

天主教華人牧民處

www.chinesechaplaincyparra.org



將臨期第四主日 (丙年)

2021年12月19日

進堂詠

諸天，請滴下甘露，望雲彩降下仁義。
願大地裂開，生出救恩；願正義一同出生！

讀經一 米該亞先知書 5:1-4

上主這樣說：「厄弗辣大白冷！你在猶大郡邑中，雖是最小的，但是，將由你為我出生一位統治以色列的人；他的來歷源於亙古，遠自永遠的時代。」

因此，上主必將遺棄他們，直到孕婦生產之時；那時，他弟兄中的遺民，必將歸來，與以色列子民團聚。他必卓然屹立，以上主的能力，及上主、他天主之名的威權，牧放自己的羊群。

他們將獲得安居，因為他必大有權勢，直達地極。他本人將是和平！

—上主的話

答唱詠 詠 80:2,3,15-16,18-19

【答】：天主，求你復興我們；請顯示你的慈顏，好拯救我們。

領：以色列的牧養者，懇求你留心細聽。
坐於革魯賓之上者，求你大顯光榮。
求你發顯你的威能，快來作我們的救星！【答】

領：萬軍的天主，求你領我們回去；求你從高天之上，垂視而憐恤！求你常看顧這葡萄樹，和你右手種植的園圃，保護你所培養的小樹。【答】

領：願你右手扶持你右邊的人，並扶助你所堅固的子民！從此，我們再不願意離開你；請賜我們生存，為能傳揚你的名。【答】

讀經二 致希伯來人書 10:5-10

弟兄姊妹們：

為此，基督一進入世界便說：「犧牲與素祭，已非你所要，卻給我預備了一個身體；全燔祭和贖罪祭，已非你所喜，於是我說：看，我已來到！關於我，書卷上已有記載：天主！我來為承行你的旨意。」

前邊說：「祭物和素祭，全燔祭和贖罪祭，已非你所要，已非你所喜」——這一切都是按照法律所奉獻的；後邊他說：「看，我已來到，為承行你的旨意」。由此可見，他廢除了那先前的，為要成立那以後的。我們就是因這旨意，藉耶穌基督的身體，一次而為永遠的祭獻，得到了聖化。

—上主的話

福音前歡呼

領：亞肋路亞。

眾：亞肋路亞。

領：看！上主的婢女，願照你的話，成就於我吧！

眾：亞肋路亞。

福音 聖路加福音 1:39-45

瑪利亞就在那幾日起身，急速往山區去，到了猶大的一座城。她進入匝加利亞的家，就向依撒伯爾請安。

依撒伯爾一聽到瑪利亞請安，胎兒就在她的腹中歡躍。依撒伯爾於是充滿了聖神，高聲說：

「在女人中，你是蒙祝福的，你的胎兒，也是蒙祝福的。我主的母親，駕臨我這裡，這是我那裡得來的呢？看，你請安的聲音，一入我耳，胎兒就在我腹中，歡喜踴躍。那信了由上主傳於她的話必要完成的，是有福的。」

—上主的話

領主詠

看，有位貞女要懷孕生子，給他起名叫厄瑪奴耳。

聖言導讀

由於瑪利亞在天使報喜之時，得知她的親戚依撒伯爾懷孕的喜事，便立刻前往猶大山區去拜訪依撒伯爾。這是一個非常遙遠而且危險的旅程，瑪利亞的行動顯示出她對於天主的信仰，她相信了天使所說的話「依撒伯爾雖在老年卻懷了男胎」（一26）。雖然從納匝肋到猶大山區的路途相當遙遠，但路加完全沒有報導這個旅途的過程，而直接敘述瑪利亞到達依撒伯爾家中時所發生的情景。

瑪利亞到達目的地後，立刻向依撒伯爾請安問候。路加福音頭兩章記載了許多相遇的故事，和彼此問候的情況，這些相遇都來自於天主的安排，天主的主動介入往往把人聯繫在一起，在人與人之間的關係之中，救援逐漸的展開。瑪利亞和依撒伯爾的彼此問候，表達這個相遇的情況充滿愛情。在古時希臘、羅馬以及猶太人彼此的祝福和今日相當不同，以往的祝福並非只是一個單純的願望而已，而是實在地具有產生效果的力量。路加並沒有報導瑪利亞的問候語，因為他將注意力都集中在依撒伯爾的回應上面。

路加福音以非常技巧的方式，將洗者若翰和耶穌的童年故事連結在一起。瑪利亞和依撒伯爾的相遇含有豐富的神學意義，表達瑪利亞特別蒙受天主祝福，她超越一切人的信德，以及她對他人的關懷。

瑪利亞和依撒伯爾的相遇同時也是耶穌的前驅和默西亞的相遇，路一15關於若翰的預言在此得到實現，基督徒讀者因此而堅信，若翰是耶穌基督的前驅。若翰在母胎中就被聖神充滿，而依撒伯爾充分地瞭解這個記號，因此滿心喜悅地稱讚瑪利亞是有福的，因為她相信了上主的話；而瑪利亞則稱頌天主的偉大。直到今日基督徒仍不斷的重複依撒伯爾問候瑪利亞的話：「萬福瑪利亞」，同時也不斷地和瑪利亞一起吟唱「謝主曲」。

歡迎把這通訊
帶回家細閱

天主教聖莫尼加堂 St. Monica's Catholic Parish

Corner Church Street and North Rocks Road, North Parramatta

牧民處熱線電話	0411 192 278 短訊 (SMS)、WhatsApp、微信 (wechat)、粵語及國語(普通話)留言
主任司鐸 / 華人專職司鐸：	林勝文神父 電話：9630 1951 電郵： shingmanlam@gmail.com
主日彌撒時間：	粵語：星期日上午11時30分 英語：星期六黃昏5時，星期日上午9時、黃昏6時
平日彌撒：	星期二至五上午9時15分〔英語，附粵語講道〕
明供聖體：	逢星期四晚上8時至9時 逢星期五上午9時15分彌撒後至10時45分〔附修和聖事〕
修和聖事：	逢星期六下午4時至4時45分，每月第三主日上午10時15分至11時，或與林勝文神父預約
病人傅油聖事 / 外送聖體：	請與林勝文神父聯絡 電話：9630 1951 電郵： shingmanlam@gmail.com
婚配聖事：	請於婚配日期前至少12個月與林勝文神父聯絡
嬰孩聖洗聖事：	需與林勝文神父預約並在聖洗前準備妥當
成人聖洗聖事：	必須先參與慕道班(RCIA)，請與林勝文神父聯絡
牧民處地址：	8 Daking Street, North Parramatta, NSW 2151
牧民處辦公時間：	星期二至五 - 上午8時半時至下午2時半
堂區聯絡：	電話：9630 1951 傳真：9630 8738 電郵： stmonicanp@bigpond.com

聖誕節彌撒時間

12月24日(星期五 聖誕前夕) 黃昏6時(英語) 晚上9時(粵語)

12月25日(星期六 聖誕節) 午夜12時(英語) 早上9時(英語) 早上11時半(粵語) 下午5時(英語)

12月26日(星期日 聖家節) 早上9時(英語) 早上11時半(粵語) 下午6時(英語)

抽獎券 Raffle ticket

St. Monica's Parish and its Chinese Chaplaincy will run a raffle ticket sales during the Christmas period, starting from 12/12/21 until 15/01/22, as a fund raising activity for the Parish Centre Renovation. The lucky draw will be held on 16/01/22 with ten winning prizes. We need your generous support to help meet our financial needs. Please contact our Chaplaincy hotline 0411192278 if you have any queries.

聖莫尼加教堂的牧民處將會在聖誕節期間銷售抽獎券，每張\$2，為期一個月，由12月12日開始。抽獎日期已定為16/01/2022，獎品豐富。所有收入用作牧民中心裝修之用，希望大家鼎力支持，幫忙推銷。如有任何查詢可至電牧民處熱線0411192278，謝謝大家。



VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL Our traditional Christmas Appeal will take place over the next few weekends, envelopes will be placed at the back of the Church for the time being and you may place your donations in the 2nd Collection bucket or the Poor Box. Christmas Cards will also be available along with Columban Calendars and the proceeds of these may also be placed in the POOR BOX.

CHRISTMAS GIFT TREE/CHRISTMAS TREE (HAMPER) These will be in place at the back of the Church and the usual generosity of gifts and Christmas food items will be appreciated, please ensure such items are in place by Sunday night Mass 19th December as Hampers will be collated on Monday 20th December and delivered the next day.



聖莫尼加堂特別籌款

堂區辦事處及會議室已加增新洗手間和小型廚房，請信友幫忙支付裝修費用。

我們目前共收到了\$47,301的捐款。為了達到我們\$70,000的目標，非常感謝您在這些困難時期繼續提供支持。捐款可以放在聖堂內的捐款箱或交給堂區辦事處。

本主日答唱詠選自聖詠第80篇，是一位叫「阿撒夫」的詩人（或他的後裔）所作的「哀歌」。詩人的年代與事蹟皆不可考，但從內容推論，應和以色列民族戰敗有關。學者大都以北國被亞述滅亡後（主降生前721年，見列下17章），或瑪加伯時代以民與敘利亞帝國苦戰時（主降生前167年，見加下8章）的作品。無論如何，這是以色列子民在國難當前，共同向上主請求救援的禱詞。

答句出自第4節（天主，求你使我們能以復興，顯示你的慈顏，好拯救我們。），是以色列子民由國破家亡後相當普遍的祈禱，懇求上主復興以色列國昔日的輝煌。「顯示你的慈顏」也譯作「求你的臉發光」，似在預示耶穌顯容（瑪17:2; 另見谷9:2; 路9:29）。

第2至3節（以色列的牧養者，懇求你留心細聽，你率領若瑟的子孫有如率領羊群。坐於革魯賓之上者，求你大顯光榮。於厄弗辣因、本雅明和默納協之中；求你發顯你的威能，快來作我們的救星！），舊約多次稱上主是以色列的牧者（例如創48:15; 49:24等），「坐於革魯賓之上者」，意旨是在約櫃上的天主。約櫃是「天主的御座」，由天使（革魯賓）抬著，即是與以色列同在的全能者天主，這位天主必拯救祂的子民。

第15至16節（萬軍的天主，求你領我們回去，求你從高天之上垂視而憐恤！求你常看顧這葡萄樹，和你右手種植的園圃，保護你所培養的小樹。），「葡萄樹」、「園圃」是指以色列子民和巴勒斯坦，因外邦人的侵襲，人民和其家園已滿目瘡痍；詩人滿懷哀傷，懇求上主救援。

在第18節（願你右手扶持你右邊的人。並扶助為你所堅固的子民！），天主「右邊的人」，聖經學者一致認為這就是「默西亞」，以民因默西亞的到來而復興。因此這聖詠除了回應讀經一米該亞先知的預言，也暗示默西亞的到來。

~勝文神父



Zechariah's Doubt and Mary's Faith

The first chapter of Luke's gospel contains parallel stories in which the angel Gabriel announces two miraculous births: John the Baptist to his father Zechariah, and Jesus Christ to His mother Mary. On the surface, Zechariah's and Mary's respective responses to Gabriel appear quite similar. However, the results of their questions could not be more different. Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth were both members of the priestly class by birth. As a priest, Zechariah had periodic duties in the Temple in Jerusalem. On the day of his annunciation the angel Gabriel appeared to him, announcing that his wife, who was beyond childbearing years, would give birth to a great prophet who would prepare the people for the coming of the Lord. Zechariah and Elizabeth, despite her age, would soon conceive a son. Zechariah, however, would remain mute until the birth of his son John. Mary, contrarily was an unknown figure living in the obscure town of Nazareth. She was young, newly betrothed, and probably less educated than Zechariah. Yet she had been prepared and graced by God from the moment of her conception for a world-changing task. Gabriel, the same angel who had appeared to the priest Zechariah in God's Temple, appeared to the lowly Virgin of Nazareth, announcing that she would soon become pregnant with a Son, the Messiah. Luke undoubtedly wished for these two accounts to mirror one another. Yet while Zechariah was struck dumb for questioning Gabriel, Mary was given the assurance of Elizabeth's miraculous pregnancy. Zechariah's question was accounted a sin, whereas Mary's was not met with even a rebuke.

How is Mary's question so different than Zechariah's? Zechariah has a wife, he has the scriptures which contain stories of the barren conceiving (Abraham and Sarah being only one of several), and a vision of God's angel has promised him this. Mary is betrothed to be married. News of a coming pregnancy shouldn't be so surprising to a young, engaged woman. Even though she had "no relations with a man," she will soon be wed. Married couples have children. Mary's "how?" is initially baffling. Gabriel responds by explaining that Mary's future Son is in fact God's Son, and that His Spirit will cause this miraculous birth. Mary could never have known this on her own. A Virgin Birth had never happened before. To human ears, it sounds like a contradiction. Yet nothing could be farther from the truth! It was a necessity beyond human comprehension. Jesus had to be born of the flesh a woman to share in our humanity, but He also had to be conceived in the glory of holy virginity to show forth the power of His Divinity. There is no Old Testament story about such a birth. However, with all the proof in front of Zechariah, he still asks for a sign. Mary, on the other hand, although she did not ask for a sign or proof, is given one when Gabriel tells her of Elizabeth's miraculous pregnancy. Nevertheless, Zechariah ought not to be judged harshly by Luke's readers for his doubt. In comparison to our Lord and our Lady, we all fall far short. His doubt was a minor error. Our Lord says that whoever does His Father's will is His family, and that those who hear the word of God and obey it are blessed beyond kinship. His moment of doubt did not so disappoint God as to bar him from fatherhood. He may have deserved his punishment, but by God's grace he was also worthy of this miracle.

-written by Joseph Calabrese, first published on Your Daily Cup of Faith blog

Youth Announcements



*St Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

We have resumed face to face youth group! Feel free to join us in the community room at 10:30AM!

*Youth Camp January 2022- Mission Impossible

For those who were disheartened by our cancellation of youth camp this year (☹️), we have managed to reschedule it to next year Tuesday 18th January- Friday 21st January 2022! Hope to you all there! Please see Cheryl Wong (0481507169) or Rebecca Cheung (0449055395) for forms and/or questions. **Also note forms need to be returned by Tuesday 28th December 2021**

*Puddle Jumpers December 2021

Thank you to everyone who supported our youth and brought in any items/ toiletries these past few weeks. Unfortunately we are NOT accepting anymore donations as we are packaging and sending them off before Christmas.

*Youth Christmas Party 20th December

As we near the end of the year, we will also be having our annual Christmas Party on 20th December (Monday) at 6PM-9:30PM! It will be held in the hall, with \$10 entry fee as food will be provided. Hope to see you all there!

聖彌額爾禱文

聖彌額爾總領天使，在戰爭的日子裏保衛我們，免我們陷入魔鬼邪惡的陰謀，和奸詐的陷阱中，我們謙卑地祈求，但願上主譴責牠。上主萬軍的統帥，求你因上主的威能，把徘徊人間，引誘人靈，使其喪亡的撒殫及其他邪靈，拋下地獄裏去。亞孟。



St. Monica's Parish

North Parramatta

ST MONICA'S
CATHOLIC PARISH AND PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C

19th December 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING

MICAH 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 79

(R.) Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help.

(R.)

2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)

3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

SECOND READING

HEBREWS 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia

I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!



GOSPEL

LUKE 3:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.