



MONTFORT ADAGE

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Blessed New Year 2024

Bro John Albert Arul Devanesan fsg, District Superior



I am glad to pen a few thoughts to all the donors, benefactors and friends of Montfort Centre.

It is impossible to please God without faith (Hebrew 11:6)

“Faith is the foundation of all good things, and the beginning of human salvation. Without it, no one can attain to the number of sons and daughters of God, and every labour of man and woman is empty.”

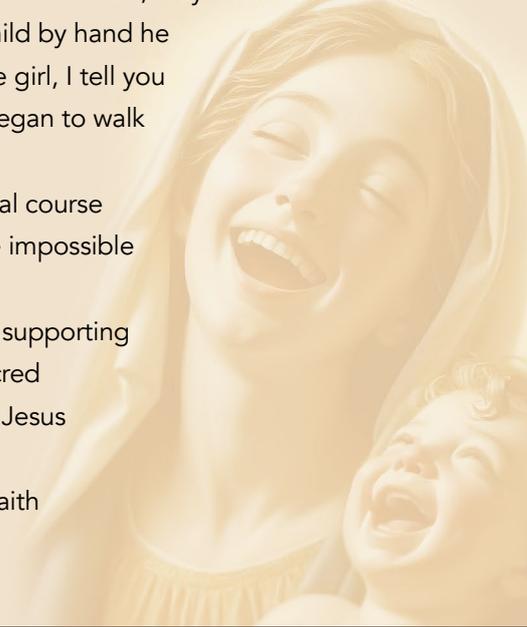
It takes faith to experience healing. Either Jesus personally touched someone, or someone touched Him to receive healing. Jesus praised the woman who had touched the hem of his cloak, “My daughter, your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaints.”

Likewise, He told Jairus the official, “Do not be afraid; only have faith.” Jesus touched the little daughter – and taking the child by hand he said to her, “Talitha Kum! Which means, “Little girl, I tell you to get up.” The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old.

As the New Year 2024 is running its natural course we need to build up or boost up our faith. The impossible becomes possible because of true faith.

My sincere gratitude to all those who are supporting the cause of making our Montfort Centre a sacred place and sacred space to encounter the Lord Jesus who is Alive.

God Bless Us All with the grace of lively faith like Jesus and Mary.



montfortcentre.
org/donate

We appeal to your generosity to help support Montfort Centre’s Mission. Make a donation today!

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.”
(Luke 6:38)



Blessing of the Enclosed Garden

It was a wonderful day of rejoicing at Montfort Centre with the Blessing of The Enclosed Garden on 31 January 2024. The blessing brought to a close the milestone celebration of 350 years since the birth of St. Louis Marie de Montfort (31 January 1673).

The Reverend Msgr Peter Zhang who presided at the blessing reflected on the juxtaposition of the two statues in the garden: one symbolic of Eve, crouched and covering in shame and another of Mary, joyfully open to life aglow with praise.

The Enclosed Garden is used by St. Louis Marie de Montfort in his writing 'The Secret of Mary' to describe Mary as God's own Paradise. It is in this very garden where the Holy Spirit reveals the secret of Mary; that she is the Tree of Life and whoever goes to her will only find Jesus, the Blessed Fruit of her womb.

The blessing was well attended by benefactors and friends of Montfort Centre and God truly affirmed His presence by sending waves of gentle breezes throughout the prayer. "My parents and I enjoyed the serenity and beauty of the well landscaped oasis of prayer in the company of the Gabrielite Brothers, Montfortian Associates and friends." said Mr. Gerald Kong, Executive Secretary of the Archdiocesan Catholic Council for Ecumenical Dialogue.

We are most grateful to our board member Mr. Andrew Sng for his kindness and generosity in sponsoring The Enclosed Garden. It is our hope that The Enclosed Garden will be a sacred and safe haven for all - especially those steeped in pain and grief - to enter, encounter and experience the comfort and peace of our Lord and his Blessed Mother.



Mabuhay! Visit to the Philippines

Our Executive Director Zerah Goh was invited to the Philippines for a visit to the Montfortian communities and missions in Aklan, Cebu and Metro Manila from 17 to 25 January.



It was also Zerah's first time experiencing both the Ati-Atihan festival in Kalibo and the Sinulog in Cebu in honour of the Santo Niño (Holy Child Jesus).

We are so grateful for each and everyone of you who has made this experience meaningful and memorable! It's certainly more fun (and fulfilling) in the Philippines!



Mission Outreach to Schools

Montfort Centre had the privilege of facilitating the following programmes as part of our outreach to mission schools:

Date	Programme	School	Participants
28 Dec 2023	Staff Recollection - Listening to God in Adversity	CHIJ Kellock	All Staff
5 Jan 2024	Cesson Bridge Experience* - You Are What You Choose To Be	Hai Sing Catholic School	Secondary 1 students
5 Jan 2024	Catholic Staff Recollection - God's Dream: The Purpose of Our Life	CHIJ Kellock	Catholic Staff

*The Cesson Bridge Experience (CBX) is a programme for students on coping with and making transitions in their primary and secondary school journey in the Montfortian Way.



The Birth of Montfortian Disciples of Asia-Pacific (MODA)

In response to the rallying call of Pope Francis to work towards harmony through synodality as well as the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conference's desire for a synodal formation, the Montfortian Disciples of Asia-Pacific (MODA) was born.

MODA was first initiated by Fr. Arnold Suhardi, SMM and was established as a platform after the International Montfortian Meeting held at St. Laurent-sur-Sevre in August 2023. It was truly a blessing to have representatives across Asia-Pacific from the three congregations (Montfort Missionaries, Daughters of Wisdom and Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel) meet and plan online.

May the Holy Spirit teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it!



MONTFORTIAN EXPERIENCE 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| <p>15-17 MAR 2024 Lenten Retreat
<i>Preached Retreat (stay-in)</i></p> <p>27 APR 2024 Fully Human, Fully Alive!
<i>Spirituality & Mental Wellbeing Reflection - 1st Run</i></p> <p>MAY 2024 True or False Devotion
<i>Parish Outreach</i></p> <p>22 MAY 2024 Annual Fundraiser
<i>Celebrating Montfort Centre's 20th Anniversary</i></p> <p>17 JUN 2024 Laudate Deum
<i>Day of Recollection</i></p> <p>1 JUL 2024 Peace of Mind
<i>Day of Recollection</i></p> <p>8-11 AUG 2024 Individual Guided Retreat
<i>Silent Retreat (stay-in)</i></p> | <p>SEP 2024 The Heart of Living
<i>Montfortian Spirituality Symposium</i></p> <p>4 OCT 2024 Leading the Little Ones to Mary
<i>Day of Recollection</i></p> <p>31 OCT 2024 Fully Human, Fully Alive!
<i>Spirituality & Mental Wellbeing Reflection - 2nd Run</i></p> <p>OCT-NOV 2024 Cesson Bridge Experience
<i>Transitions programme for school children in the Montfortian Way</i></p> <p>NOV-DEC 2024 Advent Retreat
<i>Customised recollection for school children in the season of Advent</i></p> <p>29 NOV - 1 DEC 2024 Love without Limits
<i>Preached Retreat (stay-in)</i></p> <p>DEC 2024 Year-End Recollections
<i>Customised recollections for schools & organisations</i></p> |
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