

Conference celebrates the Year of Youth



Young people at the youth conference on June 4.

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." – 1 Peter 2:9

HONG KONG (SE): The youth ministry of Couples For Christ-Youth For Life (CFC-YFL) responded to the call of Bishop Michael Yeung Ming-cheung of Hong Kong, to celebrate the year 2018 as the Year of the Youth in the diocese by organising its first ever Youth Conference themed, *Rise Above, Destined for Greatness*, on June 24 at Caritas Tuen Mun Marden Foundation Secondary School. The gathering was open to young people from all the different parishes in the city.

Over 120 teenagers and young people aged between 10 and

Over 120 teenagers and young people ... participated in the conference

24-years-old, from 14 parishes and various youth groups participated in the conference and celebrated God's love through worship, communion and fellowship. Divine Word Father Jay Flandez, the spiritual director of CFC-FFL celebrated the opening Mass.

The conference inspired the participants through talks and

workshops on what it means to rise to greatness, to rise to serve and to rise to proclaim.

Young people from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, Wanchai; St. Vincent's Church, Hang Hau; Annunciation Parish, Tsuen Wan; St. Joseph Parish, Central; St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Tsing Yi; St. Matthew the Apostle Parish, Tuen Mun; St. Peter and Paul, Yuen Long; Visitation Parish, Tung Chung; St. Teresa's Parish, Prince Edward Road; Holy Cross Parish, Shauiwan; Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Pokfulam; Epiphany Parish, Mui Wo; Caritas Tuen Mun; La Salle College; Delia Memorial School; the trans-parish BLD Youth, and LifeTeen from Rosary parish, sent delegates to the event.

God destined us for greatness. But the world offers a different view of greatness that is apart from him. Every day, we have a choice to pursue God's greatness or worldly greatness. Through musical performance and talk, the young people were reminded that the world's greatness cannot be compared with the greatness that is offered by God.

As the talks and sharing spiritually nourished, the team-building activities not only allowed the young people to create lasting friendships, but to also reinforce their faith together as Catholics.

The day ended with a time-capsule activity, elaborating their vision and goals for five years from now, of their parishes, youth groups or school. They were encouraged to get involved with and to take leadership in the mission of evangelisation.



Sister Esther.

Sharing faith through iconography

HONG KONG (SE): *Exploring Icons with Hong Kong Students*, a book on the art of iconography by Benedictine Sister Esther (OSB) from the United Kingdom, was recently launched in Hong Kong.

Iconography is the oldest tradition of Christian sacred art and unlike other approaches to painting, the creation of an icon does not begin in the artist's imagination. Rather, the iconographer's first work is to study how the subject at hand has been traditionally depicted in this rich artistic tradition. It is a meditative, prayerful painting of an image of Christ, Mary or the saints.

Introducing this sacred art to Hong Kong Christians was a mission taken up by the Sister Esther in association with Bonfire World, a Hong Kong-based charity organisation for evangelisation.

She first came to Hong Kong in 2013 to give a weeklong course on iconography. Since then, it has become an annual event for those interested in this art. Since 2014, Bonfire World, together with Sister Esther has organised an annual two-week long workshop on icon painting for the students of Hong Kong.

The artist-nun belongs to the Priory of Our Lady of Peace in Turvey Abbey in Bedfordshire (a Roman Catholic community living according to the Rule of Saint Benedict and belonging to the Olivetan family of Benedictines). For many years she dreamed of establishing a mutual help and support network

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for iconographers. In 2001, together with a few others, she formed the British Association of Iconographers.

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Besides launching the new book, the organisers plan a series of events over the course of the month. Three talks on icons are scheduled to be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church on August 2, 8 and 16, from 7.30 to 9.30pm, while there will be a concurrent exhibition at the same venue from August 2 to 19. Guided tours are available for individuals and groups.

The exhibition includes an iconostasis from the Church of the Beatitudes in Ibbilin Galilee of Israel (the Church of Sermon on the Mount), begun by retired Archbishop Elias Chacour, who strived to bring peace to that country. The archbishop has granted permission for its display in the exhibition.

Bonfire World is working with Father Thomas Law Kwok-fai, parish priest of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, to help spread the meaning and lasting value of icons through the exhibition and the promotion of Sister Esther's book.

Finance /Accounting Manager

The Missionary Society of St. Columban is a society of missionaries, including priests and lay people who minister to people of various cultures as a way of witnessing to the universal love of God. We are seeking a professional to assist in the area of accounting and finance.

Job responsibilities include analysing budgets and compiling reports, coordinating audits and ensuring compliance with local requirements, assisting with special projects and studies.

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Candidate experience:

- 8+ years of experience in Accounting, Audit or Finance function and/or qualified HK CPA;
- Working knowledge of MS Office and accounting software;
- Knowledge of bookkeeping and accounting principles, practices, standards, laws and regulations;
- Preference for prior experience and interest in non-profit or charitable organisations

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