
NEWSLETTER

The Guild of St. Luke, SS Cosmas & Damian

BIRTH CONTROLS, CAIRO

From the desk of the Editor

This issue of our Newsletter comes late. Sorry for this! The delay is due to the limitation of my personal capacity. Your support and contribution is much in need to hasten our working pace. The theme of the next issue is on the Cairo meeting and Population problem. Please drop me a few lines to express your opinion. Looking forward to receiving your messages

Francis Mok

Message from the Master

The Council year 94/95 is my 2nd year as master of the Guild; my 7th year as a member of the council, and my 12th year as an ordinary member.

In remembrance of one night during my second year in medical school, one of my seniors approached me, asking me to attend AGM of a society of Catholic doctors. He said,

"Many of us would go. There were delicious food, interesting people including graduated doctors, lecturers and professors! You don't have to talk, if you don't feel up to. Come! Have the experience."

During those days, meetings, functions and even AGM of the Guild were held in the demolished Ruttonjee Sanatorium at Wan Chai. Many senior members and friends of the Guild did attend the AGM. The atmosphere was solemn during the meeting but friendly at the dinner. The Columbian sisters, though busy in preparing and serving the food, didn't forget to chat with those "old" friends not seen for long time.

Following the tearing down of the Sanatorium, the correspondence address of the Guild had to be affiliated to that of the Central Council of Catholic Laity. Meetings were held in "borrowed" places in different hospitals and schools. The AGM was arranged in elegant clubs.

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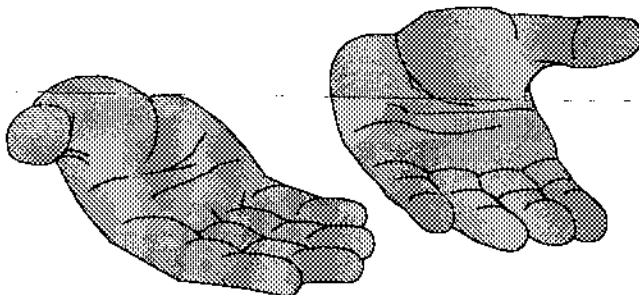
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The Council, at that time, decided that the Guild should be more "extroverted" in a sense that we should be more active in responding issues, especially medical ethical issues, around us. Good relationship should be developed among religious groups and local parish churches in order that object of the Guild can be fulfilled, that is, "study and discuss medical questions and uphold the principles of Catholic morality".

Furthermore, we were more enthusiastic in recruiting student members. We invited students to attend our meetings and functions. We also tried our best to participate in their gatherings. It is our belief that without the participation of those new blood in future, the development of the Guild will be hindered.

However, the council is restrained in manpower and energy. I have to confess that the interest of some members has been neglected. I, hereby, ask for your apology and am grateful for those who have given me the apology.

In the coming council year, we have decided to improve quality of Guild's activities towards members. It is our intention to design functions in such a way as to satisfy all members. Separate functions will be held only if interest of all parties cannot be met, like day-and overnight-retreat. We are consolidating our strategy to student members by recruiting those recently graduated into the council.



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We believe that we are doomed to fail without the blessing of God and your support, in terms of input in idea and comment; but most importantly **YOUR PARTICIPATION** in your activities.

Looking forward to seeing you and your family in years to come.

Paul Ho
Master

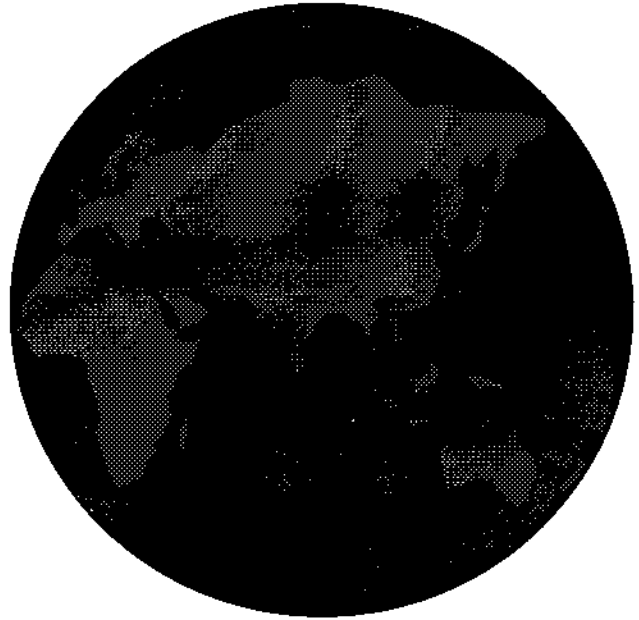
CAIRO - family planning

Pope John Paul came in for a lot of stick during the recent international conference on population. The Vatican representatives were criticised for being obstructive and for teaming up with Islamic fundamentalists. Before the conference a document had been circulated to all the delegates for their comments. About 90% of the text was found more or less acceptable. The contentious bits were put between square brackets and it was these statements that were debated when the delegates met. Since pressure groups in the different countries were certain to use the finalised document to demand that their own interpretations of what was agreed on at Cairo be put into practice by their governments, it was essential, in the view of the Vatican, that any hidden agendas, any studied ambiguities in the text, be subjected to very close scrutiny.

It seemed to the Vatican representatives that the moral dimension of the population

question had been crowded out by political, economic, medical and ecological considerations. They felt the document came dangerously close to an acceptance of abortion on demand (women, it was stated, should have access to "quality health-care services" including abortion where it is legal); to condoning coerced family planning (as one commentator put it: "There are more means of coercion than physical force. If jobs, housing and business depend on the acceptance of family planning, that is as much coercion as holding a woman down and aborting her") to granting to homosexual unions the same recognition as to heterosexual marriages; to what was seen as an invitation to promiscuity (by demanding for the married and the unmarried equal access to family planning services. A distraction: there were complaints that the athletes attending the Asian Games at Hiroshima were given only two condoms each!).

Of course the Vatican recognises that population pressures can hinder economic growth. But the solution is surely to focus attention on measures to combat poverty and to empower women so that parents can choose the size of their families in freedom. The Cairo document begins with a projected population increase from over 5bn today to over 7bn in twenty years times and then deduces the implications for nations, family as the basic institution of society, and proceeds from that point with optimism that human ingenuity will be able to cope with the population increases foreseen.



An interesting editorial on the Cairo conference (FEER 8 September 1994) called attention to a book published in 1959 entitled *Too Many Asians*. The author could not then imagine the developing countries able to support double their 1960 populations. In fact Asia more than doubled in size and in the process set off a new industrial revolution and let loose the Little Tigers. The same editorial points out that nobody goes round complaining that there are too many Dutchmen, though with 450 people per square kilometre the Netherlands is more than three times as crowded as China. This is the political dimension of Cairo: the population "problem" defined in terms of the peoples of developing South, with the corresponding fears of the nations of the rich North for their own continuing prosperity.

Spiritual Director

Rev. Fr. Russel

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 94



This year the AGM was held on 24th June 1994 (Fri). As in last year it was held at the Caritas Restaurant, Caine Road. Around 30 members and guests attended. The AGM was conducted in warm and friendly atmosphere. Various members showed their suggestions and comments. The meeting was followed by a thanksgiving mass at the Cathedral, during which all who participated joined in prayer and thanks to our Lord. A buffet dinner was then held at the Caritas Restaurant. We had the pleasure of having Rev. Chan Yut Wah, Supervisor of the Association of Hong Kong Hospital Christian Chaplaincy Ministry, as our guest of honour. He shared with us his experience in his pastoral ministry to the sick, and his way of dealing with stress by the power of faith.

The AGM and dinner was ended in an air of fraternity, which is the best atmosphere both to conclude and start a council year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GUILD 93-94

1. Council

There were all together four council meetings held throughout this year to discuss various issues and activities of the Guild. Through our representative, we also attended council meetings of the Birthright Society. Furthermore, we maintained close contact with the Catholic medical students of both Universities through the Student Representatives.

2. Membership

The Guild now has 267 members on the registry. Some others though not being our members, maintain contact with us through receiving our Newsletters. The Guild remained a member of the Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong, the International Federation of Catholic Medical Association (FIAMC) and the Asian Federation of Catholic Medical Association. The Guild also remained a member society of the Central Council of Laity.

3. Masses for special occasions

a. Medical Sunday mass

It was held on 17-10-93 at Christ the King Chapel. It was well attended by members of our Guild and the Catholic Nurses' Guild, St. John Ambulance Association and the Auxiliary Medical Services. Fr. John B Tsang was the principal celebrant.

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b. Chinese New Year Thanksgiving Mass and Gathering

It was held on 20-2-94 at HK Wah Yan College. This year apart from our Guild members and their families, there were quite a number of junior student members from both universities attending the gathering which was an encouraging response.

c. Graduation Mass

It was held on 10-7-93 at the Ricci Hall. Unfortunately no fresh graduates was able to attend due to on call duties. (The original scheduled date in June was cancelled due to Typhoon.) Nevertheless, those Guild members who attended enjoyed the mass and the sharing that followed.

4. Annual Retreat

This year an overnight retreat was organised instead of a day retreat. Fr. Thomas Kwan was the spiritual director. Those who attended enjoyed the more in-depth spiritual reflection with the lengthening of time schedule. However this format might not suit other members. We are still exploring for an optimum format that can take care of the interest of more members.

5. Publication

Dr. Francis Mok was the Chief Editor this year. Three issues of Newsletters were published throughout this year. At present we are quite independent in our editorial work since all the editing and layout design was done by ourselves with the help of computer. This saves much time and also money.

6. Student members

The Guild has maintained a good and close relationship with the medical students of both universities. Each of our council meetings was

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attended by student representatives. A hiking was organised in Jan 94 and a Chinese new year Dinner held in Feb 94, both were well attended by student members and some of our Guild members participated too.

7. Medical ethics subcommittee

Two meetings were held to discuss the Gender Choice Clinic and the Governor's Green paper on Health. Paul Ho was invited to be one of the speakers in a seminar concerning the Gender Choice Clinic which was organised by the Breakthrough Magazine in Dec 93.

8. Organ donation promotion

The exhibition at various parishes was continued from last year and was completed in Jan 94 with a total of 19 parishes visited.

9. Others

a. Talk for pastoral workers

Our Guild was invited by the Diocesan Commission for Hospital Pastoral Care to give talks to pastoral workers on relevant basic medical knowledge of various specialties. Three talks have been arranged, two concerning surgical problems and one on medical problems. More talks will be arranged later.

b. Column in Kung Kao Po

A new column was established in Kung Kao Po since Nov 93. It was a joint effort by our Guild, the Catholic Nurses' Guild, The Birthright Society, The Diocesan Commission for Hospital Pastoral Care and The Hospice Care Society. Every week there was a different theme concerning various medical issues or sharing from different medical workers.

Function Forecast

1. P.W.H. Catholic Staff Association Retreat

Date : 12 - 13 / 11 / 94
 Venue : Maryknoll House, Stanley
 Welcome : C.U. graduates interested
 to join, please call :

Dr. Caroline Tsang
 Department of Geriatric, TMH
 Tel : 4685111

Dr. W.S. Law
 Department of Medicine, QEH
 Tel : 7102111

2. Mass for the Deceased Members

Date : 13 / 11 / 94
 Time : 12 Noon
 Venue : Ricci Hall
 (Lunch : Staff Canteen,
 2/F, K block
 Q.M.H.)

Name of deceased members should be
 sent to :

Dr. Ho Hiu Fai
 Accident & Emergency
 Department
 Q.E.H.

3. Chinese New Year Mass & Gathering

Date : 12 / 2 / 95 (Tentative)
 Time : 11 a.m.
 Venue : Wah Yan College, Hong
 Kong

LET'S KNOW ABOUT OUR COUNCIL 94/95

	<i>Working Place</i>	<i>Year of Graduation</i>	<i>Know/Join the Guild</i>
Master			
Dr. Ho Hiu Fai Paul	A&E QEH	1986HKU	Student
Honorary Secretary			
Dr. Yeung Mei Wan Rebecca	Department of Radiotherapy QEH	1988HKU	Student
Honorary Treasurer			
Dr. Law Wing Sze	Department of Medicine QEH	1991CU	Student
Council Members			
Dr. Au Yeung Kui Ming Paul	Department of Radiodiagnosis QMH	1990HKU	Student
Dr. Chung Ting On Bosco	Dental unit Kwai Chung Hospital	1986HKU	Student
Dr. Lam Chui Wa Linda	Department of Psychiatry PWH	1986CU	Doctor
Dr. Lee Kin Man Philip	Oral Surgery & Dental Unit PYNEH	1986HKU	Student
Dr. Lo Shek Man Simon	Department of Radiotherapy QEH	1991CU	Student
Dr. Tsang Sau Hang Caroline	Department of Geriatric Medicine TMH	1992CU	Student
Dr. Yeung Hon Ming Jonas	Department of Medicine QEH	1989CU	Doctor

AN APPEAL from HONG KONG DIOCESAN LITURGY COMMISSION

FINANCING THE PURCHASE OF THE CHINESE SUNDAY MISSAL FOR PARISHES IN CHINA

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
Recently the Church in China adopted the vernacular Mass of Vatican II. The Hong Kong Diocesan Liturgy Commission has assisted the diocese of Shanghai in the editing and printing of the Sunday Missal (in simplified characters).

However, most of the parishes are so poor that they can hardly afford to provide Sunday Missals for the parishioners. This makes it difficult for the parishioners to participate actively in the post-Vatican II vernacular Mass. Thus they appeal to us for financial assistance in the purchase of the missals.

There are about 1200 parishes (open Church) in China. If we can donate an average of 300 sets for each parish, the total number of missals needed will be 360,000 sets which will cost around HK\$15 million.

Provision of the Sunday Missal is necessary for the liturgical renewal in China, both for the clergy and the laity. Hence we would like to appeal to you to provide financial support for this project. Any amount contributed is always welcome.

This project has been approved and supported by our bishop, John Baptist Cardinal Wu. We are also honoured to have the Vicar General, Rev. John Tong as our adviser. The financial statements will be submitted to our bishop in due course for his perusal.

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We hope that you can give us your generous support to this project.

May God bless you and your family.

Fr. Thomas Law
Director of H.K. Diocesan Liturgy Commission
30/8/94

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DONATION SLIP FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE CHINESE SUNDAY MISSAL FOR PARISHES IN CHINA

Name: _____ Telephone No.: _____

Address: (Fill in if receipt is required)

Amount donated as below. Please tick as appropriate

\$180 (4 sets) \$450 (10 sets) \$900 (20 sets)
 Others \$ _____

Receipt required for tax-deduction purpose

Yes No

Payments

by cash (please send to H.K. Diocesan Liturgy Commission in person or Credit Hang Seng Bank Ltd. A/C No. 238-3-016256)

by crossed cheque, payable to "H.K. Diocesan Liturgical Commission", cheque No: _____

Please complete this form and mail it with your cheque direct to H.K. Diocesan Liturgy Commission, 10/F, 16 Caine Rd., HK.

Please do not send cash by mail.

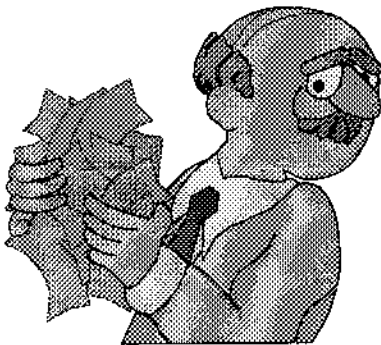
Please write down your name, tel. no. and address if receipt is required for tax-deduction purpose

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS

when notifying change of address, please fill in the new address in the space provided below and return

BLOCK LETTER PLEASE

The Editorial Board



Dr. Francis Mok

Dr. K M Lee Philip,

Dr. C W Lam Linda

Dr. S M Lo Simon

Dr. K N Yuen Robert