



# 天主教聖方濟堂 · 華人教務中心

## St. Francis Xavier Parish · Chinese Catholic Centre

438 Great Northern Way, Vancouver, B.C. V5T 4S5

電話 Tel: 604-254-2727 傳真 Fax: 604-254-7557

電郵 Email: [parish.sfx@rcav.org](mailto:parish.sfx@rcav.org) 網址 Website: <http://sfx.rcav.org>



主曆 2025 年 11 月 23 日 (丙年)

## 常年期第三十四主日

### 基督普世君王節



### 神父片語

李志雄神父 (耀漢小兄弟會)

Fr. Chi Hung Ly, CSJB

### 「耶穌基督普世君王節」



Sunday, 23rd November, 2025 (Year C)

## Thirty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

罪惡。祂的寶座不是象牙座，而是十字架；祂的冠冕不是金冠，而是荊棘；祂的勝利不是打敗敵人，而是赦免罪人。願我們都像悔改的強盜一樣，在痛苦、失望和軟弱中仍敢說：「耶穌，請記得我。」並在心中聽見祂溫柔地回答：「今天，你要與我一同在樂園裡。」願耶穌基督、我們的普世君王。

願祂的慈愛常與我們同在！

李志雄神父 CSJB

各位主內的兄弟姐妹：

今天是教會禮儀年的最後一個主日，也就是耶穌基督普世君王節。教會將這個節日放在禮儀年的結尾，其意義是：整個救恩歷史與教會的一切奉獻，最後都歸於耶穌基督。今日的福音啟示我們，耶穌基督是怎樣的一位君王，也教導我們要如何做祂的子民。耶穌在十字架上，以自己的苦難親近苦難中的人，成為一切受苦者最大的安慰。福音中，祂對右盜說：「我實在告訴你：今天，你就要與我一同在樂園裡。」耶穌基督究竟是怎樣的君王呢？祂的宣判不是定罪，而是拯救；祂的權柄不是毀滅，而是寬恕。祂是一位慈悲的君王，祂的王國是一個慈悲的王國。只要願意回頭，永遠不會太晚；天主的慈悲永遠大於我們的罪。悔改後的第一份恩賜，就是與主同在。樂園不是遙遠的夢，而是今天就能開始的恩寵。因此我也反省：當我的兄弟姐妹失足跌倒時，我是否真心寬恕他？是否為他祈禱？是否幫助他悔改，重新做人，重新接受天主的救恩？

各位主內兄弟姐妹：我們要讓基督在每個人心中為王，而不是讓罪惡在我們的肉身中稱王。我們要常記得以基督的愛生活，對祂說：「耶穌，當你來為王時，請你記得我！」悔改的強盜讓我們體會耶穌的大能與慈悲憐憫——祂願意將自己的天國福樂分給一位悔罪的兇犯。我們也要悔改，祈求天主的寬恕，正如我們願意寬恕別人一樣。禧年即將過去，我也該自問：我為我的君王基督做了些什麼？在生活中，我是否真的讓主耶穌做君王？我是否常聽祂的吩咐、聆聽祂的話、為真理作證？

親愛的兄弟姐妹們：基督的國度不是藉力量建立，而是由悔改者的心建成。祂不是審判我們的君王，而是寬恕我們的君王；祂不是與我們保持距離的君王，而是願意帶我們一起進入樂園的君王。祂的王權不是以力量征服，而是以愛勝過

## “Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe”

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today is the final Sunday of the liturgical year, and we are celebrating the Solemnity of Christ the King. There is a profound significance of ending the liturgical year with this special feast day. The fulfilment of salvation history and the fulfilment of the Church is in Jesus. Today's Gospel reveals to us what kind of king Jesus is, and he outlines how we should live out our citizenship in his eternal kingdom. Jesus is a leader who gave his life for his subject; while hanging on the cross, he allows his moment of great suffering to give us our greatest consolation. Jesus even says to the criminal on his right, “Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.” How does Jesus rule his people? He does not rule with punitive judgment, but radical mercy. As long as we are willing to turn back to him, it is never too late for us to return to God's embrace. Jesus' mercy is greater than all of our sins, and the grace of Jesus will always reunite us to his heart. The reward of eternal salvation isn't a distant dream, we can taste it in our earthly lives through the grace of God. As such, we need to frequently examine our conscience, and confess our sins. As stated in the Lord's Prayer, we should also be willing to show mercy towards our brothers and sisters and pray for them. We should also be willing to admonish others and journey with them on the path of receiving God's mercy.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we must acknowledge Christ as king in our hearts, and not allow ourselves to be ruled by the desires of the flesh.

...To be continued on p.3

### 堂區司鐸

李志雄 神父 (主任司鐸)

張世協 神父 (助理司鐸)

### Pastor

Rev. Chi Hung (Joseph) Ly, CSJB

### Assistant Pastor

Rev. Thomas Truong, CSJB

### 感恩禮時間

星期六提前感恩禮：下午四時半 (國語)

主日感恩禮：上午八時正 (粵語)

上午九時半 (粵語)

上午十一時十五分 (英語)

下午二時 (國語)

平日感恩禮：頤園 星期一至星期六上午八時

聖方濟堂 星期一至星期六上午九時

修和聖事 彌撒後或預約：604-254-2727

明供聖體小堂，每日上午八時至晚上七時

### Mass Schedule

Saturday Anticipated Mass: 4:30pm (Mandarin)

Sunday Masses: 8:00am (Cantonese)

9:30am (Cantonese)

11:15am (English)

2:00pm (Mandarin)

Weekday Mass : Happy Manor 8am Monday to Saturday

SFX Parish 9am Monday to Saturday

Reconciliation After Mass or By appointment: 604-254-2727

The Adoration Chapel is open from 8am to 7pm every day



聖母  
我們的希望  
MARY  
OUR HOPE



## 將臨期退省 ADVENT RETREAT

**12/6 (六)**

粵語

神師: 程明聰神父  
Fr Francis Ching, CC

上午9時 彌撒聖祭  
上午10時~下午3時30分 退省  
聖方濟聖堂  
查詢: Maria Vuong  
(778) 230-3902

退省內容:  
講座、朝拜聖體、修和聖事、  
吟玫瑰經及慈悲串經、聖體降福

請各位參加退省的教友自備午餐  
及有蓋水杯。

**12/7 (Sun)**

English

Spiritual Director:  
Fr Francis Ching, CC

11:15am Holy Mass  
1:15 - 4:15pm Retreat  
St. Francis Xavier Parish  
Divine Mercy Room

Contact: Pamela Ho  
604-763-7782



程明聰神父  
Fr Francis Ching, CC



## 將臨期退省 ADVENT RETREAT

喜樂的奉行天主的旨意  
敬雅潔修女 主講(國語)

**12月7日(星期日)**

上午10時至下午4時30分  
聖方濟聖堂 聖若瑟室

查詢

蔣先生 (604) 808-8570



## 平日感恩祭意向 Intentions For Daily Eucharist

日期 Date	意向 Intention	奉獻者 Offered by
主日 Sunday 11月23日	為全體信友	本堂神父們
	為病弱的會友求恩	聖若瑟會
	為健康, 平安快樂 求恩	Mavy & Vyanna Cheung
	追悼 母親 Lai Mak Koi	Annie Chow
	追悼 羅子文, 孫淑珍, 羅國華, 羅國安	Irene Law
	追悼 Denny 梁錫祺	Leung's Family
	追悼 黃培文	妻子 Christina Wong
	追悼 Sandra Young	Winnie Lam
	追悼 Florence Sze	Maria Lau & Family
	追悼 已故親友, 先人	Frances Wong & Family
	追悼 David Lee	Helen Lee
	追悼 Paul Fong	Margaret & Philip Wu
	追悼 父親劉謹祥, 母親劉麗梅	Lisa, Ming Lau & Family
	追悼 蔡金, 黃陳蘊珍	蔡榮佳家庭
	追悼 父親 呂英, 母親 吳蓮	Isabella & Family
	追悼 奶奶莫月英, 老爺梁國榮, 母親廖娟	Susanna Leung
	追悼 周錫賢	Alice & Joseph
	追悼 无依无靠煉靈	林碧英
星期一 Monday 11月24日	追悼 Anna 李黃美	Janice Ip
	追悼 Cecilia Tsang	Dennis Tsang
	追悼 Cecilia Tsang	頤園全体住客
	追悼 Joseph Ricardo Mok	Janice Ip
	追悼 父母親 葉樹鏞, 葉盧惠英	Janice Ip & Family
	為 姜洪及刘彤夫婦 求恩	姜涛
	為病弱的會友求恩	聖若瑟會
	追悼 母親 Lai Mak Koi	Annie Chow
	追悼 沈東白神父	李兆華
	追悼 Denny 梁錫祺	Leung's Family
	追悼 黎麥改	Mandy & William
	追悼 David Lee	Helen Lee
	追悼 Paul Fong	Margaret & Philip Wu
	追悼 父母親潘龍, 鄭妹	Alex & Janet Poon
	追悼 无依无靠煉靈	林碧英
	追悼 Anna 李黃美	Janice Ip
	追悼 Lai Mak Koi	Irene Law
	追悼 奶奶莫月英, 老爺梁國榮, 母親廖娟	Susanna Leung
星期二 Tuesday 11月25日	追悼 Cecilia Tsang	Dennis Tsang
	追悼 Cecilia Tsang	頤園各住客
	追悼 Joseph Ricardo Mok	Janice Ip
	追悼 父母親 葉樹鏞, 葉盧惠英	Janice Ip & Family
	為女兒們 謝恩	Liza Wong
	追悼 黃氏, 朱氏祖先	黃朱小丽
	追悼 母親 Lai Mak Koi	Annie Chow
	追悼 David Lee	Helen Lee
	追悼 Denny Leung	Leung's Family
	追悼 會友 方榮電	聖若瑟會
	追悼 施姚杏	家人
	追悼 黎麥改	Mandy & William
	追悼 劉自強神父	李兆華

日期 Date	意向 Intention	奉獻者 Offered by
星期二 Tuesday 11 月 25 日	追悼 Paul Fong 追悼 奶奶莫月英, 老爺梁國榮, 母親廖嫻 追悼 无依无靠煉靈 追悼 李鐵堡, 李仁傑, 張文輝, 鍾湛雄 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Joseph Ricardo Mok 追悼 父母親 葉樹鏞, 葉盧惠英	Margaret & Philip Wu Susanna Leung 林碧英 堂區活動中心 頤園各住客 Dennis Tsang Janice Ip Janice Ip & Family
星期三 Wednesday 11 月 26 日	追悼 黎麥改 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 母親 Lai Mak Koi 追悼 會友 方榮電 追悼 Denny 梁錫祺 追悼 趙麗華 追悼 已故神父, 修女 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Joseph Ricardo Mok 追悼 Maria 林溫彩鸞 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 无依无靠煉靈 追悼 母親 蔡金 追悼 方榮電先生 追悼 代父, 代子們 追悼 奶奶莫月英, 老爺梁國榮, 母親廖嫻 追悼 父母親 葉樹鏞, 葉盧惠英	Helina Seto Mandy & William Annie Chow 聖若瑟會 Leung's Family 張軍及家人 張軍及家人 祈禱會 頤園各住客 Dennis Tsang Janice Ip Alice Tse 胡琴仙及 Dianne Woo 林碧英 蔡榮佳家庭 蔡榮佳家庭 蔡榮佳家庭 Susanna Leung Janice Ip & Family
星期四 Thursday 11 月 27 日	追悼 Denny 梁錫祺 追悼 父母親, 親友及眾煉靈 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 會友 方榮電 追悼 Paul 方榮電兄弟 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 任景怡姐姐 追悼 奶奶莫月英, 老爺梁國榮, 母親廖嫻 追悼 无依无靠煉靈 追悼 Anna 李黃美 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Joseph Ricardo Mok 追悼 父母親 葉樹鏞, 葉盧惠英	Leung's Family Lucy Tang Mandy & William Teresa Chan 聖若瑟會 托彼特善別組 富亞博 李兆華 Susanna Leung 林碧英 Janice Ip Dennis Tsang 頤園各住客 Rowing Lau Yim Fong Janice Ip Janice Ip & Family
星期五 Friday 11 月 28 日	追悼 煉靈 追悼 Denny 梁錫祺 追悼 黃銳安, 黃婉儀 追悼 母親 Lai Mak Koi 追悼 會友 方榮電 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 奶奶莫月英, 老爺梁國榮, 母親廖嫻 追悼 已故神長 追悼 Anna 李黃美 追悼 黎麥改	Dorothy Ma Leung's Family 黃婉華 Annie Chow 聖若瑟會 堂區活動中心 Susanna Leung 譚玲及家人 Janice Ip Mandy & William

日期 Date	意向 Intention	奉獻者 Offered by
星期五 Friday 11 月 28 日	追悼 Ann 黎麥改 姊妹 追悼 保祿龐良杰 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Joseph Ricardo Mok 追悼 父母親 葉樹鏞, 葉盧惠英	托彼特善別組 李兆華 Dennis Tsang 頤園全体住客 Janice Ip Janice Ip & Family
星期六 Saturday 11 月 29 日	為 黃志堅早日康復求恩 追悼 會友 方榮電 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 煉靈 追悼 Denny 梁錫祺 追悼 母親 Lai Mak Koi 追悼 眾煉靈 追悼 龐明武柯叔叔 追悼 許卓 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 黎麥改 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 Joseph RiCardo Mok 追悼 Cecilia Tsang 追悼 父母親 葉樹鏞, 葉盧惠英 追悼 Mary 吳鉞行	Edward Ng 聖若瑟會 Mandy & William Dorothy Ma Leung's Family Annie Chow Helina Seto 李兆華 眾家人 Regina Leung Christine Kwan Edward & Irene Chiu Dennis Tsang Janice Ip 頤園全体住客 Janice Ip & Family 朱方明, 朱佳嘉

.....Continued from page 1.....

We must always remember to root ourselves in God's love, as we say to Jesus, "Remember me when you come into your kingdom." The repentant thief on the cross experienced God's limitless mercy. God loves us so much that he wants all to be saved, that means no matter what we have done, there is always hope. We must acknowledge our sinfulness, ask for God's mercy and extend God's mercy towards others. We are coming to the end of the Jubilee year, and this is a time to ask ourselves what we have done for our king, Jesus Christ, during this year of great significance. Have we allowed Jesus to be king over our lives? Have we listened to his commandments and been a witness of his truth, beauty and goodness?

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, the kingdom of Jesus is established upon authorities and power but upon the heart of repentant sinners. He isn't a stern judge who punishes us, but a merciful father who loves us. He isn't a king who keeps his distance, but he comes into our midst in order to bring us into his glory. He does not dominate our free will with power and oppression, but wins over our heart with a love that conquers sin. His throne is not made of gold or ivory, but is the cross upon which he died. His crown isn't made with jewels but with thorns. His victory was won not by defeating an army, but by defeating sin and death. Let us all imitate the faith displayed by the repentant thief, who at a point of pain and suffering, is able to mutter the words "Remember me." We pray that we may also receive the grace he received on the cross as Jesus says, "today you will be with me in paradise." May Jesus reign in our heart as king.

May God's merciful love be with us always.

Fr. Chi Hung Ly, CSJB



# 堂區及教區消息

## Parish and Archdiocesan News



### 通功代禱 In Memoriam

聖若瑟會會員方榮電兄弟 (Paul) 於十一月十日蒙主寵召。享年九十二歲。家人謹擇於十一月二十六日星期三，上午十時祈禱玫瑰經，十一時殯葬逾越聖祭。辭靈禮後，靈柩移奉往素里天主教逸息墓園安葬。

懇請諸位神長，修女，主內弟兄姊妹為方榮電兄弟代禱，求主賜予永安，息止安所。

#### \* 聖方濟主保瞻禮聚餐 2025

誠邀各位教友彌撒後到堂區活動中心購買主保瞻禮餐券。若未能出席的教友，歡迎你們善款贊助或禮物贊助。善款贊助會收到退稅收據。

#### \* 12月3日(星期三) - 聖方濟堂慶祝九十二週年主保瞻禮

聖方濟堂慶祝九十二週年主保瞻禮的感恩聖祭將於12月3日(星期三)舉行，誠摯邀請主內的兄弟姊妹一同參與，共沐主恩。

- 上午9時 英語學校彌撒
- 晚上7時30分(國、粵語)彌撒

#### \* 12月6日(星期六) 聖方濟堂將臨期粵語退省

主講：程明聰神父 Fr. Francis Ching, CC

主題：聖母 - 我們的希望

時間：上午9時 彌撒聖祭

上午10時至下午3時30分

地點：聖方濟聖堂

查詢：Maria Vuong (778) 230-3902

請各位參加退省的教友自備午餐與有蓋水杯

#### \* 12月7日(星期日) 聖方濟堂將臨期國語退省

主講：敬雅潔修女

主題：喜樂的奉行天主的旨意

時間：上午10時至下午4時30分

地點：聖方濟聖堂 聖若瑟室

查詢：蔣先生 (604) 808-8570

#### \* 12月8日(星期一) 聖母無玷始胎節日

上午9:00: 中文彌撒

晚上7:30: 三語(粵語、國語、英語)彌撒

誠邀各位教友一同參與，在感恩祭中頌揚聖母瑪利亞無玷的恩寵，並分享她帶給世界的喜樂與希望。

#### \* St. Francis Xavier Gala Dinner 2025

All parishioners are sincerely invited to go to the Parish Life Centre (PLC) after Mass to purchase tickets for the Gala Dinner. For those who are unable to attend, donations or gift sponsorships are warmly welcomed. A tax receipt will be issued for monetary donations.

#### \* December 3<sup>rd</sup> - St. Francis Xavier Parish 92nd Anniversary Feast Day Celebration

St. Francis Xavier Parish celebrates the 92nd Anniversary Feast Day Celebration. We will celebrate the Thanksgiving Mass of the Feast of St. Francis Xavier on Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- 9:00 am English School Mass
- 7:30 pm Chinese (Cantonese & Mandarin) Mass

All parishioners are invited to celebrate with us.

#### \* December 7th (Sunday) SFX English Advent Retreat

Spiritual Director: Fr. Francis Ching, CC

Title: Mary Our Hope

Time: 11:15am Holy Mass

1:15pm to 4:15pm Retreat

Venue: St Francis Xavier Parish, Divine Mercy Room

Contact: Pamela Ho, 604-763-7782

#### \* December 8 (Monday) Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00am: Chinese Mass

7:30pm: Trilingual Mass (Cantonese, Mandarin & English)

All parishioners are warmly invited to join the celebration, to give thanks for the grace of the Immaculate Conception, and to share in the joy and hope brought to the world through Our Blessed Mother.

#### \* Year 2026 Sunday Envelopes:

Year 2026 Sunday Envelopes are ready for pick up before or after Sunday masses in front of parish office.

\* 12月12日(星期五)瓜達盧佩聖母慶日

鄧偉英修女蒙主恩召二週年追思彌撒

本堂將於12月12日(星期五)晚上7:30舉行三語(粵語、國語、英語)追思彌撒,悼念鄧偉英修女蒙主恩召二週年。彌撒後將向瓜達盧佩聖母獻花,並誦唸《奉獻於瓜達盧佩聖母》禱文,一同將自己交託於聖母的懷抱。歡迎教友踴躍參與,以愛與祈禱懷念鄧修女,重溫她的信德榜樣。

\* 12月14日(主日)堂區大會

李神父將於12月14日(主日)下午1:00在聖若瑟房召開堂區大會,共同策劃2026年堂區活動。誠摯邀請所有堂區牧民及財務議會成員,2名善會及團體代表參加。

\* Keep Christ in Christmas 海報設計比賽

騎衛會「讓聖誕節重新以基督為中心」海報設計比賽將於2025年11月22日至2025年12月7日舉行,提醒社會:聖誕節是為了紀念「耶穌基督的誕生」。參賽者將依年齡分為三個組別:5-7歲、8-10歲,以及11-14歲。請向PLC內的騎衛會展板或攤位索取正式報名表及指定海報紙。如需更多詳細資訊,請聯絡Keith Ma(keithma.kofc10500@gmail.com)。投稿截止日期為2025年12月9日。感謝您的參與!

\* 更新個人資料

各位如有需要改動退稅收據上的個人資料,例如更新地址或更改退稅收據人的名字,請於十二月三十一日前聯絡堂區辦公室更新。

\* 收集2026年月曆及聖誕卡

在聖誕將臨期間婦女會代溫哥華教區司法服務部門收集2026年月曆及未用過的聖誕卡。截止日期為1月4日。請將物品交到活動中心收集箱註有以上字句。多謝教友的捐贈。

\* 2026年主日奉獻信封:

2026年主日奉獻信封已經準備好,請於主日彌撒前/後於堂區辦公室前領取。

\* December 12 (Friday) – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe  
2nd Anniversary Memorial Mass for Sr.

Veronica Tang

A Trilingual Memorial Mass (Cantonese, Mandarin & English) will be held on Friday, December 12th at 7:30pm to commemorate the second anniversary of Sr. Veronica Tang's (鄧偉英修女) passing. After the Mass, flowers will be offered to Our Lady of Guadalupe, followed by the "Consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe", entrusting ourselves to her loving care. All parishioners are warmly invited to join in prayer and love, remembering Sr. Tang and the faith-filled witness she shared with us.

\* December 14th (Sunday) SFX General Meeting

Fr. Joseph Ly will convene the SFX General Meeting on Sunday, December 14th at 1:00pm in the St. Joseph Room to plan for the 2026 Parish Activity Calendar. We invite all Pastoral and Finance Council members, along with two representatives from each sodality and group to participate.

\* "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest

The Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest will begin on Nov. 22nd, 2025 to Dec. 7th, 2025 to remind society that at Christmas we honor the "Birth of Jesus Christ". Contest entrants compete in one of three age groups — ages 5-7, ages 8-10, and 11-14. Please obtain an official entry form and poster paper provided from the Knight of Columbus board or booth in the PLC. For more detailed information, please contact Keith Ma (keithma.kofc10500@gmail.com). The deadline for submitting your posters will be Dec 09, 2025. Thank you in advance for your participation.

\* Update Personal Particulars for Donation Receipt

Any changes in your personal particulars such as address changes, tax receipt's name change, and please update them for your donation tax receipt of 2025. To make sure the tax receipt is ready and valid for the year 2025, please contact the Parish Office by December 31, 2025.

\* 2026 Calendars and New Christmas Card Collection

On behalf of Archdiocese of Vancouver's Prison Ministry, the ladies club will collect the above items during Advent season. Please drop items off at PLC where there is a box marked "Collection". Deadline will be January 4, 2026. Thank you for your support.

二零二五年教宗十一月份的新禧意向

請為預防自殺祈禱

願那些與自殺念頭作鬥爭的人,能在各自的團體內找到各自所需的支持、幫助和愛,向美好的生活敞開心扉。

Pope's prayer Intention for November 2025

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

## Novena of Grace in Honour of Saint Francis Xavier

<http://www.sacredspace.ie/novenas/franciscxavier>

**We suggest that you: 1. read the story from the life of Saint Francis, 2. ponder on the 'Reflection' for a few minutes, 3. pray the novena prayer**

### Day 1: The Early Years (1506-1525)

Francis was born in 1506, in Javier, a small village in the province of Navarre to the north of Spain. He was a Basque, the fifth and last child of local land owners. His two brothers and two sisters were in their teens when Francis was born. Their family home was a castle. They had their own private chapel, where Mass would be said by a local priest. Sadly, his father died when he was very young, and the family lost their land and home in a war with Spain. His mother, a very devout Catholic, with the help of the local priests, made sure that he received a good education.

At the age of 19, Francis went off to study in Paris. His intention was to revive the fortunes of his family by becoming an eminent cleric. He was bright and vibrant, with a zest for life and a desire to gain profit from it. The one thing he lacked was a clear focus in his life.

### Day 2: Francis meets Ignatius Loyola in Paris (1529-1534)

Do I recognise the need for God in my life?

In his early years in the University of Paris, Francis tended to put more effort into sports and the night life of the city than into his studies.

A turning point in his life was his encounter with a fellow Basque, Ignatius of Loyola. As a mature student of 38 years, Ignatius was beginning his studies at the University of Paris. He was assigned to the same student quarters as Francis and Peter Faber. At first Francis was not attracted to Ignatius. He saw him as a middle-aged religious enthusiast. He even made fun of him in public. After five years of patiently encouraging and supporting Francis, Ignatius finally broke through Francis' mask of self-sufficiency. He challenged him with the question Christ put to His disciples, "What does it profit a man if he gain the whole world but lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36).

### Day 3: Francis and Ignatius gather a "group of friends" (1534-1536)

Ignatius Loyola directed Francis and some others through his 'Spiritual Exercises' - 30 days of prayer and reflection on life and its purpose. After a period of reflection on the call of Christ to His disciples, and time spent in consideration of his own response to the love of God, Francis decided to join Ignatius and some others to form a "group of friends" who would offer themselves to God for service in the Catholic Church.

### Day 4: Francis and his companions in Rome (1536-1539)

After Paris, Ignatius and his companions decided to travel to Rome to be at the service of the Pope. In Rome, they worked in hospitals, looking after the sick. They begged for alms, and preached about the love of God.

On June 24, 1537, Francis, Ignatius, and four other companions were ordained priests. As the group grew, the work entailed correspondence with a vast number of people. Francis became secretary to Ignatius. This cannot have been an appealing work an outgoing person like Francis.

In 1539 King John of Portugal asked the Pope for two Jesuits to go to India. Two others were chosen, but at the last minute one of them fell ill, and Francis was asked by Ignatius to take his place. He accepted.

### Day 5: The mission of Francis in South Asia – 1542-1549 (part 1)

Travelling from Rome to Lisbon and then on to Goa took Francis almost two years. (In 1540, the Pope established the "Companions of Jesus" as a religious order in the Catholic Church. They were later to be called the 'Society of Jesus', and to become more popularly known as the Jesuits.) When Francis arrived in Goa in 1542, he had a reputation for helping the poor and the sick, and zealously seeking to encourage people to live a good life. It was recorded that Francis always looked happy, despite two months of continual seasickness, and other illnesses along the way. In 1542 the Portuguese Governor of Goa asked Francis to teach the pearl fishers (Paravas) of Cape Comorin in South India. They were nominal Christians, but had received no formal instructions on their new faith, because no priest had ever learned their language. He set about learning Tamil, the local language, and managed to translate the Creed. He experienced the loneliness of working in a foreign culture. He had been promised two Jesuit helpers, but they never arrived. After a year he decided to return to Goa to see what had happened to them. He was so well accepted by the people that a number of young Paravas went along with him to be trained for Christian ministry.

### Day 6: The mission of Francis in South Asia – 1542-1549 (part 2)

Francis found the behaviour of Europeans in India difficult to bear. Too many of the Portuguese officials and traders were determined not to let his pursuit of souls interfere with their pursuit of riches.

At one point Francis writes: "I am so sick of life that the best thing for me would be to die for the defence of our faith. It is difficult to see so many sins committed and to be able to do nothing." Despite these negative feelings,

Francis continued his missionary efforts with enthusiasm.

### Day 7: The mission of Francis in South Asia – 1542-1549 (part 3)

Francis Xavier spent seven years on the South India coast, constantly travelling up and down, preaching, teaching, consoling, comforting, begging for the poor, visiting the sick.

Francis believed that those who were not baptised were destined never to share the delights of heaven. But he also wanted to share the love of Christ with others. His journeys became part of his urgent task to baptise as many people as possible. He baptised thousands of people. Francis always saw a person as a whole, body, mind and spirit. He was concerned about material needs as well as spiritual ones.

As the extent of the continent of Asia, with the populous nations of India, Japan and China, became apparent to him, Francis appealed to Ignatius for others to share the work with him.

### Day 8: Francis, First Missionary to Japan (1549-1551)

Do I find strength in my prayer and in my relationship with Jesus?

During his years in South Asia, Francis visited Malacca in Malaysia on a number of occasions. It was there he met and converted his first Japanese. Anjiro made a deep impression on him. Francis wrote to Ignatius, "If all the Japanese are as keen to learn as Anjiro...they must have the most enquiring minds of any people in the lands hitherto discovered."

Francis arrived in Japan on August 15, 1549, the Feast of the Assumption. After some months working there and living with the family of Anjiro, he wrote to the Jesuits in Goa: "They are the best race yet discovered and I think that among non-Christians their match will not easily be found."

In comparison with the effects of his mission in South Asia, progress in Japan was slow. Francis had great difficulty with the Japanese language. Much of the time he was alone, suffering the isolation of living in a country, without knowing the local language. The Abbot of a Zen monastery told a later missionary that Francis was unable to explain the Christian teaching, owing to his ignorance of Japanese, but his mere presence, face, character, obvious sanctity, preached better than any words the truth of his message.

After his death, however, until the edict forbidding Christianity in 1614, the Church in Japan flourished. The number of Catholics at the time the persecution began was about 300,000, slightly less than what it is today. Many, too, died as martyrs for the faith during the years of persecution. secretary to Ignatius. This cannot have been an appealing work an outgoing person like Francis.

In 1539 King John of Portugal asked the Pope for two Jesuits to go to India. Two others were chosen, but at the last minute one of them fell ill, and Francis was asked by Ignatius to take his place. He accepted.

### Day 9: Death of Francis off the coast of China (December 3, 1552)

What can I, personally, learn from reflecting on the life of St. Francis?

Francis died of fever at the age of 46 on the island of Sanchian, within sight of China. He did not achieve his ambition to reach the mainland. That was to be the privilege of a fellow Jesuit, Matteo Ricci. His hope was that if China accepted Christianity, all Asia would be open to the faith. His ambition was greater than one person could ever achieve.

St. Francis Xavier is the patron saint of the missions. He has always been exceptionally popular not only with Catholics, but with many non-Catholics, too. He is probably the most famous of all Jesuits. He was canonised as a Saint in 1622, together with St. Ignatius Loyola.

### Saint Francis Xavier Novena Prayer

O most kind and loving saint, in union with you I adore the Divine Majesty. The remembrance of the favours with which God blessed you during life, and of your glory after death, fills me with joy; and I unite with you in offering to God my humble tribute of thanksgiving and of praise.

I implore of you to secure for me, through your powerful intercession and the all important blessing of living and dying in the state of grace. I also beseech you to obtain the favour I ask in this Novena: but if what I ask is not for the glory of God or for the good of my soul, obtain for me what is most conducive to both. Amen.

### Concluding Prayer

O God, who was pleased to gather unto your Church the people of the East by the preaching and miracles of blessed Francis, mercifully grant that we who honour his glorious merits, may also imitate the example of his virtues, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## 聖方濟·沙勿略九日敬禮

全體：可愛而仁慈的聖方濟·沙勿略，我們懇求你，偕同我們一起光榮讚美天父。因你在生時，天父賜你特寵。逝去後，得享基督的榮福。為此，我感謝天父。

現在我們懇請你代禱，祈求天父賜我們所需的聖寵，以得常生永福。並在此九日敬禮中，獲得所求之特恩。

### 九日敬禮 - 主題/祈禱意向：

- 第一日：聖方濟·沙勿略的精神 - 藉著聖方濟·沙勿略的轉求，請為我們堂區的所有教友祈禱：求主使我們在日常中學習和實踐聖方濟·沙勿略的精神。
- 第二日：聖方濟·沙勿略的靈修 - 藉著聖方濟·沙勿略的轉求，讓我們祈求聖神更新我們堂區所有教友的信仰。
- 第三日：追隨聖方濟·沙勿略的芳蹤 - 請為教會中的所有司鐸祈禱：求主恩賜他們豐富的向貧窮人宣講福音的精神。
- 第四日：在這個時代聖方濟·沙勿略的生活鼓勵教友完成福傳工作 - 藉著聖方濟·沙勿略的轉求，請為所有教友祈禱：願他們藉著聖神滿懷恩寵，在信仰上成長，並滿懷熱誠的參與教會的活動。
- 第五日：聖方濟·沙勿略為今天的青年是一個典範與榜樣 - 藉著聖方濟·沙勿略的轉求，請為所有青年祈禱：特別是我們堂區的青年，願他們有堅強的信德和深入的祈禱生活，以便將來能夠聽到天主的聲音。
- 第六日：聖方濟·沙勿略的當代精神適合於今日教會的福傳 - 藉著聖方濟·沙勿略的轉求，請為所有宗教的兄弟姐妹們祈禱：願他們在聖善的生命中更充實，在自己的使命中更熱情。
- 第七日：由聖方濟·沙勿略的生命中所得到的靈感總結 - 藉著聖方濟·沙勿略的轉求，請為在我們堂區服務過的所有已亡司鐸及教友祈禱：願他們進入永生。
- 第八日：我們偉大的聖人聖方濟·沙勿略 - 藉著聖方濟·沙勿略的轉求，請為我們堂區的未來祈禱：特別是我們堂區的青年，願他們繼續繼承發揚我們的精神傳統。
- 第九日：聖方濟·沙勿略慷慨為教會傳教事業奉獻一生的精神 - 藉著聖方濟·沙勿略的轉求，請為普世所有司鐸及傳教工作人員轉禱。求主賜予他們豐富的恩寵，使能在傳教事業上忠於職守，將天國喜訊傳遍普世。

我們所求此恩惠，完全承行天父的旨意，恩賜我們生活在安定與希望中，並願天父的名受顯揚。

領：聖方濟·沙勿略，請為我們代禱。眾：使我們堪當承受基督的恩許。

請大家祈禱：天父，你曾藉聖方濟·沙勿略的宣講和靈蹟，引導了東洋諸國眾多子民皈依教會。求你賞賜我們都充滿著聖人一樣的信仰熱誠，並效法聖人諸德的芳表。因我們的主耶穌基督之名，求你俯聽我們的祈禱。 亞孟。

### 祈求聖方濟·沙勿略禱詞

全體：聖方濟·沙勿略，你極其寬仁，慈愛熱誠。以至十年之內，不辭勞苦，傳佈福音給萬民，拯救人靈。我們懇切呼號，望你轉達；求賜聖教會在各地平安拓展。罪人信賴天主的仁慈而痛改前非。教外人早獲信德的光明。煉靈獲享天主圓滿的救恩，早登天國。更使中華民族，國泰民安。凡樂意敬愛你的人，都能日進於德，分享你真福的歡欣。仁愛的聖人，懇請垂顧，望你為我們罪人求得此恩惠。光榮歸於父、及子、及聖神。起初如何，今日亦然，直到永遠。 亞孟。

### 天主經、聖母經（各一遍）

全體：可敬的聖方濟·沙勿略，你是主的善良忠信僕人！你在少許事上忠信，主必委派你管理許多大事。永享主的福樂！

領：上主曾引領你踏上義人的坦途。眾：為天國之榮耀，塵世之光輝。

請大家祈禱：至仁至義的天主，你為愛你的人準備了奇妙的幸福。祈望你垂允我們向聖方濟·沙勿略所作的敬禮，仰賴聖人的功績，賞賜我們分沾你許給聖人的祝福。因我們的主耶穌基督之名，求你俯聽我們的祈禱。 亞孟。



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5622 Imperial St.  
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On solid rock the house stands firm with protection, your home is secure. -Matthew 7:25  
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