

編者的話

自去年四月本堂進行新聖堂動土禮後，本堂已進入一個新紀元了。神父、修女、善會及至各教友都興高采烈地為興建新聖堂而歡呼！雀躍！

為配合新聖堂的興建，由神父、修女、各善會及個別教友，分頭進行籌劃、籌款及組織資源、分配資源等艱巨任務。為使新聖堂能盡善盡美及美侖、美奐，以光榮天主！

本刊自然不甘後人，亦步、亦趨。看！本刊不是圖文並茂地把新聖堂的興建過程在第一時間搶先刊載，以待來茲，庶免文獻不足徵之誚。

為應付新聖堂的成立所帶來的工作量、新挑戰、在極度缺乏人手的情況下，本刊惟有不斷地調整方針以應付未來的繁重工作新聖堂祝聖的紀念特刊籌備工作。為此，本刊將於本年度內，把刊期略為調整，改為「雙月刊」並於單數月份出版，直至另行通告為止。敬祈各教友鑒諒。

同人等自揣才德單薄，除祈求聖神的不斷帶領外，特在此呼籲有經驗之編輯、設計、繪圖、製版、中英文打字等等專職熱心教友加入本編委會以收集思廣益之效。語有云：「集腋可以成裘」，在群策群力下，庶幾可以克盡厥職。榮耀當歸於我們在天之上父。

有意者請向堂區秘書處接洽。

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編輯部啟

Editor's Message

In an effort to re-allocate existing parish resources for various new tasks related to the new church construction, the CM Voice will be published bi-monthly starting from January 2002. Anyone who is interested in editorial work, design and typing is welcome to join our publishing team. Articles with faith content are always welcome. Let's continue to voice out our praise and thanksgiving to God in our parish journal.



Cost of Sin



The theme we learn from Advent is hopeful and joyful because we celebrate the coming of the Long Expected Messiah – Our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Let us reflect on the words “Messiah” and “Our Savior” – both mean someone who will help us, humanity, overcome self-inflicted damage, both physical and spiritual. What has been the cause of our loss of peace, self-control, friendship and harmony? – We call it sin.

Many members of our modern western materialistic culture of death tend to disregard or reject it as non-existent. For them, their conscience is unplugged, until someone sins against them. Instantly, they feel the anger of rejection, the hurt of a victim of arson, drunk driving, robbery or rape.

What is the cost of sin? To the sinner it is his relationship to God – to the victim – to society – to himself and his own family.

Our money-mad society thinks money can settle any hurt.

Laws, divine or human, do not make people behave, but they do help define standards to live by. It is only through effective, loving parental training accepted by individual children, supported by the spiritual motivation of our Loving Creator

that produces men and women of conscience and character.

School teachers, police and the socially trained personnel recognize the clear difference. Some parents are their children's worst enemy. Signs of poor behavior show in kindergarten – then at elementary and high schools – schools alone do not correct but suffer from this. The teenage period manifests the serious consequences in classrooms, corridors, on the playground. Police presence at school is a sign of our social behavior collapse.

The cost to a peaceful atmosphere, to fruitful teaching? Ask any teacher.

Teenage dress style gives a clear sign of what values are important to them.

Sad behavior that involves police and financial costs that are a burden to law-abiding citizens merits an accounting. The cost of sin. Is it only money? Take time yourself to measure the cost to self-esteem, family name – social trends divided by hurt, anger, hatred.

“Prepare the way of the Lord.” We need Our Savior. “Come, Lord Jesus.”