天主教華人牧民處

www.chinesechaplaincyparra.org

將臨期第三主日 (乙年)

2023年12月17日



進堂詠

你們在主內應當常常喜樂;我再說:你們應當喜樂!你們的寬仁,應當叫眾人知道:主快來了。

讀經一 依撒意亞先知書61:1-2,10-11

吾主上主的神臨於我身上,因為 上主給我傅了油,派遣我向貧苦的 人傳報喜訊,治療破碎了的心靈, 向俘虜宣告自由,釋放獄中的囚 徒,宣布上主恩慈的喜年。

我要萬分喜樂於上主,我的心靈 要歡躍於我的天主,因為他給我穿 上救恩的衣服,給我披上義德的外 衣,使我有如頭戴花冠的新郎,有 如佩帶珍珠的新娘。正如大地怎樣 產生苗芽,田園怎樣使種子發芽, 吾主上主也要怎樣在萬民前,產生 正義和讚揚。

一上主的話

答唱詠

【答】:我的心靈歡躍於我的天主。

領:我的靈魂頌揚上主,我的心神歡躍於 天主,我的救主,因為他垂顧了他婢女 的卑微;今後萬世萬代都要稱我有 福。【答】

領:因全能者在我身上,行了大事,他的名字是聖的,他的仁慈世世代代,賜與敬畏他的人。【答】

領:他曾使飢餓者,飽饗美物,反使那富有者,空手而去。他曾回憶起自己的仁慈,扶助了他的僕人以色列。【答】

讀經二 致得撒洛尼人前書5:16-24 弟兄姊妹們:

你們應常歡樂,不斷祈禱,事事 感謝:這就是天主在基督耶穌內, 對你們所有的旨意。不要消滅神 恩,不要輕視先知之恩;但應當考 驗一切:好的,應保持;各種壞 的,要遠避。

願賜平安的天主,親自完全聖化你們,使你們整個的神魂、靈魂和肉身,在我們的主耶穌基督來臨時,保持無瑕可指。那召叫你們的,是忠信的,他必實行。

一上主的話

福音前歡呼

領:亞肋路亞。 眾:亞肋路亞。

領:上主的神臨於我身上,派遣我向貧苦 的人傳報喜訊。

眾:亞肋路亞。

福音 聖若望福音1:6-8,19-28

曾有一人,是由天主派遣來的,名 叫若翰。這人來,是為作證,為給光 作證,為使眾人藉他而信。他不是那 光,只是為給那光作證。

這是若翰所作的見證:當時,猶 太人從耶路撒冷派遣了司祭和肋未 人 ,到他那裡問他說:「你是誰?」, 他明明承認,並沒有否認;他明認 說:「我不是默西亞。」他們又問若 翰說:「那麼你是誰?你是厄里亞 嗎?」他說:「我不是。」他們又問: 「你是那位先知嗎?」他回答說: 「不是。」於是,他們問他說:「你 究竟是誰?好叫我們答覆那派遣我 們來的人。你自己說你是誰?」若翰 說:「我是在曠野裡呼喊者的聲 音:修直上主的道路!正如依撒意 亞先知所說的。」被派遣來的有些是 法利塞人;他們又問若翰說:「你 既不是默西亞,又不是厄里亞,也不 是那位先知,那麽,你為什麽施洗 呢?」若翰答覆他們說:「我以水施 洗,但有一位站在你們中間,是你們 所不認識的; 他在我以後來, 我卻 當不起解他的鞋帶。」這些事發生於 約但河對岸的伯達尼,若翰施洗的 地方。

一上主的話

領主詠

告訴心怯的人說:「鼓起勇氣來,不要畏懼!看,你們的天主,他要親自來拯救你們!」。

歡迎把這通訊帶回家細閱



導讀

若翰的見證是指向信仰的,而 且具有效力的。由於他是在耶路 撒冷派來的代表,亦即「司祭和 肋未人」的面前作證,所以這是 一個正式的、具有「法定效力」 的見證。從一開始,猶太人就是 若翰的對手,拒絕他也不相信耶 穌,他們如同一個「司法單位」 來到若翰面前,提出問題審問 他。福音中首先以三個否定性的 答案,說明若翰鄭重地否認三個 不適於他身分的訴求:他既非來 自達味家族的君王性默西亞、亦 非厄里亞、也不是那位先知。在 猶太傳統思想中,厄里亞(拉三 1、23)和那位先知(申十八15、 18) 都被理解為帶來默西亞性救 援的人物。

若的了句一太己一也切不若的,關個人完直當,來認的指形但於恫都全」不若的,關個人亞意目和並這為出經不仰,。在,明建出經不仰,。在,明建計戶一大亞意目和並這認為自然,來認的指而他連默做大亞意目和並這認為自然,時表來解超奴人。,時表來解超奴人,與其間一有猶自那帶一也如不

這段福音的重點是「見證」! 作證者清楚知道自己在說什麼,信 你永遠只能透過見證而被喚起。洗 者若翰是一個善盡職責的模範見 證人,他面對一群自以為擁有判別 一切見證的標準、而且反對他的強 權勢力,絲毫不畏懼退縮。

http://www.ccreadbible.org

天主教聖莫尼加堂 St. Monica's Catholic Parish

Corner Church Street and North Rocks Road, North Parramatta

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牧民處熱線電話	0411 192 278 短訊 (SMS)、WhatsApp、微信 (wechat)、粵語及國語(普通话)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	
助理司鐸	張勇浩神父(英、韓語) 電話: 9630 1951 電郵: stmonicanp@bigpond.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: <u>stmonicanp@bigpond.com</u>	

信仰探討講座將於下星期日暫停,1月21日復課,敬請留意。

2023-2024 聖誕及新年彌撒時間表

節日	日期	時間	語言
將臨期	2023年12月23日	下午5時	英語
第四主日	(星期六)	(前夕彌撒)	
	2023年12月24日	早上9時	英語
	(星期日)	早上11時半	粤語
聖誕前夕	2023年12月24日	黄昏6時	英語
	(星期日)	晚上9時	粤語
聖誕節	2024年12月25日	午夜 12 時	英語
	(星期一)	(子夜彌撒)	
		早上9時	
		早上11時半	粤語
聖家節	2023年12月30日	黄昏5時	英語
	(星期六)		
	2023年12月31日	早上9時	英語
	(星期日)	黄昏6時	
		早上11時半	粤語
天主之母節	2024年1月1日	早上9時	英語
	(星期一)		
主顯節	2024年1月6日	下午5時	英語
	(星期六)	(前夕彌撒)	
	2024年1月7日	早上9時	英語
	(星期日)	黄昏6時	
		早上11時半	粤語
主受洗節	2024年1月8日	早上9時15分	英語
	(星期一)		

2023 年聖雲先會聖誕募捐 將於今日截止-

- 1 可購買在聖堂大門的聖誕卡或英語天主教月曆。費用請放入 Poor Box。
- 2 在聖堂大門的禮物樹取一個標 簽,按標簽上的指示預備一份 禮物,於12 月17 日前放在聖 若瑟像旁的聖誕樹下。
- 3 捐出各式乾貨或可貯存的食物, 於 12 月 17 日前放在聖若瑟像 旁的聖誕樹下。聖雲先會會員 會收集並發放給有需要的人。
- 4本堂青年組將於12月17日彌撒 後在Community Room舉辦籌款 活動,支持聖雲先會。

懇請大家慷慨解囊。

本主日答唱詠選自路加福音所載,大家耳熟能詳的「聖母讚主曲」,可見彌撒的答唱詠亦會選自《聖詠集》以外的聖經篇章。

「聖母讚主曲」與撒上 2:1-10(撒慕爾母親亞納的頌謝詩)十分相似,再加上其他舊約篇章潤飾而成,讀者應驚歎聖母瑪利亞對聖經是多麼熟悉,她在聖神默感中用聖經的話語編織成她的禱詞。全文如下:

	路加福音第一章	出自舊約
46	我的靈魂頌揚上主,	撒上2:1; 依29:19;
		依61:10
47	我的心神歡躍於天主,我的	撒上2:1; 哈3:18
	救主,	
48	因為他垂顧了她婢女的卑	撒上1:11; 11:27;
	微,今後萬世萬代都要稱我	創30:13
	有福;	
49	因全能者在我身上行了大	詠126:3; 111:9
	事,他的名字是聖的,	
50	他的仁慈世世代代於無窮	詠103:17
	世,賜與敬畏他的人。	
51	他伸出了手臂施展大能,驅	詠89:11; 138:6; 德
	散那些心高氣傲的人。	33:12; 則17:24
52	他從高座上推下權勢者,卻	約5:11; 12:19
	舉揚了卑微貧困的人。	
53	他曾使饑餓者飽饗美物,反	詠107:9
	使那富有者空手而去。	
54	他曾回憶起自己的仁慈,扶	詠98:3; 依41:8-9
	助了他的僕人以色列,	
55	正如他向我們的祖先所說過	創12:3; 13:15;
	的恩許,施恩於亞巴郎和他	22:18
	的子孫,直到永遠。	

教會在將臨期選讀「聖母讚主曲」,是因為「聖言成了血肉」(若1:14),天主的許諾已完全實現,這也是我們喜躍歡騰的真正因由。全曲的中心是51至53節,是天主救贖工程的總綱:祂推翻罪惡、驅散驕傲,但受壓迫者、義人們卻蒙受圓滿的救恩。

~勝文神父

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。





SOAP Reflection 17th December

Scripture: This week, we meet John, who will play out his role to identify Jesus as the son of God. He goes and meets with priests and Levites who question his authority and identity. He announces that he is not the Messiah or a prophet, but rather just a prophetic voice to the people, the pave the path between the people and Jesus. We see him here simply as a witness to the one that God has sent

Observation: Coming into this weeks Gospel, we see that we do not meet John just by chance, but as it is willed, being sent by God himself. As for the purpose of us meeting him, it's not for praise or for worship, but to see a messenger who is destined to light the way for the word of God to be spread as a witness for Jesus. John's role, not just in this weeks Gospel, but in this book, is to make way for the Messiah, doing this through the identity that he has been given by God. We see him introducing himself to the Jews and Levites, authority figures of Jerusalem who oversee activity and people of interest, only to be questions upon his authority and status. After a standoff, a sense of uneasiness resides within the Jews and Levits, only to be comforted by John with a message for the arrival of Jesus.

Application: Although it is the Book of John, and we open with the introduction of John, he himself is never truly the centre of attention, as we see him declare not who he is himself, but when he is not and what he is here to do, rather than an introduction to the character. All we are here to witness here, is the message, that so happens to be passed on by John. One of the most outstanding lines in this is "Make straight the way of the Lord", spoken by John, where two messages can be taken. One to prepare yourself for the coming of Jesus, as well as the ease in which you should make it. Rather than a complicated and defensive path, we should not make it difficult for ourselves of for Jesus to reach our hearts, thus being asked to make a straight way, devoid of complication and ease of travel. In the gospel, John is a symbol and a reminder to bear witness to the messiah. Jesus Christ, the one who has come in the flesh, the one who is here with us, and the one who will come again. Such is the takeaway from this week's gospel.

Prayer: Jesus, when I come upon situations that require serious thought, please send your Holy Spirit to guide me, that I may always do Your holy will. Guide me with Your counsel, and give me the courage to act rightly when it is difficult. Please grant me foresight when the future is unclear. Help me to enter into the unknown without fear, and provide courage to others that need it. Let me be prepared for anything, so that I can better appreciate the surprises that come my way. Amen

Samuel

Youth Announcements

• St Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

Youth Group continues for another month in the community room, starting at 10:30AM! Feel free to drop by for some games and friendly chats! Our topic for December is Social Justice. 2

Christmas Party

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas Party yesterday night! We hope you had a wonderful time, and we wish you all a happy Christmas with your family.





St. Monica's Parish

North Parramatta

ST MONICA'S Third Sunday of Advent- Year B

17th Dec 2023

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 61:1-2. 10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Lk 1

Response: My soul rejoices in my God.

- My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. (R.)
- The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. (R.)
- He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.
 He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 1 Thess 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John Jn 1:6-8. 19-28

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

