on Accreditation in Hospitals. Delegates from China and Taiwan presented their work and aspirations in China and Taiwan and Dr. Sammy Sou spoke of the healthcare system in Hong Kong. Dr. Wong Tak Cheung, Hospital Chief Executive of Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital led the group to a hospital visit. The delegates were much impressed by the hospital especially the work of palliative care unit in Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital.

In the following four days, the delegates visited Grantham Hospital and other centres of palliative care in Hong Kong. They had expressed much gratitude to the donors from the Guild for sponsoring their trip and invited the Guild to visit their hospitals in the future. I wish to thank most sincerely donors from the Guild for their generosity, Dr. Wong Tak Cheung of Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospitals, Prof Eric Chan of Caritas Institute of Higher Education, Diocesan Liturgy Commission and all others who had supported these worthwhile events. May God bless them all.

(NB. you can read more of our Centre by visiting our website. Suggestions and opinions are most welcome and please write to dr_robertyuen@yahoo.com.hk)



BIOETHICS REPORTS

Robert Yuen

Antenatal Diagnosis of a mother with Patau's Syndrome.

A pregnant mother with confirmed Patau's Syndrome was referred to the Centre for counselling and advice. This is the third pregnancy of a couple who are both working in the civil service. Both of them are practicing Catholics. The first child of the family is a healthy 4 years old boy. The second pregnancy was diagnosed antenatally to have Turner's syndrome and termination of pregnancy was performed. The mother had expressed much regret over the decision as she had seen the abortus in the delivery room during that time. In this third pregnancy, Patau's syndrome was diagnosed antenatally with chromosomal analysis and the parents are under great pressure including from the grandparents to abort the foetus.

The obstetricians in public hospital had strongly advised for termination of pregnancy as the foetus will either end up in stillbirth or die very soon after birth. The parents had consulted some private obstetricians and they were of the same opinion as well. Because of their religious faith, they believe that even malformed foetus should not be aborted. Their faith is much supported by the elder sister of the mother. A parish priest has offered mass for the distressed family and given them lots of support.

During the interview, they were very concerned about the outcome of the baby after birth and requested to be referred to a Christian obstetrician in the private sector for follow up and advice. Medical advice on the condition of the baby after birth was given and the parents were referred to a Christian doctor in St. Paul's Hospital. I had contacted the sister of the mother recently and she told me that the family was expecting the birth of the baby soon.

Let us pray for this family and may our Saviour Lord Jesus Christ guide them during this difficult time.

Advanced Directive for an elderly Priest.

I have known an elderly priest in the late eighties for several years. He had a history of stroke last year and I visited him regularly. He can now sit out of bed occasionally and can walk just a few small steps with helper and support. He requires full tube feeding and has very poor vision because of the stroke. He is still mentally alert and with the help of a microphone we can listen to what he says. He can move his upper limbs slowly and can say the Lord's prayer with us together.

I have been asked to help him to sign an advanced directive recently. Being a paediatrician with little experience in the subject, I have asked the opinions of two Catholic experts in the field. They both said that cardiac arrest at this age was mostly likely to be caused by myocardial infarct or stroke. Based on the clinical condition, the chance of survival out of hospital for cardiac arrest for this patient is less than 10%. Having read carefully the form printed by Hospital Authority on advance directive, I explained the content of the declaration to him slowly and fully in the presence of his religious superior and several witnesses. He was coherent and put his fingerprint on the advanced directive form. In this form, it was stated that cardiac resuscitation should not be performed when he was terminally ill and he wished to continue tube feeding if he was in persistent vegetative state.

For me, it is an unusual experience but I feel that I have helped the priest to alleviate his anxiety. I continue to pray to our Lord Jesus Christ to give him strength and courage in this trying time.

Sick Toddlers, End of life care and Opting out

After the Charlie Gard saga, the plight of hopelessly ill babies on life support, whose parents refuse to let go and allow palliative care (and withdrawal of ventilation) continues to make the headlines. First there was the case of Isiah Haastrup, who suffered devastating birth asphyxia, leading to severe hypoxic brain damage, prolonged coma and recurrent seizures. Disagreement between the parents and the medical team resulted in a Court battle, and the judge sided with the doctors. Eventually palliative care was started, ventilation withdrawn and the baby passed away.

Alfie Evans is a young boy with a devastating neurodegenerative disorder which has left him ventilator dependent and comatose. Unlike Charlie Gard, the doctors have failed to come up with a diagnosis and therefore he was in a worse position than Charlie with regards to definitive treatment. He has been deteriorating and was thought by the hospital to be dying. Disagreement also brought the parents and the hospital to the Courts but the end played out rather messily and I think this case, being incredibly complicated will need final resolution and the full facts to become known for rational comment to be possible. The analysis of the case will be left for the next edition of Bioethics Corner.

Back to Hong Kong, the 5th Bioethics Conference of the Bioethics Committee and the Bioethics Resource Centre was held in the Caritas Institute of Higher Education on the theme of End of Life Care. For further details, please refer to the report by Dr Robert Yuen elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Continuing with the end of life care theme, a couple of cases hit the news in the past six months relating to Advance Directives (ADs). In the earlier case, a lady whose husband was in a persistent vegetative state (PVS), felt that it would have been better if her husband could direct his care in the present incompetent state by making an AD before the catastrophe that led him to lose his mental capacity. She herself suffered from some chronic but not life-threatening diseases and thus went to a private geriatric specialist to sort out an AD. Unfortunately when she presented her AD to the HA, there was a lot of resistance in recognizing it. Another case involved a cancer patient being booted from pillar to post over another AD. It is known that the HA is rather against people who are not obviously terminally ill or suffering from a life-threatening illness to draw up ADs. Yet Tony Bland was a 18 year old Liverpool fan before he was crushed at Hillsborough and ended up in PVS. Similarly Nancy Cruzan was deemed a healthy 25 year old until she met with a car accident and ended up in PVS. This latter case brought the relevance of ADs, living wills and other such advance care instruments to the general populace in the USA, who might otherwise consider themselves in rude health. There certainly is a case for the HA to reconsider its position on ADs for those not currently suffering life-threatening illness.

The Government in the meantime has implemented a consultation on Continuing Power of Attorney (CPA) and this has expanded on the former Enduring Power of Attorney (EPA) by including some healthcare decisions. Yet like EPAs, CPAs cannot authorize the withdrawal of life-sustaining therapies, unlike living wills in many overseas jurisdictions. The CUHK Centre for Bioethics is leading a campaign to get the Government to reconsider, and we should watch these developments closely.

The government in UK has undergone a consultation exercise about changing the organ donation system to an opt-out system. Wales has done so about two years ago and the verdict was mixed, as it did not dramatically raise the organ transplant rate. The same was the case in Spain (transplant rates rose only after the national transplant organisation was founded) and Sweden (transplant rates remain low despite opt-out legislation). But nowhere was opt-out more disastrous than in Brazil where the scheme was scrapped after it failed to produce results and caused many to scramble to register objection. Hong Kong should consider opt-out very carefully if the temptation to change the system is growing strong. The Church insists on explicit consent by the donor or his proxy (CCC2296), so opting-out is morally illicit as far as Catholics are concerned.

Social Service



Caritas bazaar 2017

The Guild has taken part in Caritas Charity Bazaar on 12th, November, 2017. Our doctors and volunteers served more than 300 visitors that day. We provided individual health consultation, screening and education on atrial fibrillation, blood glucose, cholesterol, urate, bone mass density, abdominal fat, diabetic maculopathy, fatty liver, as well as foot reflexology. We also thank Amgen, Bayer, Cardioscan, Chong Lap HK Co. Ltd, Fortune Pharmacal Co. Ltd, Medicom and Siemens healthcare for their generous sponsorships in providing medical devices, educational kits, educational materials and gifts. We raised \$19000 for Caritas that day. In the future, apart from fund-raising, we look forward to strengthen our role in health education and promotion in Catholic bioethics to the general public.

Caritas Fun Fair 2018

In Caritas Funfair 2018 (27-28th, January), our specialists in gastroenterology, otorhinolaryngology, ophthalmology, physicians, nurses and dietitian served more than 400 visitors via individual consultations.

We also provided screening and education on atrial fibrillation, blood glucose, cholesterol, urate, bone mass density, diabetic maculopathy, refractive error, intraocular pressure, fatty liver and foot reflexology. For the first time, we performed demonstration of gastrointestinal endoscopy, wound care and CPR to the public. We raised \$34000 for the bidding of Caritas Institute of Higher Education (CIHE) to become the first Catholic university in Hong Kong.



Members' Corner

Congratulations!



*Dr Alice Au and Dr Francis Cho
(XR, PYNEH)
25 December 2017
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
Taipo*

中國國內醫療支援小組成立

目標：支援國內天主教醫院的醫療發展

成員：曾文和醫生（內分泌及糖尿病專科醫生），阮嘉毅醫生（兒科專科醫生），蘇信超醫生（牙科醫生，哈佛大學公共衛生碩士），胡曉峰醫生（內科醫生）

簡介：曾文和醫生和楊美雲醫生曾到訪過位於河北邯鄲的河北邯鄲大眾醫院及聖路加醫院。河北邯鄲大眾醫院是一所擁有二百多病床的全科醫院，聖路加醫院則為一農村醫院，有大概二十多張病床。時值中國醫療改革的高峰期，考察過後，兩位醫生倡議香港的天主教醫生可透過香港的經驗及技術支援國內天主教醫院，從而發展他們的天主教特色及提升競爭力。本會也資助過該兩所醫院一台X光機，短期內主要集中援助基層醫療方面的發展。

- 1) 於二零一七年十二月已舉辦兩天的「善終服務研討會」，邀請國內天主教的神父修女及醫護人員來港參與講座與分享會，以及訪問本港的基層醫療設施。
- 2) 於二零一八年秋至一九年春，派出交流團到邯鄲（視乎人手）參觀國內實際情況。

現誠邀各位參與活動以促進雙方特別在善終及基層醫療上的交流。如有任何意見及建議，歡迎聯絡胡曉峰醫生（63386991）。

Coming Events

Graduation Mass & Annual General Meeting

Date: 30 June 2018

Venue: Caritas Restaurant

Time: 5-6 pm Thanksgiving Mass

6-6:30 pm Annual general meeting

6:45-8:30 pm Dinner

Guest of Honour: Mr Justice Patrick CHAN Siu-oi, GBM

For further details, please visit:

<http://doctor.catholic.org.hk>

www.facebook.com/catholic.doctor.hk