



福傳意識

(香港福傳年工作組提供)

當我們接受基督的邀請，領洗加入教會，便負有一份使命，去繼續拓展基督的神國，廣傳福音的喜訊。在聖保祿致格林多人前書第九章十六節寫著：「我若不傳福音，我就有禍了。」看看聖保祿多麼重視上主的召叫，切實去履行福傳使命。

梵二大公會議後，教會也很積極地推廣平信徒在救恩史中的地位，並鼓勵教友(平信徒)在自己的崗位上，去履行自己的使命，與神職界一同去管理及延續由基督傳下來的教會。

當今教宗若望保祿二世曾於一九八八年頒佈「平信徒通諭」，貫切教會的精神，特別再鼓勵平信徒應積極參與教會的事務。他這樣寫道：「平信徒藉洗禮與基督結為一體，成了天主的子民。以他們自有的方式，分享基督的司祭、先知及王道的職務。他們也肩負整個基督子民在教會及世界的使命。」

教宗比約十二世也曾形容平信徒位於教會生活的前線，為他們來說，教會是人類社會的鼓舞來源，他們不但是屬於教會，他們也是教會。正如葡萄園的形象，平信徒與教會其他成員，都是連接基督真葡萄的樹枝，而且自他產生他們的生命且結果實。

由以上的資料中，我們可以看到平信徒在教會的架構中，有一肯定的位置。我們經聖洗聖事，有否感覺到加入教會，是一份福份？有否感覺需要把這份加入教會的喜悅，與別人分享。其實，我們領了洗後，外表與常人沒有分別，但內裏及價值觀則有與一般無信仰者有很大的差別，我們深信我們的價值來自天主，一切以祂為依歸。除此以外，我們也負有一份使命去推廣福音；在自己的生活內，與家人、與朋友，分享來自上主的喜悅，並願這份喜悅也能繼續廣傳下去。

福傳是要把握時機，我們需要在生活的每一角落，掌握時機，例如：參與善會也是一個好方法之一；參與堂區或教區的活動，也能幫助自己提高福傳的意識。參與禮儀、勤領聖事、閱讀聖經及教會有關的刊物，在我們的信仰中，是不可或缺的，只要你能把握以上各項方法，相信在你的生活中，不難找到福傳的機會。

朋友，你願意來嘗試嗎？

- * 請記下你對以上文章的任何感想或有任何信仰分享，投入我們設在聖堂反面的收集箱內。
- * 下期主題 - 我們為什麼要福傳? (1)



Concept of Evangelization

(Provided by HK Diocesan Ad Hoc Committee for the Year of Evangelization)

At baptism, we accepted the invitation from Christ and received the mission of evangelization. In the letter to the Corinthians, St Paul wrote: "If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it!" (1 Cor 9 :16) We see how important Paul perceived his call and how he dedicated himself to spread the good news to all nations.

Since the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic Church has been actively promoting the role of the laity in the salvation history. Lay people are encouraged to collaborate with the clergy to manage and continue the succession of the church built by Jesus Christ.

In one of the apostolic exhortation, Christifideles Laici (December 30, 1988) on the vocation and the mission of the lay faithful in the church and in the world, Pope John Paul II encouraged us to take an active role in church affairs.

Pope Pius XII once described lay people were the people standing in the frontline of the church life. The church was the source of motivation of the human society. Lay people belonged to the church and were the church. As in the image of vineyard, lay people and other members of the church were the branches of the true grapes of Christ. Through Him we got the life and bear abundant fruit.

Based from the above information, we can see the definite role of lay people in the church organization. After baptized, do we have the feeling that belonging to the church is a blessing? Do we have the urge and need to share this joy with others? Frankly speaking, we look the same like, superficially, however, our heart and value are tremendously different from those without faith. We firmly believe that our self-value comes from God and He is our ultimate goal. Moreover, we have the mission to evangelize. In our everyday life, we should share the joy from God with our family and friends. May this joy continue persist..

We must learn to evangelize at the right opportunity in everyday life. For example: joining a lay association is one of the good ways; participating parish or diocesan activities can elevate our concept of evangelization. Attending liturgy and receiving sacraments, reading bible and religious articles are a must. If you can manage the above ways, it won' be difficult for you to find evangelization opportunities.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, are you willing to try?

* If you have any reflection on this article or your faith sharing, please write it down and put it into the collection box located at the back of the church.

* Next Topic - Why do we have to evangelize? (Part 1)