

2020 Christmas Greetings



*The eternal life that was with the Father
was made visible to us. - 1 John 1:2*

這原與父同在的永恆生命
已顯示了給我們。 - 若望一書 1:2

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Without dispute, 2020 is an unforgettable year. The global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is beyond enumeration. Faced with this health crisis and the many uncertainties in life, one can easily succumb to fear and despair. Yet, we as God's children, with faith in the Trinitarian God who is Love, can serenely ride through this turbulent time. God has revealed His great love for us by sending His only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, into the world so that we might see Him, believe in Him and have life through Him. Whoever believes in the Name of the Son of God has this confidence in Him that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. So as God's beloved children, let us turn to Him in this time of misery. God is in fact calling all humanity to trust Him and re-center our lives in Him who created us out of love. Our Almighty God is our only hope, for only He in His infinite goodness can change all evil into good and death into life. May God in this holy Season celebrating His Incarnation, grant us Peace and make us His worthy children that keep His commandment of Love of God and our neighbor!

親愛的主內兄弟姊妹,

無可否認, 2020 是令人難忘的一年。新冠肺炎大流行對全球的影響無法一一列舉。當人面對這健康的挑戰及種種不明朗的前景時, 很容易就陷入恐懼與絕望中。但我們作為天主的子女, 懷著對天主聖三本質是愛的信靠, 卻能安然度過這動蕩的時刻。天主對我們的愛在這事上已顯示了出來, 天主把自己的獨生子, 我們的主耶穌基督, 打發到世界上來, 好使我們能見到祂, 信祂, 藉著祂得到生命。誰信天主子之名的, 相信如果我們按祂的旨意求什麼, 祂必俯聽我們。讓我們, 天主寵愛的子女, 在這苦難中向祂轉求。天主正在呼喚全人類信賴祂, 並重新把那位因愛創造了我們的天主, 成為我們生命的中心。我們全能的天主是我們唯一的希望, 因為只有祂才能將萬惡轉化為善, 將死亡變為生命。願主在這個慶祝祂降生成人的神聖季節中, 賜給我們平安及把我們成為祂相稱的兒女, 時刻遵守祂愛主愛人的誠命!



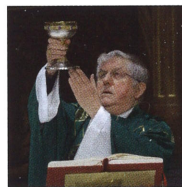
Since we learned about the coronavirus spreading in China, we had increased our prayers and supplications for all those affected. 自從得知冠狀病毒在中國傳播的消息, 我們便一直為所有受影響的人祈禱及轉求。In March this year, following the public health guidelines and those from the Archdiocese of Toronto, we suspended all public celebration of the Eucharist in our Chapel. For us, cloistered nuns, the experience of lockdown was not as difficult as the absence of in-person daily Eucharistic celebration, since solitude is very much a part of our life. Thank God that in the daily online Mass and Communion Service we were able to continue to receive Jesus Christ in His most visible form in the Blessed Sacrament. For Sundays and feast days we were blessed to have Fr. Dominic Borg, OCD to celebrate Mass for us. 今年三月, 遵循公共衛生局及多倫多天主教教區的指引, 我們暫停我們在我們的小聖堂中慶祝彌撒聖祭。對我們這些隱居的修女而言, 對外封鎖比不上不能每天親身參與彌撒聖祭那樣困難, 因為獨處一向是我們生活的一部份。感謝上主, 我們每天仍可繼續通過網上彌撒及在分送聖體禮儀中, 以最明顯的方式領受可見的耶穌基督的聖體。我們很感恩逢大瞻禮日及星期日Fr. Dominic Borg, OCD為我們舉行彌撒聖祭。



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Even with the lockdown, our community still celebrated privately with great solemnity the Holy Week liturgies and all the other major feasts. In all our



Novena prayers and Masses we implored God's special blessing and protection upon all our families, friends and benefactors. 即使在封鎖期間我們仍然私下隆重慶祝聖週禮儀及所有其他的主要慶節。在九日敬禮和彌撒中我們祈求上主特別祝福護佑我們所有的家人, 朋友和恩人。

On August 27, our community was blessed that Fr. Dominic Borg, OCD retired and moved into our guest house to be our Chaplain. Since then, the celebration of the Holy Eucharist has resumed in our Chapel, though we continue to close our Chapel to the public until the pandemic is over. In September, when some official restrictions were lifted, we invited a few more priest friends to come back to celebrate Mass for us. It is truly wonderful to have daily Mass again. 8月27日我們的團體很感恩退休後的Fr. Dominic Borg, OCD搬進我們訪客居屋, 成為我們的神師。此後, 我們恢復在小聖堂內慶祝彌撒。但在疫情未結束前我們仍繼續對外關閉小聖堂。當一些官方限制在九月鬆解後, 我們邀請了一些神父朋友回來為我們慶祝彌撒。可以再次每天參與彌撒真是太好了!



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Father Dominic is a scriptural scholar. The sharing of his knowledge and insight on the word of God is his first and greatest passion. Though inside the enclosure, using Zoom, we are also able to attend his online Bible Study for the lay people. Fr. Dominic是一位聖經學者, 因此分享他對聖言的知識和見地是他的首要愛好。在隱院中我們也可以用Zoom參加他給教友主持的網上聖經研討。



His second passion is carpentry. Utilizing the carpentry skills he learned from his father as a child in Malta and the great number of tools and equipment he brought with him, he finished a few of our repairs within a very short time. 他的第二愛好是木工。他運用了小時候在Malta從父親那裡學到的木工技能及他帶來的大量工具和器材, 在很短的時間內為我們完成了幾項維修工程。



We believe gardening should be his third passion. No less, we were the happy recipients of the copious beans, green peppers, squash and tomatoes produced from his tiny vegetable garden. 我們相信園藝應是他的第三愛好。我們很高興領受到從他細小的菜園裡所豐收的豆，青椒，南瓜和蕃茄。



Father's baptismal name is Joseph. We wonder if we should call him Elijah instead, since a crow has been befriending him at his new home. 神父領洗的聖名叫若瑟 (Joseph)，我們懷疑我們是否應該改稱他為厄里亞 (Elijah)，因為一隻烏鴉一直在他的新居與他為友。



The garage where we kept our ground-keeping equipment had been infested with squirrels for some years. Weighing the fire risk of the electric wire that the squirrels had chewed up and the many other difficult maintenance issues, we decided to replace it with a bigger and stronger Quonset hut. It was sad to see



this old garage, a labor of love that our friends built for us, being torn down. 松鼠在我們存放園地護理器材的車庫為患了好幾年。考慮到松鼠咬斷電線會引發火災的危險以及許多維修上的困難，我們終於決定改建另一更大及更堅固的輕鋼車庫。我們很遺憾地看著我們的朋友以愛心辛勞為我們建設的舊車庫被拆掉。



Thanks be to God the new steel building was completed as planned. Now half of it is for our tractors and the other half is set up as our new St. Joseph's workshop where Father Dominic can do his carpentry work.



感謝天主新的車庫按計劃完成。現在一半的地方安放我們的機器，另一半用作我們新的聖若瑟工場，可讓 Fr. Dominic 在那裡做木工。



We are very grateful to God that all the Sisters are doing fine this year. Sr. Teresa tripped and fell in the Choir in September but thank God she recovered very quickly. As a precaution, she is now using a walker. 我們非常感謝天主今年所有修女都還好。馮修女九月在經堂跌倒，但感謝天主她很快就康復了。以保安全，她現在使用助行器。

On May 13, 2020 our postulant received the holy habit and her new religious name is Sr. Rebecca Marie Thérèse of the Blessed Trinity and of the Holy Face of Jesus. It was a joyous occasion. We regretted that her family was not able to attend due to the lockdown. They finally came later when the restrictions were lifted.



2020年5月13日，我們的保守生領受了會衣。她的新名字是Sr. Rebecca Marie Thérèse of the Blessed Trinity and of the Holy Face of Jesus。那是一個歡樂的一天。很遺憾她的家人因封鎖而無法參與。當限制鬆解後，他們終於來祝賀她。

Though our Sisters worked very hard on our vegetable garden, this year the harvest was not as satisfactory as in the past years. Our farmer's organic farm had a difficult start with a dry spell this Spring. Yet, God brought forth a bountiful harvest in the Fall. Together with our neighbor and friends, we joyfully helped ourselves with all kinds of delicious organic vegetables like pumpkins, spinach, kale,



beets, coriander, rutabaga, green onions and bok choy. 儘管我們辛勤地工作但我們的菜園今年的收成遠不及去年。在早春我們的有機農場開始時缺乏雨水，然而上主在秋天仍給我們帶來了豐收。我們和鄰居及朋友很高興地收割了各種美味的有機蔬菜，例如南瓜，菠菜，羽衣甘藍，甜菜，香菜，大頭菜，大蔥和白菜。



For irrigation during future dry spells, our farmer dug a pond on our farmland. It was amazing to watch how over a few months' time the natural springs and rainwater filled up the pond to its rim. 為方便將來的天旱可以灌溉，我們的農夫在我們的農地上挖了一個池塘。我們讚嘆天然泉水和雨水在幾個月間就填滿了池塘。



Even though 2020 was a difficult year, we witnessed a lot of love and goodness from God and our friends. We are especially grateful for the great kindness of our many friends who brought us groceries and other things we needed like toilet papers, hand sanitizers, cleaning supplies



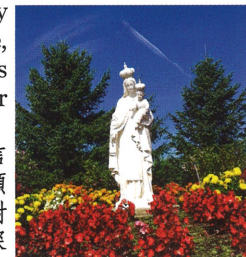
and even homemade face masks. May God reward them a hundredfold! 儘管2020年是艱辛的一年，我們卻見證了上主和我們朋友的許多愛心及關懷。我們深深感謝許多朋友為我們送來了食物和其他必需品，如廁紙，洗手液，清潔用品，甚至是自製口罩。願主賜給他們百倍的賞報！

Fall's colourful display signaled the coming of winter and the closing of the year 2020. As certain as Spring will come again and the sun will rise again each morning even at times behind dark stormy clouds, we can be certain of God's everlasting love and care for us.



色彩繽紛的秋天預告著冬天的來臨及2020年的結束。如春天必定再臨，太陽即使有時在烏雲之後，卻必定每天再升起，我們亦一定可以肯定上主對我們永恆的愛和照顧。

May our heavenly Mother strengthen our trust in God so as to conquer all fears and anxieties! May Jesus Christ, God made visible, sustain our hope in Him and grant us Peace, knowing that all will be fine for those who believe in Him!



願我們在天之母加強我們對主的信賴，好能戰勝一切恐懼和憂慮！願耶穌基督 - 可見的天主 - 保守我們對祂的望德，賜予平安，因為我們深信凡信靠祂的人一切必會安好的！

We will be praying especially for you during our Christmas Novena and Masses. Please return the prayer request slip to us before December 16. May God bless you and your loved ones with a very joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with His blessings!



在聖誕九日敬禮和彌撒中，我們特別為您祈禱。敬請在十二月十六日前把您的祈禱意向寄回給我們。願上主賜給您和您所愛的人享有一個愉快的聖誕和充滿祝福的新一年！



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