

5. When was the Bible written?

- γ It was written over a period of **1,500** years, from around the time of Moses to the death and resurrection of Jesus.
- γ The **first** version of the Bible is the “**Septuagint Version**” and dated back to **280 BC**.
- γ The Bible was **canonized** by the council of **Carthage** in **397 AD**.



6. When was the Bible first printed?

- γ The Bible was the **first book ever** printed.
- γ This was printed in **1454** by a German, Johannes Gutenberg. The two – volume bible was printed with a total of 1,282 pages. This was created with the help of 20 staff. A total of 180 copies were printed, with 150 copies on paper and 30 on parchment with 48 copies still existence. Copies can be found in **Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana** at the **Vatican City**.

7. What is the difference between a Catholic Bible and a Protestant Bible?

- γ In the **Old Testament**, the Protestant version has only 39 books, but the Catholic version has 46 books. The seven additional books included in Catholic version are Tobit, Judith, 1 and 2 Maccabees, Wisdom, Sirach, and Baruch. Catholic version also includes additions to the Books of Esther and Daniel, which are not found in Protestant Bibles. These books are called the deuterocanonical books. The Catholic Church considers these books to be inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- γ In the **New Testament**, the difference is not in the number of books or chapters, but in the way certain words were translated into English from the original language they were in.

8. Is the Bible still the best selling book in the world?

- γ The Bible is the **best selling** book every year.
- γ According to the Guinness World Records, **2.5 billion** Bibles have been printed since 1815.

9. How long does it take to read the Bible aloud?

- γ It takes about **70 hours** to read the entire Bible aloud.

聖 體 聖 事

英子

我經常利用10時與11時45分彌撒間的半小時空檔，一來與主促膝長談、祈禱、反思，二來細讀是日經文。

那日，我如常提早入聖堂，放眼回顧，見到有一位熟識的姊妹獨坐一隅，頻頻拭淚，於是我靜靜地走去坐在她身旁，等到她祈禱完畢，抹掉眼淚，睜開眼睛與我四目相交時，我急切地握住她的手，詢問她甚麼事。

她嗚咽著說：「我剛領完聖體，與主相遇，我好感動」，眼淚更一串串的流下來。「主以祂的體血滋養我們，我感覺到好幸福，主好愛我，真的好愛我。」

她深情地望了我一眼，語重心長地說：「領了聖體心中有無限感觸，只想留下坐多一會，細細體會與主相遇的奇妙，神人共融的感動，天人合一的喜樂，感謝主。」

於是我們不再說話，但緊緊相握，靜靜坐，默默祈禱，深深嘆息，悄悄拭淚，沉醉于聖恩之中多麼美好的靈修，果真是三人行必有我師，且喜有二師。

感謝主的恩寵，感謝聖神的帶領，感謝資深教友的傳授，就在那一刻，使我真正實實在在領悟了聖體聖事的真諦。

誠然，閱讀聖經，恒常祈禱是基督徒的日修神課，從生活中拾取點滴，滴水穿石，感動自己，感染別人，有如蠟燭燃燒自己，照亮別人，正是學習的另一要環，就像銀幣的兩面，相輔相成，缺一不可，謹此與各兄弟姊妹共勉。

