

天主教華人牧民處

www.chinesechaplaincyparra.org



聖家節（慶日）（乙年）

2023年12月31日

進堂詠

牧羊人急忙去了，找到了瑪利亞和若瑟，及那躺在馬槽中的嬰兒。

讀經一 創世紀 15:1-6;21:1-3

在那一天，有上主的話在神視中對亞巴郎說：「亞巴郎，你不要怕，我是你的盾牌；你得的報酬必很豐厚！」亞巴郎說：「我主上主！你能給我什麼？我一直沒有兒子；繼承我家業的，是大馬士革人厄里厄則爾。」

亞巴郎又說：「你既沒有賜給我後裔，那麼只有一個家僕來作我的承繼人。」有上主的話答覆他說：「這人決不會是你的承繼人，而是你親生的，要做你的承繼人。」

上主於是領亞巴郎到外面，說：「請你仰觀蒼天，數點星辰，你能夠數清嗎？」繼而對他說：「你的後裔也將這樣。」亞巴郎相信了上主，上主就以此算為他的正義。

上主照所許的，眷顧了撒辣；上主對撒辣實踐了他所說的話。撒辣懷了孕，在天主所許的時期，給年老的亞巴郎，生了一個兒子。亞巴郎為撒辣給他所生的兒子，起名叫依撒格。

—上主的話

答唱詠 詠105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9

【答】：他是我們的天主；他永遠信守自己的盟約。
領：請眾感謝上主，呼號他的聖名；請眾在萬民中，宣揚他的功行。請眾歌頌他，詠讚他，傳述他的奇妙化工。

【答】
領：請你們以他的聖名為光榮；願尋求上主的人，樂滿心中。請眾尋求上主和他的德能，要時常不斷追求他的儀容。【答】

領：天主的僕人亞巴郎的後裔，上主揀選的雅各伯的兒子！上主是我們的天主；他的統治遍及普世各處。

【答】
領：他永遠懷念著自己的盟約，直到萬代不忘自己的許諾；就是向亞巴郎所立的盟約，向依撒格所起的誓諾。【答】

讀經二 致希伯來人書 11:8,11-12,17-19

弟兄姊妹們：

因著信德，亞巴郎一蒙召選，就聽命前往他將要承受為產業的地方。他出發時，還不知道要到那裡。

因著信德，連石女撒辣，雖然過了適當年齡，也獲得懷孕生子的能力，因為她相信，那應許者是信實的。因此，由一個人，且由一個已屆暮年的人，生育子孫，有如天上的星辰那麼多，又如海邊的沙粒，不可勝數。

因著信德，亞巴郎在受試探時，獻上了依撒格。亞巴郎就是那承受了恩許的人，但他卻獻上了自己的獨生子。原來天主曾向亞巴郎說過：「只有由依撒格所生

的，才稱為你的後裔。」亞巴郎深信：天主有使人從死者中復活的能力，因此，他又得回了依撒格，以作預像。

—上主的話

福音前歡呼

領：亞肋路亞。眾：亞肋路亞。

領：天主在古時，曾多次，並以多種方式，藉著先知，對我們的祖先說過話。但在這末期，他藉著自己的兒子，對我們說了話。天主立了他為萬有的承繼者，並藉著他，造成了宇宙。

眾：亞肋路亞。

福音 聖路加福音 2:22-40

按梅瑟的法律，一滿了他們取潔的日期，耶穌的父母——若瑟和瑪利亞，便帶著孩子上耶路撒冷，去獻給上主，就如上主法律所吩咐的：「凡開胎首生的男性，應祝聖於上主。」並該照上主法律所吩咐的，獻上祭品：一對斑鳩或兩隻雛鴿。

那時，在耶路撒冷有一個人，名叫西默盎。這人正義虔誠，期待著以色列的安慰，而且聖神也在他身上。他曾蒙聖神啟示：自己在未看見上主的受傅者以前，決見不到死亡。

西默盎因聖神感動，進入聖殿；那時，抱著嬰孩耶穌的父母正進來，要按照法律的慣例，為耶穌行禮。西默盎就雙臂接過耶穌，讚美天主說：

「主啊！現在可照你的話，放你的僕人平安去吧！因為我親眼看見了，你在萬民前準備好的救援：為作啟示異邦的光明，你百姓以色列的榮耀。」

嬰孩耶穌的父親和母親，就驚異西默盎所說關於耶穌的這番話。

西默盎祝福了他們，又向耶穌的母親瑪利亞說：「看，這孩子已被立定，為使以色列中許多人跌倒和復興，並成為反對的記號。至於你，要有一把利劍，刺透你的心靈，為叫許多人心中的思念，顯露出來。」

又有一位女先知亞納，是阿協爾支派法奴耳的女兒，已上了年紀。她出嫁後，同丈夫住了七年，以後就守寡，直到八十四歲。她齋戒祈禱，晝夜事奉天主，總不離開聖殿。正在那時候，她也前來稱謝天主，並向所有希望耶路撒冷得到救贖的人，講論這孩子。

耶穌的父母按照上主的法律，辦完了一切，便返回加里肋亞，他們的本城納匝肋。

孩子漸漸長大而強壯，充滿智慧；天主的恩寵常在他身上。

—上主的話

領主詠

從此，智慧在地上出現，與世人共相往還。

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
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： stmonicanp@bigpond.com

2024 新年和聖誕期彌撒時間表

1月1日(星期一) 天主之母節 早上9時(英語)
1月7日(星期日) 主顯節 早上11時半(粵語)(英語彌撒如常舉行)
1月8日(星期一) 主受洗節 早上9時15分(英語)

農曆新年聚餐(團年晚飯)

日期/時間：2024年2月3日(農曆年廿四、星期六)晚上6時半恭候，7時入席。
地點：囍鳳臺酒家 Rhodes Phoenix Chinese Restaurant (Rhodes Waterside Shopping Centre, 1 Rider Blvd, Rhodes 2138)
餐券每位：成人\$80.00，領退休金人士/十八歲或以下青年\$60.00，十二歲或以下小童\$40.00。
(可自攜紅白餐酒，免開瓶費；亦可在酒家購買各式餐酒)
餐券於2024年1月7、14、21日公開發售。歡迎大家攜同親朋戚友一起出席。
查詢請致電或發訊息給牧民處熱線 0411 192 278

聖言 導讀

西默盎被描述為正義虔誠的以色列人，一生等待「以色列的安慰」—默西亞的救援(參閱：依四十，六一—二)。聖神曾經特別許諾，在他死前必將見到「上主的受傅者」！「受傅者」的意思就是希伯來文的「默西亞」，翻譯成希臘文就是「基督」。

西默盎在這個時刻，受到聖神感動而進入聖殿，因而和耶穌以及抱著祂的父母相遇時。西默盎把孩子接抱於手中，說出了關於這嬰孩及其母親的雙重性先知預言。在聖神感動下，西默盎認出這個嬰孩就是天主許諾給萬民的救援，是「啟示異邦的光明」(依四二六，四九六)，也是「以色列百姓的榮耀」(依四六13)。因而知道聖神的啟示業已實現，所以求天主「現在」放他平安離去。

但是，福音作者藉著西默盎的話所欲傳達的，並不只是一項個人性的啟示得到實現而已。因為，在聖經的思想中，「現在」一詞指向一個時期的圓滿。西默盎對天主的讚頌，真正的深意在於向全人類宣講：在耶穌基督身上，天主的救援許諾已決定性的開始實現。

西默盎祝福了相當驚訝的耶穌的父母，並且對祂的母親預言說，耶穌帶來的救恩不會被一切人所接受，許多人將會反對祂。「許多人心中的意念將被揭露出來」，這句話暗示出一個「審判」的味道，事實上正是路加後來對猶太人棄絕耶穌的行為所做的評價(路二一20-24)。

西默盎預言「有一把利劍將要刺透你(瑪利亞)的心靈」，意義是多重的。它可以是直接指瑪利亞個人將承受的痛苦；但也可以表示民族(則十四17)或家庭將因著這利劍而分裂(路十二51-53)。瑪利亞作為民族或家庭的一份子，當然也分擔這一切不幸。

亞納被稱為女先知，表達出她的話語也是在聖神推動之下說出的。這位84歲的寡婦出自阿協爾支派，這一支派原住於巴勒斯坦北部。因此，亞納在此代表許多由外地來到耶路撒冷朝拜天主的虔誠猶太人。路加沒有記載她說的話，只敘述地向「一切希望耶路撒冷得救贖的人」講論耶穌。因此，虔誠的猶太人經由一位男人西默盎，和一位女人亞納的見證而相信天主的許諾在耶穌身上實現了。

<http://www.ccreadbible.org>



聖家節乙年讀經的答唱詠選擇了聖詠 105 篇。



SOAP Reflection 31st December

Scripture- The parts of the gospel reading which stood out to me the most were verses 23-24: "For every male opening the womb shall be called holy to the Lord, and in order to offer a sacrifice, according to what is said in the law of the Lord...." and 34-35: "Behold, this one has been set for the ruin and for the resurrection of many in Israel, and as a sign which will be contradicted. And a sword will pass through your own soul, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Observation- This reading takes place shortly after Jesus' birth in which Mary and Joseph continue to follow the law of Moses, where purification is required as the Lord states in Leviticus 12. When a woman becomes pregnant and gives birth to a son, she will remain ceremonially unclean for seven days. On the eighth day, the boy must be circumcised in order to be purified. Similarly, the woman must also present a lamb and a bird to the priest, one for the burnt offering and sin offering respectively. It is only through this action will she too be cleansed. The Lord makes an exception for those who are poorer (such as Mary and Joseph), as they can alternatively offer two doves or pigeons instead. Moreover, by presenting Jesus in the temple in Jerusalem, Mary and Joseph honour the command the Lord gave to Israel regarding firstborns- that they must all be consecrated to God as described in Exodus. It is interesting to note how both the Old and New Testament books complement one another, are often referenced throughout and that events in the Bible are interconnected in some way. Simeon's exclamation to Mary foreshadows the ministry, suffering and death of Jesus to come, and how he will be the sacrifice for the entire world.

Application- Mary and Joseph are clear examples of what it means to follow the Lord's commands. They are obedient and faithful servants who recognize the importance of trusting in God. The same could also be said about Anna, the prophetess, as she seemingly knows that the Savior which God had promised, was truly here. It made me question my own faith journey, and how often I choose to follow Christ and his teachings. Let this new year be a time where we reflect on how far we have come in our relationship with God- do we know Him; are we close to Him? Or do you still have many questions? If it is the latter, then fear not; upon reading this passage, I was notably confused because I did not understand the process of ceremonial purification myself. It has therefore made me motivated to continue learning about the Bible and how it remains relevant even (and perhaps, especially) in today's society.

Prayer- Dear Lord, thank you for offering us your son Jesus as our Savior. I would also like to give thanks and praise for the Holy Family in general- particularly Mary and Joseph, who continue to be role models for mothers and fathers around the world that follow (and sometimes struggle) in their path to holiness. I pray for all types of families, that you may bring them love, unity and peace within their homes. I pray this especially for families who are struggling, or who find it difficult to get along- with the new year ahead of us, I hope they find solace in one another, and in you Lord. I offer up these prayers to you, and may 2024 bring the whole world a better year.

由於這詩的 1 至 15 節出現在編上 16:8-22，即達味君王迎接約櫃進入耶路撒冷時，任命阿撒夫和他的兄弟向上主詠唱這首讚美詩。大部分聖經學者因此都同意達味就是這首詩的作者。至於 16 節至 45 節是否達味所作，還是另一位詩人後來補作，則未有定論。

此詩敘述以色列子民由亞巴郎開始，直到梅瑟時代，一直獲得天主的眷顧，歌詞濃縮了以民初期的歷史(由創 12 章到出 16 章)。但這詩並非純粹回憶舊事，而是訓誨人民天主是忠信的神，祂向古聖祖所作的諾言，都一一實現，因此以民理應服膺上主，恪守祂的法律和誠命。

答句選自第 7 和 8 節(他是上主，是我們的天主，他的統治遍及普世各處。他永遠懷念著自己的盟約，直到萬代不忘自己的許諾。)，這正是本詩要強調的主題：忠信的天主必實踐祂的許諾。正如家庭由一男一女，互相許諾相愛和付託終身開始，守諾的天主祝福守諾的夫妻，讓他們開枝散葉，生兒育女，一代接一代享受祂的祝福。

第 4 節裡「請眾尋求上主和他的德能」，意思是人如遇上困難，總要記起向天主哀呼。十字架上的基督都這樣做(見瑪 27:46; 谷 15:34; 路 23:46，原文出自詠 22:1 及詠 31:6)。

~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。

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. 😊
- Wishing you and your families a merry Christmas and a happy new year! Thank you to the youth for another great year; we hope you had as much fun as the leaders did.





St. Monica's Parish

North Parramatta

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year B 31st Dec 2023

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis

Gen 15:1-6. 21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great.'

'My Lord', Abram replied, 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be one of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 104

Response: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works! (R.)
2. Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face. (R.)
3. Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose. (R.)
4. He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Heb 11:8. 11-12. 17-19

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore. It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son

even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lk 2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.