

九龍華仁書院

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WAH YAN COLLEGE, KOWLOON

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A Jesuit Secondary School

31 August 2021

Dear friends of the Wah Yan Communities,

Peace of Christ.

On 31 July this year, the feast day of St. Ignatius of Loyola, I took my final vows at the WYHK Chapel, in front of Fr. Stephen Chow, the Provincial of the Chinese Province of the Society of Jesus, and the members of the Jesuit Community in HK. When a Jesuit takes his final vows, it means that he has completed his Jesuit formation and is ready to be sent to the mission. The mission is to be the Supervisor of the two Wah Yan Colleges and accompany fellow Ignatian Educators to bring up generations of Wahyanites.

Looking back, I was blessed that I studied at WYHK from 1983 to 1988. After completing my studies in Australia, I worked in banks for eight years. In 2001, I experienced God's call. I am very grateful to my parents, who accepted my decision to join the Society of Jesus. After spending two years in the novitiate in Manila, another two years for philosophy studies in Taiwan, I was sent to WYK as a school teacher, teaching Ethics and Religious Education from 2009 to 2011. I enjoyed my time at WYK, especially the friendship with both the teachers and the students. After another four years of theology studies, I was ordained as a priest at St. Ignatius Chapel in 2015. My first mission was to be the school chaplain of WYHK. Apart from teaching, I offered services in sacraments, promoting faith, Ignatian spirituality and Jesuit education to teachers and students. I enjoyed particularly giving retreats and workshops to them. It is always a grace to be a friend of our young men, accompanying them to grow and find God in their lives. It makes my Jesuit life meaningful.

According to our School Mission and Vision Statement, Wah Yan provides Jesuit education that nurtures Men of Human Excellence and Men for and with Others. It is a Catholic education rooted in Ignatian spirituality and emphasizes the spiritual formation of students. It provides an open environment for teachers to accompany students with care, helping them grow through reflecting on different experiences. In this way, they help students develop their God-given talents and allow them to discern their life directions when they grow up to serve the world, especially poor and neglected brothers and sisters, with the spirit of AMDG — "For the Greater Glory of God".

Looking forward to the new school year, we will encounter challenges as we forge ahead with our mission. For example, the epidemic still affects our arrangements for classes and extracurricular activities. We may continue to have some students leaving for overseas studies. There are also some changes in personnel. Understandably, these experiences would make us feel doubtful, anxious and powerless. However, if we unite together with prayers, we can transcend these negative feelings. Pray to God to have faith in Him and entrust ourselves to Him like Mary — the Mother of Jesus. This is how Mary prayed in her acclaimed prayer - "*The Magnificat*":

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favour upon his lowly servant. " (Lk 1:46-48)

Her prayers helped her shift her focus on God, not on herself. Eventually, the fruits of her prayers consoled her with divine peace and joy that empowered this young lady to undertake the mission of being the mother of the Lord Jesus. May we emulate our Lady Mary to focus on our Lord, not our personal problems, difficulties, or brokenness.

I wish you a very blessed school year 2021-2022. May you find God in everything you encounter, every person you meet, every experience you go through, and in this way, find yourself in God's love.

With gratitude and very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'C. Tsui', written in black ink.

Fr. Clement Tsui, S.J.

Supervisor of Wah Yan Colleges, Hong Kong and Kowloon