

St. Joseph's Church

HOME
AWAY FROM
HOME

Nov, 2025



I BELIEVE IN ETERNAL LIFE

Sr. Weronika Maria Klebba, SSpS



"I do not know what to say if someone tells me she is afraid to die", wrote my friend. Ola, her school mate was diagnosed with advanced stage of cancer and was sent back home by the hospital. She wanted to live. She was afraid of death.

I asked whether Ola was baptized and learned she was. She had also received the sacrament of Anointing of the sick.

When I joined the Mission Congregation of the Servants of the Holy Spirit, we were gradually introduced to various practices of religious life. One of them was the monthly recollection day. Every month we had a day or half a day dedicated wholly to prayer and reflection. Guided by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, with some helpful Bible passages and questions prepared by the pre-novitiate directress, we would look back on how the Lord led us during passed month and how we answered to His invitations. This practice helped us to become more attentive to God's voice, coming through the Word of God, other people, events or whisperings of the heart. The monthly recollection day always finished with "meditation on death" or "preparation to death".

If we are afraid of something, the first wise thing to do is to say what it is we are actually afraid of. Usually, expressing our fears to someone who accepts us already diminish them. We often realize that, in fact, there is no need to fear. We get new courage, confidence and strength to face challenges.

Meditating on death helps to accept death as the reality each human being sooner or later needs to face and to go through. Someone said that death is the only sure thing in this life, so it is wiser to befriend it than to deny or delete it from our daily experience.

During the Joyful Feast 2025 – Eucharistic Congress, the first topic presented by Fr. Jerome to the young audience was "Last Things: death, judgement, heaven or hell". Fr. Jerome conveyed the message that life is very important and through our daily choices we decide about our eternity. As Catholics we believe that after death the soul goes before God for the personal judgement. Then there is the time of purification called purgatory, after which the soul goes to heaven. Some souls immediately go to heaven or to hell; both states are unchangeable. God desires that every soul goes to heaven (1 Tm 2:4), but – as He gave the human being free will – He will not force anyone to believe in Him, to accept His love and go to heaven. The choice, in fact, is ours.

St. Francis of Assisi (1182–1226) ended his famous Canticle of the Sun (or Praise of the Creatures) with a verse dedicated to "our Sister Bodily Death":

"Be praised, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,
from whose embrace no living person can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin!

Happy those she finds doing your most holy will.

The second death can do no harm to them."

A reading that can be used during a funeral depicts eternal life as being at peace in the presence of God:

"The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
and no torment shall touch them.

They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction

and their going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are in peace." (Wis 3:1-3)

Our brothers and sisters who are in eternal rest continue to praise the Lord and intercede for the people who are still sojourning on earth, so that they too could go to heaven.

"Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be His people and God Himself will always be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, [for] the old order has passed away." (Rev 21:3-4)

The Bible, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and the biographies of the saints can help us meditate on death and prepare for this moment that each of us has to take by oneself.

"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (Jn 11:25-26)



Meditation on the Last Hour

In every “Hail Mary” we ask Mama Mary to pray for us at the hour of our death. We hope her to be with us at this decisive moment. Here are few questions that may help us to “come closer” to Sister Bodily Death, as St. Francis of Assisi called her, to meditate on our death.

Quiet yourself. Imagine that – wherever you are – you are in the presence of God who has created you and is looking at you with love. You and your life is in his strong, safe hands. Ask Holy Spirit to guide you through this meditation.

Imagine that your life is coming to its end. When would you like it to happen? How old are you at that moment? Would you like to know that your life is coming to its end, e.g. due to the illness or very advanced age? Or would you prefer to die in other circumstances? What are they? Where would you like to pass away? What is the surrounding? Who is with you? What are you talking about? What is the atmosphere?

What things are coming to your mind when you think about the hour of your death? What are you grateful for? Is there anyone you still would like to meet or contact? What would you like to tell them? Is there anything you need to forgive? Or to ask for forgiveness? Is there anything that you would prefer “not to show” to God? What is it? What can you do about it? Do you need to bring it or anything else to the sacrament of reconciliation, asking God’s forgiveness and mercy?

Would you like to see Jesus, face to face? Allow his loving eyes look at you. What would you tell Him when you meet? Whom else would you like to meet in Heaven?

Entrust to God the hour of your death. Ask him to deepen your faith and trust in Him. You may end your meditation with the prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O Good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.
Permit me not to be separated from you.
From the wicked foe, defend me.
**At the hour of my death, call me
and bid me come to you**
That with your saints I may praise you
For ever and ever. Amen.



Sr. Weronika Maria Klebba SSPS

“I am not dying. I am entering life.” – St. Therese of Lisieux

臨終默想



每次誦念《聖母經》時，我們都祈求聖母瑪利亞在我們臨終之時為我們祈禱。我們盼望她在這決定性的時刻與我們同在。以下幾個問題或許能幫助我們「更親近」聖方濟·亞西西所稱的「肉體死亡的姐妹」，從而默想我們的死亡。

靜下心來。想像——無論你身在何處——你都處於創造你的天主面前，祂正以慈愛的目光注視著你。你和你的生命都在祂強大而安全的懷抱之中。

祈求聖神引導你完成這次默想。

想像你的生命即將走到盡頭。你希望它何時發生？那時你多大年紀？你是否希望提前知道你的生命即將終結，例如因疾病或高齡？或者你更願意在其他情況下離世？這些情況是什麼？你希望在哪裡離世？周圍環境如何？誰陪伴著你？你們在談論什麼？氣氛如何？

當你想到死亡的時刻，腦海中浮現出什麼？你感恩什麼？你還想見或聯絡誰？你想對他們說什麼？你需要原諒什麼？或者需要請求誰原諒你什麼？有什麼事你不想讓天主知道？是什麼？你能做些什麼？你需要把這件事或其他什麼帶到和好聖事中，祈求天主的寬恕和憐憫嗎？

你想與耶穌面對面嗎？讓祂慈愛的目光注視著你。當你見到祂時，你會對祂說什麼？你還想在天堂見到誰？

將你死亡的時刻託付給天主。祈求祂加深你對祂的信德和信賴。你可以用聖依納爵·羅耀拉的禱文結束你的默想：

基督的靈魂，請聖化我。
基督的聖體，請拯救我。
基督的寶血，請滋潤我。
基督肋旁流出的水，請洗淨我。
基督的苦難，請堅固我。
良善的耶穌，請垂聽我的祈禱。
請將我藏於祢的傷口之中。
請允許我永不與祢分離。
請保我免受邪惡敵人的傷害。
在我臨終之時，請召喚我，
並引領我來到祢身邊，
使我與眾聖徒一同讚美祢，
直到永遠。亞孟。



www.thesaintsproject.org/st-therese-of-lisieux

柯文妮修女

Sr. Weronika Maria Klebba, SSpS

「我不是在死去，我是在進入生命。」——

聖女小德蘭

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH PILGRIMAGE



“A Successful Pilgrimage” as described by our beloved Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Joseph Tan, SVD.

On October 1, 2025, we celebrated the most awaited moment: our Parish Jubilee Year Pilgrimage. This year's theme was “Pilgrims of Hope: A Journey of Faith, Renewal, and Service.”

A pilgrimage is a journey to a holy place that can lead to personal transformation. Its main purpose is to foster a deeper understanding, connection, and enlightenment within one's faith. In the Catholic Church pilgrimage is permeated by prayer and aims at renewal of life through conversion and the sacraments.

This year, the pilgrimage was hosted by the Apostleship of Prayer Community and was held at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Shek Kip Mei, Kowloon, Hong Kong. It was attended by all communities of St. Joseph Church.

We began the event with an introduction to the church's history delivered by Sr. Anitha Eddula PIME, a pastoral sister from St. Francis. This was followed by joyful songs prepared by each community, with everyone singing, dancing, and praising God. An inspiring talk was then given by Bro. James Andaya, who focused on the theme of the Jubilee Year, 2025, which is “Pilgrims of Hope.”

He emphasized the following points:

H- Hope in the Lord

O- Open in spirit

P- Persistent in prayer

E- Endure life's challenges



One of the most important messages he delivered was, “If you don't have God in your life, you don't have HOPE.” After the talk there was a short Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament concluded with the Benediction. The event ended with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, presided by Fr. Joseph.

Although it was a half-day event, it was filled with faith and spirit of camaraderie and love flourishing in the communities of St. Joseph Church. Indeed, it was a successful event, thanks to our community officers, leaders, and members who cooperated in every task given.

We would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to St. Francis of Assisi Church for accommodating us, to our beloved Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Joseph Tan, SVD, for his unwavering support and prayers, and to Sr. Weronika Klebba, SSpS—your presence means a lot. Thank you to everyone who lent a helping hand. Most of all, we thank God the Father Almighty.

TO GOD BE THE GREATER GLORY

By: Jhonna May Tasin (Apostleship of Prayer)



Love and Appreciation

Appreciate and give thanks for everything that God showers unto us. Life has a way of reminding us that pride serves no purpose in love. Arguments, hurtful words, and silent treatments may feel justified in the heat of the moment, but they only build walls that rob us of precious time. No bread, no mistakes, no flaws is ever worth losing someone you love. What matters most is compassion, patience, and choosing peace over pride. So, forgive quickly, love loudly, and never let your ego silence your heart. One day, time will run out, and no apology will be heard, no hug will be returned. Say sorry when you can. Say “I love you” while they can still hear and feel it. Because love is not about winning an argument— it’s about never losing the person who matters most. And as servants of God here in our home away from home, may we always choose to serve Him and to spread Christ’s love and mercy through our mission work with kindness.

Article written by: Irmalyn Alvarez Ecol (Filipino Catholic Group)

21st September 2025 – Feast Day celebration of Saint Nicholas De Tolentino, we commemorate the life of Augustinian friar known for his deep faith, compassion, and miraculous healings. With Rev. Midas Tambot



28th September 2025 – Feast Day celebration of Saint Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila and Companion Martyrs, the first Filipino saints who once said “If I have a thousand lives to offer, I will offer them to God”. Celebration hosted by Filipino Catholic Group, with a Food Bazaar from 7am to 5pm. With Rev. Efren Ojeda



5th October 2025 – SJC Family get together at Royal China Pearl – Tai Po together with all the Community Core Group and Functional Leaders. Thank you so much Rev. Joseph Tan and Sr. Vera Wen Yuan.



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH FAMILY DAY

October 7, 2025, Mid-Autumn Festival, the day was hot and the sun was shining brightly. We, the volunteers of St. Joseph's Church, gathered as one to celebrate our Family Day. This is a yearly activity that we make a way to celebrate outside the church and to unwind, to feel the spirit of oneness and friendship, as brothers and sisters under St. Joseph's Church' roof. This year we celebrated it at Gold Coast Beach in Tuen Mun.

The heat of the sun didn't make it a hindrance for us to release and express the joy and happiness we feel. Those who were able and managed to stay under the sun participated in joyful singing and energetic dancing. Every dance-move made everyone so enthusiastic. Members of each community participated in the games that made the day livelier and more enjoyable. And of course, let's not forget the food we shared that gave us strength and satisfaction. This is truly what the adage says: the family that prays, eats, sings and dances together, stays together.

The Sowers Charismatic Community was the host of this event. With grateful hearts, we would like to thank Rev. Fr. Jerry Perocho, SVD, Assistant Parish Priest for participating and accompanying us. To all the coordinators and members of Sunday communities namely: Apostleship of Prayer, Filipino Catholic Group, Filipino Prayer Group and Legion of Mary, the Saturday communities: St. Joseph the Worker, Legion of Mary and the Divine Mercy Choir, thank you all for your participation and support. Special thanks to our very own photographer Azenith, for all these beautiful pictures captured with love and best effort.

May our faith strengthen our bonds as one family and may the guidance of God be upon us always.

LONG LIVE ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH FAMILY! TO GOD BE THE GLORY.

Article written by: Mary Ann Marasigan (The Sowers Charismatic Community)





HAPPY CHURCH FAMILY DAY!





JESUS, THE WAY TO ETERNAL LIFE

GOD gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever possesses the Son of God has life; whoever does not possess the Son of God does not have life. (1John 5:11-12)

Putting our trust in God and receiving Jesus into our hearts as our Lord and Savior is assurance that we have everlasting life. In biblical concept, everlasting life is life that once begun and continues perpetually into eternity. Our life is not merely physical, but our true life as human beings is both physical and spiritual. When our physical life ends, our spiritual life continues throughout eternity and that is everlasting and eternal life.

Deep spiritual relationship with God is a key aspect of everlasting life. As Children of God, we are loved. Our life here in St. Joseph Church as volunteers help us deepen our relationship with God. Involved in church services and community activities, we encourage each other to

consistent engagement. We strive for faithfulness in our personal prayer, dedicate our time to study the Bible and the teaching of the Church, participate in worship in our community, serve others with love and cultivate a grateful heart through appreciating God's gifts to us.

As disciples of Jesus, let us always renew our commitment to follow his teaching, abandoning our old ways of living and adopting a new life in Him.

What really matters is not just quantity of years you lived or material goods you gathered, but quality of life here on earth, marked by deep spirituality and loving service to God and people.

GOD gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son Jesus Christ. Being with Jesus is the essence of heaven and it is everlasting life. Just keep believing Him.

By: Ma. Fe Cabangal (Apostleship of Prayer)

Prayer for Life Everlasting

Heavenly Father,

In Your boundless love, we find hope and strength. We come before You with grateful hearts, embracing the promise of life everlasting. May we be reminded that each moment we share on this earth is a precious gift, leading us toward the eternal joy of Your presence.

Help us to live with purpose, to cherish our relationships, and to extend kindness to all. Let our faith be a beacon of light, guiding others to the comfort of Your love. In times of sorrow, may we find solace in the assurance of life beyond this world, where we will be reunited with those we hold dear.

May our lives reflect Your grace and our hearts be filled with peace as we journey together in faith.

Amen.

Prayer entry by: Arlene Loable Phoda (Filipino Prayer Group)

朝 聖

聖若瑟堂與聖言會「禧年荷蘭、德國、比利時、法國14天朝聖之旅」已於9月27日晚圓滿結束。神師談雷濤神父勉勵朝聖團團友帶著旅程中的感悟與反省，繼續在生活中實踐信仰，作出美好見證。

此次朝聖共旅經四個國家。乘機抵達荷蘭阿姆斯特丹之後，朝聖團一路南下來到位於荷德邊境的凱沃拉爾，參觀聖瑪利亞教堂、蠟燭小堂等。之後，來到聖言會、聖神婢女傳教會、聖神永禱修女會創始地斯泰爾，會組楊生-愛諾德故居博物館和其領洗教堂所在地戈赫，參觀相關的教堂、修道院和博物館。

在德國的行程主要集中於聖奧古斯丁和科隆兩座城市。在聖奧古斯丁，大家參觀了聖奧斯定修道院，包括德國省會修道院、華裔學志、中國中心；在科隆參觀了科隆主教座堂和聖安德勒堂。

在比利時，朝聖團到訪了位於魯汶的魯汶天主教大學、聖伯多祿教堂和位於布魯塞爾的聖母聖心會、聖彌額爾聖古都勒主教座堂、布魯塞爾大廣場和聖心聖殿。

在法國，朝聖團先來到羅恩，參觀聖女貞德塔和教堂。隨後，前往聖女小德蘭的故鄉里修，參觀了加爾默羅修院、聖女小德蘭大教堂及聖女故居。法國行程中令團友們印象深刻的朝聖地無疑還包括遺世獨立的千年修道院——聖彌額爾山修道院，團友們置身其中似乎短暫地拋開了世俗掛慮。旅程的最後一站是巴黎，參觀了聖心教堂、聖母顯靈聖牌教堂、聖雲先堂、巴黎外方傳教會和巴黎聖母院。

旅程中，談神父帶領大家利用乘車時間，誦讀他精心編寫的200多頁的朝聖小冊子，使團友們在未達朝聖地之前，已經對該地點以及發生過的事情了於胸。晚餐後的空閒時間，大家會帶著神父給出的默想問題，分小組做分享討論，再由一位組員集合小組討論成果、結合自身感悟寫成一段有主題的文字，和所有團友一起分享。整個朝聖之旅歡聲笑語不斷，可謂緊張而充實。





*Marriage
Convalidation:*



*October 30, 2025
Tzu-lu Chang
&
Joseph Chow*

St. Joseph's Church, 37 Garden Road



BIBLE VERSES

For Christ also suffered* for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the spirit. (1Peter 3:18)

聖經金句

因為基督也曾一次為罪而死，且是義人代替不義的人，為將我們領到天主面前；就肉身說，他固然被處死了；但就神魂說，他卻復活了。(伯多祿前書 3:18)

歡迎堂區教友投稿

- 1) 12月主題：基督——我們的希望——來臨了
- 2) 字數：不超 650字
- 3) 格式：Word file
- 4) 相片：若文章附相片，上限3張，必須屬於作者的相片(JPG), 上限 3.5MB。
- 5) 截止日期：11/09/2025
- 6) 郵寄地址：請把文章註明「12月投稿」郵寄到 stjosephs.hk@gmail.com
- 7) 通訊組保留任何修改及刊登權利



**Parishioners are welcome to submit articles for the church newsletter.
Please take note of the following guidelines:**

- 1) Theme for Dec: **Christ -Our Hope-Comes**
- 2) Word limit: Not more than 650 words
- 3) Form: Word file
- 4) Photo: 1-3 pictures only, with a maximum size of 3.5MB
- 5) Deadline Nov 9, 2025
- 6) Email: Please submit the article to stjosephs.hk@gmail.com with the subject line 'Article for Dec 2025.'
- 7) All rights are reserved by the church, including the selection of articles, photos, and any necessary adjustments.

In Loving Memory

Funeral / Memorial Mass:

October 18 Agnes Tam
October 21 Mary So
October 25 Shirley Kay
October 28 Maria Wong
November 4 Kenneth Hsu

神師勉語



我信永生

(I Believe in Eternal Life)

柯文妮修女

「若有人對我說她害怕死亡，我真的不知該說什麼。」我的朋友這樣寫道。她的同學奧拉(Ola)被診斷出罹患晚期癌症，醫院讓她回家休養。她渴望活下去，卻害怕死亡。

我問奧拉是否領過洗，得知她已領洗，並且也領受了病人傅油聖事。

當我加入聖神嬰嬰女修會 (Mission Congregation of the Servants of the Holy Spirit) 時，我們逐步學習修道生活的各種操練。其中一項是每月的省察退省日。每個月，我們都騰出一或半天的時間，全然用於祈禱與默想。在初學導師的指導下，藉著聖神與天主聖言的引領、所預備的經文與反省問題，回顧過去一個月中，天主如何帶領我們，以及我們如何回應祂的召叫。這項實踐使我們更敏銳地聆聽天主的聲音——無論是藉著聖言、他人、事件，或是內心的細語。每次退省的結語，總是以「默想死亡」或「準備死亡」作結。

當我們害怕某事，最明智的第一步，就是誠實地說出我們所害怕的究竟是什麼。通常，當我們向接納自己的人表達恐懼時，這恐懼程度已經降低了。我們往往會發現，其實無須害怕，反而獲得新的勇氣與力量去面對挑戰。

默想死亡，幫助我們接納死亡，視之為每個人最終必須面對與經歷的現實。有人說，死亡是此生唯一確定的事；因此，與其逃避或否認，不如學會與之為友。在「第十二屆聖體節2025」全國聖體大會期間，耶柔米神父(Fr. Jerome)在青年場次中首，先講解了「終末四事：死亡、審判、天堂與地獄」。耶柔米神父強調：生命極其珍貴，而我們每日的選擇，都在決定我們的永恆結局。作為信徒，我們相信，人死後靈魂將面對天主的個人審判；之後進入一段稱為煉獄的淨化期，然後得享天堂的永福。有的靈魂會立即進入天堂或地獄，這兩種狀態都是永遠不改變的。天主願意「人人得救，並認識真理」（弟前二4），但祂同時賜給人自由意志，不會強迫任何人去相信祂、接受祂的愛、或進入天堂。最終的選擇，在於我們自己。亞西西的聖方濟（1182-1226）在他著名的《太陽頌》結語中，稱死亡為「我們的姊妹、肉身的死」，讚頌天主：「讚美你，我的主，藉著我們肉身的姊妹死亡，沒有一個活人能逃脫她的懷抱。

那些在大罪中死去的人有禍，那些照你的至聖旨意而死的人是有福的，第二次死亡不能加害於他們。」在安所彌撒中，讀經亦如此描繪義人的永生：「義人的靈魂在天主手裏，痛苦不能加於他們。在愚昧人看來，他們似乎死了；他們的去世被視為災禍，他們離我們而去，似乎是滅亡；其實他們安享平安。」（智3:1-3）那些在永安中的弟兄姊妹，仍在天主面前讚頌祂，並為仍在世上旅途中的人代禱，使他們也能最終進入天鄉。「看哪，天主的居所已在人間；祂要與人同住，他們要作祂的子民，天主親自與他們同在，作他們的天主。祂要抹去他們眼上的一切眼淚；死亡不再有，也不再有任何悲哀、哭號或痛苦，因為先前的事都已過去了。」（默21:3-4）

聖經、《天主教教理》以及聖人的傳記，都能助我們更深遠地默想死亡，並為我們每個人都必須獨自面對的這一刻做好準備。耶穌對瑪爾大說：「我是復活，是生命；信從我的，縱然死了，仍要活；凡活着而信從我的，必永遠不死。」（若11:25-26）

柯文妮修女