



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

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主曆 2026 年 7 月 19 日 (甲年)

常年期第十六主日



Sunday, 19th July, 2026 (Year A)

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



神父片語

李志雄神父 (耀漢小兄弟會)

Fr. Chi Hung Ly, CSJB

「從自己開始，讓天國成長」

(瑪 13:24-43)

親愛的主內弟兄姐妹：

今天的福音中，耶穌一連講述了三個天國的比喻：莠子、芥菜子和酵母。這三個比喻雖然簡單，卻向我們指出一條天國的道路：天國是在人的心中開始，在生活中慢慢成長，在天主的恩寵中結出果實。

首先，莠子的比喻提醒我們要有耐心和醒覺。世界上有善，也有惡；人的心中有光明，也有軟弱。耶穌沒有要求我們急著審判別人，而是邀請我們先反省自己。真正的信仰更新，不是把焦點放在別人的缺點，而是每天問自己：「今天，我是否更像基督一點？」

其次，芥菜子的比喻告訴我們，不要輕看微小的開始。一句鼓勵的話、一個寬恕的行動、一段忠誠的祈禱、一份默默的服務，在人眼中可能微不足道，但在天主眼中，卻能成為改變生命的開始。天主常常用最小的種子，成就最大的工程。

最後，酵母的比喻提醒我們，基督徒應像酵母一樣，默默地影響身邊的人。真正的福傳，不只是用口宣講，更是用生命作見證。當我們活出愛、喜樂、和平、忍耐和寬恕時，我們就在家庭、堂區和社會中，讓天國不斷發酵、成長。

我們堂區正在推動八年牧民計劃：「從自己開始的信仰更新之路」。今天的福音正好給我們一個具體的方向。更新堂區，不是等待別人先改變；更新家庭，也不是等待家人先改變；也不是等待環境變好，而是從自己開始，讓基督先更新我的心。

願我們都常懷醒覺之心，勤於反省自己，修德行善，努力

增加自己的功德，自願遵照天主的旨意生活。當我們願意每天踏出一小步，天主就會使這顆小小的芥菜子成長，使這一點點酵母發揮力量，讓天國在我們的生命、家庭和堂區中不斷茁壯成長。

願我們每一位都成為天主手中的麥子、芥菜子和酵母，從自己開始更新，讓基督的愛在堂區、家庭和社會中不斷成長，結出豐盛而常存的果實。

願天父的慈愛、基督的恩寵、聖神的恩賜，常與我們同在。

李志雄神父 CSJB

“Begins with Ourselves, and Let the Kingdom of Heaven Grow”

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us three parables about the Kingdom of Heaven: the weeds among the wheat, the mustard seed, and the yeast. Although these parables are simple, they reveal the path of the Kingdom: it begins in the human heart, grows gradually in daily life, and bears fruit through the grace of God.

First, the parable of the weeds reminds us to be patient and vigilant. In our world there is both good and evil; within every human heart there is light as well as weakness. Jesus does not ask us to rush to judge others. Instead, He invites us to examine ourselves first. True renewal of faith does not focus on the faults of others but asks each day: “Am I becoming more like Christ today?”

Second, the parable of the mustard seed teaches us never to underestimate small beginnings. A word of encouragement, an act of forgiveness, a faithful prayer, or a quiet act of service may seem insignificant in human eyes, but in God's eyes these small acts can become the beginning of great transformation. God often uses the smallest seed to accomplish His greatest work.

...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：願園 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

聖方濟學校校長Mrs. Anne Yam的退休慶祝活動

Mrs Anne Yam, SFX School Principal, Retirement Celebration

衷心感謝 Mrs. Anne Yam 校長多年來對聖方濟學校及堂區的忠誠服務與悉心栽培。祝願您退休生活幸福美滿，主恩常伴！🙏

Thank you, Mrs. Anne Yam, for your outstanding dedication and leadership at St. Francis Xavier School and our parish. We wish you God's blessings, good health, and every happiness in your retirement.





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 7月19日	為全體信友 求恩 求恩 為頤園 Peter Wong 健康求恩 謝恩 謝恩 追悼 Joseph 黃再發 追悼 袁何淑娟 追悼 父親 潘樹榮 追悼 潘樹榮 追悼 吳希義神父 追悼 Julia Wong 追悼 黃培文 追悼 王啟承	本堂神父們 Mavy & Vyanna Cheung Anna Lee Janice Ip Wendy Chen 王美貞 姪女與家人, 淑琮, Yvonne Chan 夫 Milton 及子女, 孫仔 William Poon & Family Wing Li & Adeline 劉宅 聖體會 妻子 Christina Wong Alice & Joseph
星期一 Monday 7月20日	求賜 平安順利 為頤園 Peter Wong 健康求恩 追悼 劉方濟各 追悼 Joan 蔡翠英 追悼 母親 谷林秀英 追悼 Joseph 黃再發 追悼 父親 潘樹榮	Avari & Anna Janice Ip 劉瑪利亞及家人 Coquitlam 邂逅聖言組 谷祖港 谷陳少華 姪女與家人, 淑琮, Yvonne Chan William Poon & Family
星期二 Tuesday 7月21日	為頤園 Peter Wong 健康求恩 為其叔跌倒早日康復求恩 追悼 龔文伯 追悼 Vera 唐詠華 追悼 父親 潘樹榮 追悼 王啟承	Janice Ip 頤園教友 Geoffrey Kung Au Yeung Family William Poon & Family Alice & Joseph
星期三 Wednesday 7月22日	為頤園 Peter Wong 健康求恩 為其叔跌倒早日康復求恩 追悼 Vera Tong 追悼 袁何淑娟 追悼 林華三, 伍賜靈 追悼 父親 潘樹榮 追悼 袁何淑娟	Janice Ip 頤園教友 Stephen Au Yeung 鳴遠第三會 Dominic Lam William Poon & Family Anne Chiu
星期四 Thursday 7月23日	為頤園 Peter Wong 健康求恩 為其叔跌倒早日康復求恩 追悼 父親 潘樹榮 追悼 袁何淑娟 追悼 吳財林, 鄭秀琮	Janice Ip 頤園教友 William Poon & Family Anne Chiu 吳家子孫
星期五 Friday 7月24日	為頤園 Peter Wong 健康求恩 追悼 袁何淑娟姊妹 追悼 父親 潘樹榮 追悼 Joseph 黃再發	Janice Ip 福傳樂粵曲組 William Poon & Family 姪女與家人, 淑琮, Yvonne Chan
星期六 Saturday 7月25日	為頤園 Peter Wong 健康求恩 追悼 父親 潘樹榮 追悼 Joseph 黃再發 追悼 陳潤好 追悼 Mary 吳敘行	Janice Ip William Poon & Family 姪女與家人, 淑琮, Yvonne Chan 陳德貞及家人 朱方明, 朱佳嘉

若要查詢或發現錯漏之處, 請與敬雅潔修女聯絡:

604-254-2727 內線 105 或電郵 sfx.parish.bulletin@gmail.com

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SFX's NEWS • 堂區通訊 • 3

Finally, the parable of the yeast reminds us that Christians are called to be like yeast, quietly transforming the world around them. Authentic evangelization is not only about preaching with our words but also about witnessing through our lives. When we live with love, joy, peace, patience, and forgiveness, we help the Kingdom of God grow within our families, our parish, and our society.

Our parish is currently carrying out an Eight-Year Pastoral Plan with the theme: "The Journey of Faith Renewal Begins with Ourselves." Today's Gospel gives us a clear and practical direction. Renewing our parish does not begin by waiting for others to change. Renewing our families does not begin by expecting our loved ones to change first. Nor do we wait for circumstances to improve. Renewal begins with each one of us, allowing Christ to renew our own hearts.

May we always remain watchful, examine our consciences regularly, grow in virtue, do good works, and strive to live according to God's holy will. As we faithfully take one small step each day, God will cause the tiny mustard seed to grow and the little bit of yeast to transform the whole dough. In this way, His Kingdom will continue to flourish in our lives, our families, and our parish.

May each of us become the wheat, the mustard seed, and the yeast in God's hands. Let us begin with ourselves, allowing Christ's love to grow within us, so that it may spread throughout our parish, our families, and our society, bearing abundant and lasting fruit.

May the love of the Father, the grace of Christ, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit remain with us always.

Fr. Chi Hung Ly, CSJB

靈修講座：95年前，耶穌讓我看見！

耶穌在波蘭普沃茨克(Plock)
向聖傳天娜修女顯現95周年紀念 (1931-2026)

2026年8月1日 星期六
上午十時至中午十二時於聖堂內
查詢電話：604-254-2727
講者：林結萍 (Bernadette Lam)
《玫瑰恩寵與露德》作者及
《天主賜給我們這時代的禮物—天娜修女的生活與使命》譯者

地點：天主教聖方濟堂
438 Great Northern Way, Vancouver, BC V5T 4S5



堂區及教區消息

Parish and Archdiocesan News



* 7月25日(星期六): 聖方濟堂區旅行

今年聖方濟堂區旅行將於2026年7月25日(星期六)舉行。

地點:

史丹利公園 - 鐵路候車亭 (林柏文園上邊)

交通安排:

我們安排乘座的兩部旅遊巴士, 將會如常出發。請各位已購票的, 在早上8:30彌撒後, 到堂區活動中心集合, 到時有工作人員安排乘車事宜。

而選擇自駕前往者, 請盡可能尋找 Lot 62 地段泊車, 沿著小路前往, 5分鐘便會到達。

而選用公共交通工具, 即便乘搭 #19 運輸聯線的, 到總站後, 沿著小路前往, 5分鐘便會到達。

膳食安排:

我們沒有預備早餐, 煩請自行安排。

午餐將會在早上11:30到達, 隨即享用。

車票和餐券:

*已登記購票的, 請聯絡 Albert Lee 604-833-1833, 並在這個週末繳費和取票。

期待與大家一同享受一個充滿歡笑、美食、友誼與團體精神的夏日堂區旅行!

* 鹽與光傳媒特別呈獻: 《秘魯的良》

Salt + Light Media Presents: León de Perú

由聖座傳播部編輯部門製作的紀錄片《秘魯的良》將於7月4日起在 Salt + Light Plus 串流平台免費播映, 並提供繁體及簡體中文字幕。透過多位見證人的分享, 觀眾將認識教宗良十四世在秘魯的傳教與牧靈歷程, 以及他服務天主子民的生命見證。免費收看: slmedia.org/ch/slplus



León de Perú, a documentary produced by the Editorial Department of the Dicastery for Communication of the Holy See, will stream free on Salt + Light Plus beginning July 4, with Traditional and Simplified Chinese subtitles. Through the testimonies of those who knew him, viewers will discover Pope Leo XIV's missionary and pastoral ministry in Peru and his faithful service to the People of God. Watch for free:

slmedia.org/ch/slplus

* July 25th (Saturday): SFX Parish Picnic

Location: Stanley Park – Railway Shelters
(near Lumbermen's Garden)

Transportation Options:

Two prearranged coach buses will be ready. For those who have purchased tickets, please come down to Parish Life Center PLC after the 8:30am Mass.

For those who drive own vehicles, please try to park at the Lot 62, take the roadside path and walk for 5 minutes to reach the destination.

If you are taking Translink bus #19, once you get off at the terminal station, take the roadside path and walk for 5 minutes to reach the destination.

Meals arrangement:

No breakfast preparation. Please kindly plan your own.

The lunch delivery is scheduled for 11:30 am, allowing us to enjoy the meal immediately upon delivery and setup completion.

Meal tickets: those who have prebooked, please contact Albert Lee 604-833-1833 to finish the transactions.

We look forward to spending a wonderful summer day together filled with laughter, good food, friendship, and parish fellowship!

* 新書: 「天主賜給我們這時代的禮物」義賣



溫哥華聖方濟堂已訂購, 將於8月1日起開始義賣, 每本\$20。

「❤️ 義賣所得將全數捐贈予波蘭慈悲耶穌顯現朝聖地, 誠邀大家踴躍支持這項別具意義的善舉。」

除了購買一本給自己閱讀外, 也歡迎考慮送贈親友, 一同分享信仰的體會, 同時為慈善出一分力。」

以上資訊由靈修講座, 林結萍講者提供, 感謝大家支持!

本通訊歡迎各團體及善會刊登活動消息, 雙語為佳, 並於每星期四晚上八時截稿, 如欲刊登照片或圖片, 請於星期三晚上八時投稿, 稿件請電郵至 sfx.parish.bulletin@gmail.com。本堂神父保留刊登稿件的一切權利, 不得異議。

請注意: 非本堂的團體或其將舉行的活動不在聖方濟堂行事曆中, 請預先發電郵提交申請: parish. sfx@rcav.org 及副件(cc) sfx.parish.bulletin@gmail.com, 經本堂神父批核後, 堂區辦事處會發電郵回覆及堂區通訊小組會安排刊登。

二零二六年教宗七月份的祈禱意向

請為人類生命的尊嚴祈禱

願人類生命在其每個階段都能得到尊重和守護，並被視為天主的恩典。

Pope's prayer Intention for July 2026

For Respect for Human Life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

* 第 48 屆基督活力運動實習班

聖方濟堂區將於 2026 年 8 月 13-16 日在 Abbotsford Columbia Bible College 主辦第 48 屆基督活力運動粵語實習班。誠意邀請教友有意藉這機會提升個人在信仰上的認識和實踐，以全交託天主的態度，達到與主有更密切的關係，祈能基督化這個世界。這項目得到李神父的推介，協助教友達成個人在堂區八年牧民計劃。詳情及報名，請聯絡：Belinda Kwong @604-298-6739（留言）電郵：bcv.cursillo@gmail.com

* 頤園老人院房間出租

本堂頤園老人院現有空房，請向堂區寫字樓申請安排參觀房間。

* Happy Manor Senior Home Room Available

Happy Manor Senior Home currently has vacancy, please apply to parish office for room visit arrangement.



天主教基督活力運動

金十字掛在胸前 主衛士莫再等閒
忠心爭不計代價 主的兒女豪氣萬千

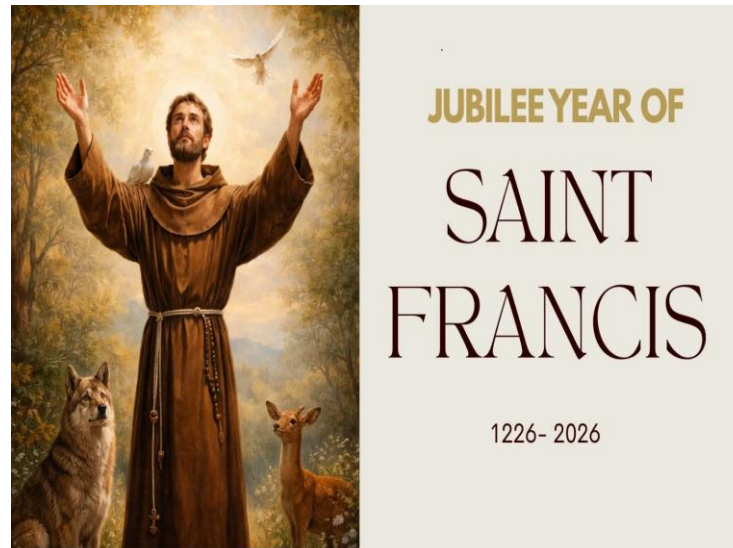
與己相遇，與主相遇，與人相遇
北美第 48 屆基督活力運動 Cursillos in Christianity
加拿大溫哥華舉辦男、女粵語實習班

日期：2026 年 8 月 13 日（週四）至 8 月 16 日（週日）
地點：Columbia Bible College,
2940 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford, B.C. V2T 2Z8, Canada
費用：\$430 CAD（四天三夜）
電話查詢：Joseph Lee 778-803-6163, Magdalena Chen 778-686-0168
電郵查詢：bcv.cursillo@gmail.com

報名連結 



Hosted by St. Francis Xavier Parish, Vancouver B.C.



聖方濟堂區活動中心主辦朝聖活動
聖方濟亞西西特殊禧年全大赦
（紀念聖方濟亞西西逝世800週年）

朝聖地點：

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
2025 Napier St, Vancouver, BC V5L 2N8

朝聖日期：

2026年7月21日 星期二

10:00 AM: 聖方濟堂(SFX Parish)觀賞《聖方濟亞西西傳》電影約90分鐘

11:30 AM-12:30 PM: 分享(觀賞影片後的感受) + 自備午餐時間

1:00 PM: 抵達聖方濟亞西西堂頌念玫瑰經

1:30 PM: 感恩聖祭 恭請張世協神父主持

3:00 PM: 茶聚(自由參加)

為聖方濟亞西西堂的捐獻，請自由奉獻。

備註：歡迎參加，不需報名。不觀賞電影者，請於下午1:00前抵達聖方濟亞西西堂 現場有義工恭候。

SFX Parish Bulletin, email: sfx.parish.bulletin@gmail.com. **Deadline of Submission: Thursdays at 8pm** for announcement, **Wednesdays at 8pm** for photos

*** Bilingual submissions are preferred. The parish pastor reserves all rights to publish submissions without objection. ***

Please note: If an organization or its event is not listed in the SFX Parish Church calendar, please submit an application in advance by email:

parish.sfx@rcav.org and a copy (cc) sfx.parish.bulletin@gmail.com. After approval by the parish pastor,

the parish office will reply by email and the Parish Bulletin Committee will arrange for publication.



7月22日 聖女瑪利亞瑪達肋納

(St. Mary Magdalen)

關於瑪利亞瑪達肋納的史實，聖經注釋家的意見，略有不同，我們綜合聖奧斯定和聖額我略的見解，以及聖教禮節上所採用的論據，記述於下：

瑪利亞·瑪達肋納生於猶太的伯大尼，是拉匝祿和瑪爾大的妹妹。及笄的時候，生活放蕩 浪漫，有城中「罪婦」之稱。她聆聽了耶穌的教訓，痛改前非，悔罪與愛主之情，油然而發。有一天，一個法利塞人，請耶穌去吃飯；入席時，那罪婦進來，跪在耶穌面前，淚流滿面，用眼淚洗濯耶穌的聖足，再用自己的頭髮揩拭和香油敷抹。

請耶穌吃飯的法利塞人，見了這事，心裏很不滿意耶穌的舉動。耶穌對法利塞人心中的思想，早已瞭然。便借用「兩人同向一個債主借債」的譬喻，把法利塞人心頭的秘密，一語道破。接著，祂指著那罪婦對法利塞人道：「你看見這女人嗎？我進了你的家，你沒有送上水來給我洗腳。這女人卻用眼淚洗了我的腳，並用頭髮來揩拭。你沒有給我行親面禮，她從我進來以後，卻不停地口親我的腳。你沒有用油抹我的頭，她卻用香油抹我的腳。所以我告訴你們：『她的許多罪都赦了，因為她愛得多。誰獲得寬赦少的，是愛的少。』」

耶穌對那罪婦說：「你的罪都赦了，你的信德救了你，平平安安地回去吧。」

路加福音第八章記述：耶穌走遍了各城各村講道，宣傳天國的喜訊。同祂在一起的有十二位宗徒，有幾個曾附過惡魔或患病而獲治癒的婦女，有號稱瑪達肋納的瑪利亞，從她身上趕出了七個魔鬼。

路加福音第十章記述：耶穌進了一個村莊，有一個女人名叫瑪爾大的，把耶穌接到家中。她的妹妹瑪利亞坐在耶穌的跟前，聽祂講話。瑪爾大為了招待耶穌，忙碌不已。她對耶穌說：「主，我的妹妹丟下我一個侍候，你不介意嗎？請您叫她來幫助我吧。」耶穌答道：「瑪爾大！瑪爾大！你為了許多的事操心忙碌。其實最需要的唯有一件，瑪利亞選擇了最好的一份，那是不能從她奪去的。」

耶穌榮入耶路撒冷的上一日，在伯大尼癩病者西滿家裏坐席的時候，瑪利亞拿著一玉瓶珍貴的香液進來。她打破玉瓶，就倒在耶穌頭上。但有些人頗不滿意，彼此說：「為什麼要這樣浪費香液？這香液原可賣三百多塊銀錢，施捨貧人啊！」耶穌說道：「由她罷！你們為什麼叫她難受。她在我身上作了一件善事，因為你們常有貧人同你們在一起，你們無論什麼時候願意，就能給他們行善。但是我，你們卻不能常在一處。她所能做的，她已做了。她提前傅抹了我的身體，是為安葬之事。我實在告訴你們：將來福音無論傳到全世界什麼地方，必要述說她所作的事，來紀念她。」

聖師金口若望說：「你們大家請看：你們無論到什麼地方，都能聽到大家歌頌她的話。無論在波斯、在印度、在英倫三島，瑪達肋納的佳事，到處流傳。」

耶穌聖身高懸苦架時，有幾位婦女遠遠地觀看著，其中有瑪利亞瑪達肋納。

耶穌聖身光榮復活時，瑪達肋納也是主要的角色。瑪竇福音記載：安息日過了，一週的第一日，天快亮時，瑪利亞瑪達肋納和另一個瑪利亞來看墳墓。忽然發生了大地震，上主的天使從天降來，上前把石頭滾開，坐在上面。他的容貌好像閃電，他的衣服潔白如雪。天使對婦女說道：「你們不要害怕，我知道你們尋找被釘死的耶穌。祂不在這裏了。祂已經由死者中復活了。」她們趕快離開墳墓，跑去報告門徒。正在那時，耶穌迎面而來，對她們說：「願你們平安！」

若望福音記載：瑪利亞在墳墓外面痛哭。耶穌對她說：「瑪利亞！」瑪利亞便轉身用希伯來話對他說：「辣布尼（意思就是說：師父）。」耶穌說：「別觸碰我，因為我還沒有升到父那裏。你到我的弟兄那裏去告訴他們。我升到我的父——也是你們的父——那裏去，升到我的天主——也是你們的天主——那裏去。」

根據東方的傳說，聖神降臨後，瑪達肋納隨聖母瑪利亞和聖若望宗徒到厄弗所。她死在厄弗所。但根據另一種傳說，瑪達肋納和拉匝祿、瑪爾大等同往法國普望斯傳教，暮年在聖巴美山岩洞隱修。

文章來源：《聖人傳記》 思高聖經學會 出版

資料來源：<https://www.ccreadbible.org/Members/Bona/reading/saintbiography/0722-st-mary-magdalen>



(梵蒂岡新聞網)

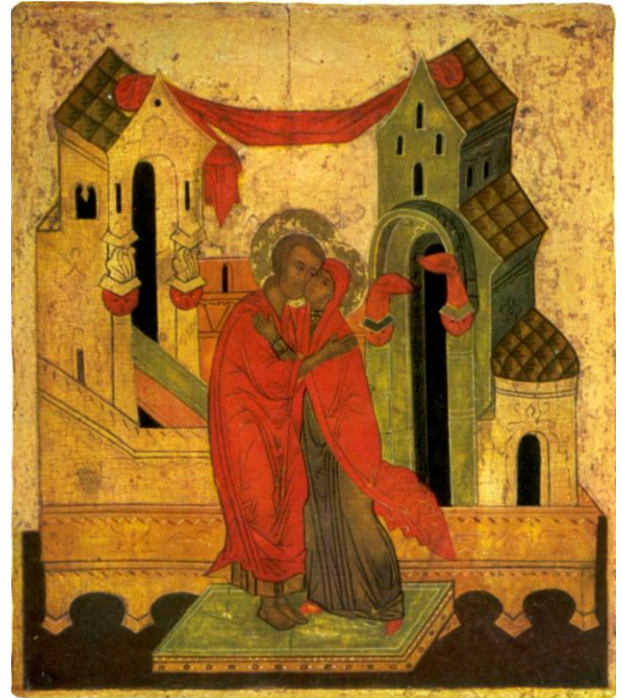
重新養成探望祖父母、家中年長者，以及那些“無人探訪的人”的“好習慣”：“藉著這篇文告和你們的親臨探訪，把教宗的關懷與愛帶給他們。”這是教宗良十四世特別托付給年輕人的使命。

7月26日主日是第六屆世界祖父母及年長者日，當天也是耶穌的祖父母——聖若亞敬與聖亞納的瞻禮。

Saints Joachim and Anne: Grandparents of Jesus

July 26th marks the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, father and mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary. I have always been intrigued by this couple, not only because Anne is my second name, but also because one has to wonder who could have raised someone like Holy Mary, the Glorious Mother of Jesus Christ. There isn't a whole lot written about their lives, before or after having Mary, aside from what is contained in the Apocryphal Protoevangelium of James, but that doesn't mean their lives weren't deeply significant. They were.

Joachim was a well respected and “exceedingly rich man” of the tribe of Judah who often doubled his offerings to God, while Anna was the daughter of a priest of the tribe of Levi. They were married for many years without children. In those days barrenness was seen as punishment from God and Anna was well past childbearing age. As Joachim went into the temple he was upbraided by a man named Rubim, saying it was not proper for Joachim to bring temple offerings, as he had no children. This grieved Joachim exceedingly and he went into the desert to lament, pray, and fast for 40 days and nights.



Meanwhile, Anne also grieved her barrenness, as well as her husband's absence, which she called “her widowhood.” At one point, Anne sat in the garden praying to God in these words: “O God of our fathers, bless me and hear my prayer, as you blessed the womb of Sarah, and gave her a son, Isaac.” At that moment, an Angel of the Lord appeared to Anne and Joachim at the same time, telling them both to get up: the Lord had heard their prayer and Anne would conceive. There is a beautiful icon depicting the poignant moment where Anne and Joachim meet at the city gate (above). It was said that she “hung upon his neck saying: Now I know that the Lord God has blessed me exceedingly; for, behold the widow no longer a widow, and I the childless shall conceive.” In fact, the full name of the icon is “The Conception of the Mother of God.” As Jim Forest says in *Praying with Icons*, “No words better communicate how blessed is the vocation of marriage than the icon of Anne and Joachim embracing each other.”

St. Anne's body, according to Pope Saint Leo III, had been buried in Apt, France following persecutions in Jerusalem, and eventually forgotten. The peaceful reign of Charlemagne allowed a beautiful church to be re-built on the site and during the consecration of the building, a fourteen-year-old boy who was blind, deaf, and dumb from birth, moved by the Spirit, led Charlemagne (who was in attendance) to the remains of St. Anne that were wrapped in a “winding sheet” with an inscription saying, “Here lies the body of St. Anne, mother of the glorious Virgin Mary.” The boy was miraculously healed that day and the relics of Good St. Anne were venerated, and are still venerated, to this day.

St. Anne is the patroness of many things and places, including Brittany, France, Canada, and Quebec. She is also invoked against poverty and barrenness, for childless couples, sterility, pregnancy, pregnant women, women in labour, grandmothers, grandparents, homemakers, housewives, lace makers, lace workers, equestrians, stablemen, seamstresses, turners, miners, lost articles, carpenters, cabinet makers, broom makers, and for the dioceses of Detroit, Michigan; Norwich, Connecticut; Santa Ana, Indian Pueblo; and Taos, New Mexico. St. Joachim is invoked as patron of grandparents, grandfathers, and fathers.

Sources: *CatholicCulture.org*.

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