

Heart Beats



Newsletter Of The International Community Of Sacred Heart Cathedral

August - September 2014

**“May the words of our mouths (and those we write) and the meditations of our hearts,
be pleasing in Thy sight, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer” - Psalm 19:14**

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

I hope and pray you are all having an enjoyable summer. It's that time of the year when people are busy going places, making the most of the sunshine and the great outdoors besides indoor summertime activities. May it be a time for you and the entire family to relax and refresh yourselves, and remain in God's peace!

For our parish community here at Sacred Heart Cathedral, life goes on as we strive to reflect the Kingdom of God as a family and a community of worship. We have had some changes in leadership in the council in the past couple of months as people move and spread the love of God to new mission lands. Our gratitude to Mr Charles Boliko and Mrs Karen Gomez for their courage to stand up and accept the leadership role. We welcome these new leaders of the ICC (International Community Council) and trust that with our prayers, they will carry our community to a more meaningful worship and service-oriented lifestyle. It is our hope too that these leaders will lead us onward to be more effective and affective in addressing issues that arise within and outside our international community life.



Fireworks over the Sumida River

Courtesy : Japan From Inside

Let us continue to cooperate with and support them as we together strive to achieve our vision - of making our community a family of God characterized by our love for and service towards one another. As children of the Almighty created in His Love and Wisdom, may we be true to our identity by living in humility and in love for each other. May we set aside our pride and biases - hindrances to our common mission - of belonging to the international community of Sacred Heart Cathedral.

I now end with a reminder from the letter of Paul to the community in Galatia in the midst of controversies and issues affecting the community. "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28). Amen.

Again, a happy summer everyone!

Fr Roed Desamparado

Bishop of the Diocese	: Most Rev. Raphael Umemura, DD
Parish Administrator	: Fr Keisuke Suzuki
Parish Assistant	: Fr Roed Desamparado, CM
Mass Schedule (Japanese)	: Daily Mass at 07:00 on weekdays
	: Sunday Mass at 07:30 & 11:30
	: Sunday Mass at 18:00 on Saturdays
Mass Schedule (English)	: Sunday Mass at 09:30
Mass Schedule (Spanish)	: Sunday Mass at 14:00 on the second Sunday of every month (except August)

Sacred Heart Cathedral, 44 Yamate-Cho, Naka -Ku, Yokohama, Kanagawa 231-0862

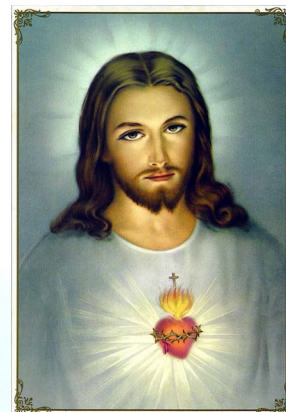
Church Cleaning



The cleaning of our church took place on August 2nd. Members of the international community came in their numbers joining forces with our Japanese sisters and brothers in the spirit of unity rendering the overall work an easy task for everyone present. It was interesting to see how sharing simple information, such as where booklets for the English or Japanese masses are to be placed, and spending time together chatting and joking during short breaks, could contribute to fostering mutual understanding between the Japanese and international communities.

Upon completion of the job, a warm curry rice was shared by those present. The impressive quality as well as quantity of the meal, combined with the congenial atmosphere in the improvised dining room, further contributed to warming up the relationship between the two communities.

Prayer of Consecration To The Sacred Heart Of Jesus - Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



I give myself and consecrate to the Sacred Heart of our Lord Jesus Christ, my person and my life, my actions, pains and sufferings, so that I may be unwilling to make use of any part of my being other than to honour, love and glorify the Sacred Heart. This is my unchanging purpose, namely, to be all His, and to do all things for the love of Him, at the same time renouncing with all my heart whatever is displeasing to Him. I therefore take You, O Sacred Heart, to be the only object of my love, the guardian of my life, my assurance of salvation, the remedy of my weakness and inconstancy, the atonement for all the faults of my life and my sure refuge at the hour of death.

Be then, O Heart of goodness, my justification before God the Father, and turn away from me the strokes of his righteous anger. O Heart of love, I put all my confidence in You, for I fear everything from my own wickedness and frailty, but I hope for all things from Your goodness and bounty.

Remove from me all that can displease You or resist Your holy will; let your pure love imprint Your image so deeply upon my heart, that I shall never be able to forget You or to be separated from You.

May I obtain from all Your loving kindness the grace of having my name written in Your Heart, for in You I desire to place all my happiness and glory, living and dying in bondage to You.

Sweet Heart of Jesus, make my heart like unto Thine!

Amen.



Sunday School will recommence on September 28 and children's Mass will be held on September 14.

We are looking for another Catechist to join our team. If you are interested, please contact the catechetical team members.

Training & guidance will be provided!

International Potluck



International Welcome Pot-Luck Party on September 06.

Wear your national costume and bring your national dish.

All are invited.



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Calling All Photographers

If you would like to have your beautiful lens captures of the season (minimum 8 megapixel resolution) published in *Heart Beats*, kindly send your photographs to the above-mentioned email address.

Calling All Writers

If you would like to pen down a spiritual, human interest, or any relevant feature for *Heart Beats*, kindly send your articles to the above-mentioned email address.





Feast Of Our Lady Of Assumption

In keeping with tradition, the Assumption of our Mother was celebrated on the second Saturday of August. The novelty, however, is that the mass was said in English, while the Japanese choir took care of the hymns. The readings and singing were in both English and Japanese, creating a true sense of sharing and reinforcing the pleasure of togetherness.

An unprecedented number of people from the international community attended, surely encouraged by the choice of English as the main language for this mass. This made the church basement look like a small room, so crowded was it when we gathered for the party that followed. Here again, delicious food and fresh drinks were shared in an enjoyable atmosphere. The Filipino community executed two beautiful songs dedicated to Mary, gaining the applause of all gathered. More opportunities like this are needed, where the Japanese and international communities come together as one body, partakers of the Body of Christ – his Church on earth.



Sayonara



With a heavy heart, we once more bid adieu to ICC member Beng de Leon, who leaves Japan this month.

Beng came to Japan in March 2013 with Inpex Australia Pty Ltd, along with his wife Ludette. Soon thereafter, he responded to the call of Fr Roed and bravely took over the formation of the Lectors Group under the name of Sacred Heart Yamate Lectors Group, efficiently facilitating the smooth rotation of lectors for the Sunday masses, their responsibilities and duties.



Beng will be missed by all of us, especially his Filipino brethren in the Couples For Christ (CFC), a global ministry in which he serves, in whichever part of the world he is based.

He will be moving to Darwin, Australia to oversee the construction of an LNG plant, the locale being much closer to his home city of Melbourne.

Thank you, Beng, for your leadership and for all the work you did here. May the Lord whom you faithfully serve continue to show His great faithfulness to you, your children and your grandchildren. And as he always insists, this is not sayonara but “until we meet again”.

