



Epistula 永援之聲

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澳洲墨爾本天主教華人信友團體

澳洲天主教青年節專輯

Australian Catholic Youth Festival Special Edition

澳洲天主教青年節在2017年12月7日至9日於悉尼舉行。是次參與之青年也寫了一些文章作分享與回應。本刊現將今期作為專輯。

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival was held in Sydney from 7th to 9th, December, 2017. We received a number of articles from participants, giving their feedback and sharing their spiritual path during the event. This special edition is mainly devoted to the description of this event.

Iris Wu

「以青年帶動青年」是我在香港當慈幼青年時認識的其中一個元素，但當時沒有真正意會到它當中的意義。直到我在2016年從波蘭世青節回來，突然有一種強烈的使命感，希望可以帶領CCC的青年人去感受我在世青節所感受到的一切。



參與澳洲天主教青年節之本會青年與神父們合照

得知今年12月在悉尼有澳洲天主教青年節(ACYF)，便跟神父提出我的想法。由決定開始籌備到ACYF其間，我經歷不同的挑戰，一開始無從入手，不知從哪裡開始作宣傳、籌款，甚至沒有一位青年回應。我曾經有想過放棄，但感謝天主派了不同的人來我身邊去成就了今次的活動。

這次杜神父連同我們6位青年一同參與ACYF，我有著很多不同的感受和感動。ACYF中有很多不同的講座和活動，透過不同的活動去拉近我們跟天主的關係。其中一個

感動是看到那麼多青年人從不同的地方，聚在一起去分享我們的信仰。在第二天晚上的朝拜聖體，我們是在場館裏面，19,000人一同跪下安靜地去迎接基督，這個充滿聖神的地方令我無比感動。"Lord, I need you. Oh I need you, Every hour I need you" - 提醒了我，其實我每分每秒都需要祂。

在 ACYF 完結後，我們去了一個避靜。在避靜中，我們分享了各人在 ACYF 中的經歷。在我的角度，因為我是組長的關係，我會比較專注於隊員中的需要，腦海裏經常會想著下一行程是什麼、什麼時候食晚餐等等。信仰上的得著可能不是很多，但當我聽到有青年人說：「ACYF 會是他們生命裡其中一個重要經歷，因為他們跟天主的關係加強了。」我十分感動並沒有後悔，因為這就是「以青年帶動青年」，天主以我帶領青年人去走近祂。感謝天主讓我可以有這個機會，去帶領和見證青年人在信仰上的成長。◆



Renee Wong

Australian Catholic Youth Festival changed me. It was an experience of a lifetime, something that cannot be forgotten. I never knew that a 3 day camp could impact that much on my faith for God. Having 4 praise and worship plenaries, it was not only fun to worship the lord with 19,000 other young Catholics around Australia but it has also guided me to connect and become closer to God. It was said that as close as your breath is to your face, that is how close Jesus is to you. He would never leave your side, you are never alone. Everything is possible with God as nothing is impossible for him. His love for us is endless; each and every prayer is just as precious as the last one. Open your heart and let God in, believe and trust and he'll also be by your side. ◆

Judith Cheuk

ACYF was a very inspiring experience for me in terms of my faith and how I saw my relationship with God.

I think for me, the most powerful part was the Adoration; it was truly breathtaking how it was possible for an arena filled 19,000 people to suddenly go from shouting songs of worship to kneeling down in absolute silence in a matter of minutes. I remember it was so quiet, I could hear someone cough from the other side of the arena. Back at home, I always thought that Adoration was very boring and always seemed to drag on for hours; but those 35 minutes flew by like it was a few seconds. I think it was because I could really feel Jesus standing in front of me, telling me to trust in him and that he will always be as close to me as I felt at the time. ◆

Perpetua Cheuk

Going to ACYF, I was actually expecting quite a lot, thinking it would change me to become somewhat more spiritual.

The praise and worship sessions were the highlight of this trip for me. It was amazing to experience 19,000 people praying and worshipping the Lord together at this one place. As Matt Maher said, it is not about singing the right notes or knowing every lyrics, but how we should mean every word we sing, that every word that came out of our mouths shouldn't be empty words. Personally, I re-

ally like singing as a form of prayer, so hearing worship songs from great people like Matt Maher and Fr Rob was really inspirational to me.

Although in the end, I didn't come back holy and spiritual, I do believe that ACYF did change me in a way, how little it may be. It also gave us a chance to deepen the bond between the 6 of us who went together on this trip, discovering the different sides of each other that were not known before. Overall, ACYF was a great opportunity for me to get just a little closer to God. ♦

Simon Lim

In December 2017, I (Simon) participated in the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Sydney with six others. It was definitely a memorable and defining moment of my life, consisting of many special highlights that I will never forget. God was someone I knew, yet I never thought that he was ever important and I never placed him as a priority in my life.

I was born a Catholic with parents who emphasised the importance of prayer, God and mass. However, the importance of this never clicked to me. Growing up in CCC, where mass is celebrated in Cantonese, I've always found it difficult in tuning into mass and understanding God's message, as there is a major language barrier, which prevents me from worshipping God's beauty. I viewed mass as a weekly routine, which I attended every Sunday and waited impatiently to leave. And these factors contributed to me feeling bored during mass and thinking it was extremely useless.

However, ACYF really reminded me that God is real and always watching us during every second of our lives. With 19,000 other Australian Catholic Youths, you realise how many other young people also share the same belief with you and that you are not alone and you don't have to hide your faith or religion from others, but rather be proud of

being Catholic and having God in your life.

Through the three days in Sydney, I discovered that my faith connection with Jesus had been shrinking, as I openly rejected him out of my life before. But, these three days have taught me a lot about God's love and beauty, and that joy will only happen in our lives if we accept God's presence and put 'Jesus Over Us'. I learnt that the gospel is not a fairy-tale story but actually wisdom, which allows us to spread the joy of God after mass. This could be simply helping someone or talking to someone who needs help. The biggest highlight from the festival would be the adoration, which was something special that I honestly cannot explain. When the lights dimmed after a song and candles emerged, which was the only source of light in the stadium, I had chills and goosebumps once I first saw the candles. As the 19,000 young people knelt silently, one could really feel God's presence. This adoration actually felt shorter than the one we usually have at CCC, even though we knelt for half an hour on concrete. So this was definitely a special moment, which I would love to revisit again during my life. As well, I actually felt that during the 3 days I had prayed more than in three months, which I want to continue. Overall, my faith connection with God has grown a lot after the festival and I am very grateful to have this opportunity to find God and re-discover my faith. ♦

澳洲墨爾本天主教華人信友團體

Catholic Chinese Community Melbourne

地址 Address : 299 Elgar Road, Surrey Hills, Vic 3127 (Melway 47A12)

電話 : (03) 9890 7798 傳真 : (03) 9890 7783 網址 Website : www.cccmelbourne.org.au

電郵 e-mail : info@cccmelbourne.org.au 稿件電郵 : editorccc@gmail.com

神師 (粵語)

Fr Aloysius Nato SVD 杜一諾神父

手機 mobile 0428 715 282

神師 (國語)

Fr Francis Li 李曉國神父

手機 mobile 0413 695 121

牧民助理

Sister Bernadette Cheng 鄭嫻修女

(03) 9836 0220

會長 Johnny Yu 余雄光

副會長 (粵語) Louis Cheuk 卓偉興

副會長 (國語) Leanne Shu 麥惠賢

感恩祭時間 Mass Times

永援聖母堂 : Our Lady of Perpetual Succour , 299 Elgar Road , Surrey Hills:

星期六晚上七時 · · 國語 Saturday 7:00pm in Mandarin

主日上午九時 · · 英語 Sunday 9:00am in English

主日上午十時四十五分 粵語 Sunday 10:45am in Cantonese

註 : 團體小巴於上午十時半於Box Hill My Chemist 門外開出, 並於中午十二時半返回

聖方濟各天主堂 : St. Francis Xavier Church, 1087 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill 3128 Melway 47F9 :

主日正午十二時卅分 · · 國語 Sunday 12:30pm in Mandarin

修和聖事 Sacrament of reconciliation

星期六晚上六時四十五分 Saturday 6 :45pm

第一至第三主日上午十時十五分 1st to 3rd Sunday 10:15am

禮儀預報 Upcoming Liturgy

14/2 8PM 聖灰節 Ash Wednesday

15/2 8PM 農曆除夕團圓感恩聖祭

Thanksgiving Mass for Chinese New Year

16/2 8PM 農曆新春聖祭 Chinese New Year Mass

投稿須知 Rules on articles submission

❖ 中文稿以1100字為限

English article shall not exceed 900 words

❖ 每篇稿的相片以2張為限, 並請加上適當說明

Photos for each article shall be limited to 2 and captioned

❖ 本刊編輯組擁有對來稿的採用及編輯的決定權

The Editorial Group reserves the right to edit or decline all articles

❖ 來稿可郵寄或電郵至澳洲墨爾本天主教華人信友團體編輯組。並附上真實姓名(可以以筆名刊出)及連絡方式

Submissions, together with real name (Pen name may be used for publication) and contact details, are posted to the **CCC Editorial Group** or emailed to **editorccc@gmail.com**

❖ 所有作者發表的文章並不代表本刊編輯或團體的立場

Each article is the opinion of its author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or the Community

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