



Easter Greetings from the Chairman of FCMSM, Ms Moey Yoke Lai

There is no such thing as an average man. Each one of us is a unique individual. Each one of us expresses his humanity in some distinctly different way. The beauty and the bloom of each human soul is a thing apart – a separate holy miracle under God, never once repeated throughout all the milleniums of time.

~ Lane Weston

I came across this passage in my readings and thought that is why Mission Schools were set up. The missionaries of old were called of God to leave the comfort of their own homes and travel thousands of miles across sea and land to our country to introduce us to the Lord Jesus Christ who alone can inspire us and give us His life for us to live and express our 'humanity in some distinctly different way.' Today, each one of us is 'a separate holy miracle under God, never once repeated throughout all the milleniums of time.'

As we approach Good Friday and Easter Sunday, our hearts are lifted up in worship of the Son of God who alone defeated death to rise on Easter Sunday in all His glory and majesty. We have the promise of the angels on Ascension Day that He will come back again to receive us to Himself. Surely this promise gives us hope that all wrongs will be righted and all injustice will be done away with. How we need to impart these truths to the next generation that they may live their lives as 'separate holy miracles under God.'

I moved house last December and have spent the last few months getting adjusted to my new surroundings. In the midst of all this, one workman brought me much joy. As he helped me put up the pictures on the walls, he came to the painting of the Parable of the Prodigal Son. When I asked him to put up the Jerusalem cross above that, he asked if I was a Christian. When I said 'Yes,' he told me he was a Christian too. And even though he could not go to church every Sunday because of his work, he knew what the Lord Jesus wanted him to do each day. When I asked him how, he said he read the Bible every day and that is how he received his instructions daily. He also revealed that he had been a drug addict before and his recovery was due to the Christian rehabilitation centre that he had gone to where he learnt how to pray. He was amazed that Jesus would answer each prayer that he made to Him.

God was gracious to me in sending this man to my house. I could see that he was very careful in his work and saw to it that he did things properly. This man has a new Master in his life and he is 'a separate holy miracle under God.' We need to teach our students these two skills while they are in our Mission Schools – knowledge of the Bible and how to pray. Do we have Bible Knowledge classes in our schools? Is there a Christian Fellowship set up where the students can meet and have speakers teach them from God's Word and learn to pray?

As Chairman of the FCMSM, I am deeply burdened that our Mission Schools should be carrying out the mission for which the schools were set up – not only that the best education should be provided for the students but that they may be introduced to Jesus Christ, the Alpha and Omega of our faith who for the joy set before Him endured the Cross, despising the shame and today is seated at the right hand of God Almighty in heaven. For this reason the SPM Bible Knowledge Project was introduced and we are looking to launch the first lesson on 01 May together with the training session in dealing with the new format of the SPM BK paper.

This week as we remember His Passion and His Glory, let us re-dedicate ourselves afresh to Him and commit ourselves to His mission for us in the schools. Let us be the models for our students and teachers pointing them to faith in the God of all heaven and earth. To Him be glory forever!

I would like to express my gratitude to Miss Tay Choon Neo, our General Secretary who has served us so very faithfully these last four years. She has been the liason with the Ministry of Education over the matter of our allocations for maintenance and upkeep of Mission Schools, kept us connected with all twenty-five Mission Authorities, helped us with the Bible Knowledge Quizzes, instituted the eNewsletter which keeps us in touch with what is happening in our Mission Schools. She steps down on 30 June 2021 and Mr Daniel Gan will take up the baton from her. I record my thanks to Ms Angeline Lazaroo, our Deputy General Secretary and Ms Lynda Lum, our Administrative Assistant, both of whom help us in seeing that the day-to-day affairs are kept in order.

***A BLESSED GOOD FRIDAY AND A
HAPPY EASTER!***

FEDERATION OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOOLS, MALAYSIA

Easter message to all Christian Educators

Dear teachers,

Alleluia! The Lord is Risen!

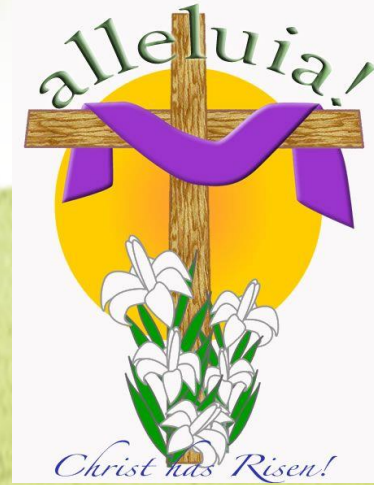
During the most joyful time of the year, I wish to send you my greetings of Easter Joy, Peace and Hope. The Risen Lord has conquered darkness through His passion and death. He emerged victorious from the tomb so that we can live our life in the Light eternally! In these challenging times in our nation and all over the world, your presence in schools as beacons of hope is very much needed as you continue to form young hearts and minds. As children of Light, let us continue to live as faithful and steadfast stewards by looking after the flock that the Risen Lord has entrusted to us with tenderness and compassion.

Together with this greeting, I extend God's blessings upon you and your families. May you always find strength in the Risen Lord as you continue to live your vocation as educators in all institutions of learning.

Blessings!



With you in mission,
Rt. Rev. Sebastian Francis
Titular Roman Catholic Bishop Of Penang



不知不觉全球抗疫已超过一年了。一般人们的反应是显得些许疲惫与无奈，不知顽固的疫情一战何时了。

在这样的时刻，神透过复活节的到来，要提醒我们盼望曙光在他里面；平静安稳在他里面；千万不要放弃存着信心继续向神呼求。我将这些事告诉你们，是要叫你们在我里面有平安。在世上你们有苦难，但你们可以放心，我已经胜了世界。”（约翰福音 16:33）

祝大家，复活节蒙恩。

Blessings,

Lau, Hui Ming
Bishop of the Sarawak Chinese Annual
Conference
Methodist Church in Malaysia



"IA TELAH BANGKIT. KRISTUS TELAH BANGKIT. "

Salam Hari Paskah

Bishop Dr James Wong
Gereja Basel Malaysia (The Basel Christian Church of Malaysia)

Shalom dan salam Hari Paskah kepada semua warga FCMSM.

Paskah adalah pemenuhan nubuat bahawa Mesias akan dianiaya, mati untuk dosa-dosa kita, dan bangkit pada hari ketiga. (Yesaya 53). Paskah adalah peristiwa yang sangat penting, dan itu adalah asas kepercayaan Kristian kita.

Covid-19 pandemik telah mengganggu kehidupan kita dan menyebabkan kerosakan yang tidak pernah berlaku kepada semua komuniti di seluruh dunia. Jumlah kematian terus meningkat. Berjuta-juta telah kehilangan mata pencarian mereka dan sektor terpinggir masyarakat kita bergelut untuk terus hidup. Dalam masa yang luar biasa ini, mudah untuk kita hidup dalam rasa takut dan putus asa.

Frasa yang paling penting pada Paskah adalah mesej yang dibawa oleh malaikat, *"Jangan takut! Kamu mencari Yesus orang Nazaret, yang disalibkan itu. Ia telah bangkit. Ia tidak ada di sini. Lihat! Inilah tempat mereka membaringkan Dia."* (Markus 16: 6).

Paskah membawa kita harapan bahawa Allah menghentikan kematian dan memberikan kita harapan hidup yang kekal kerana **"Kristus telah bangkit."** Yesus berkata, *"Saya adalah kebangkitan dan kehidupan. Dia yang percaya kepada-Ku akan hidup, walaupun ia mati; dan sesiapa yang hidup dan percaya kepada-Ku tidak akan mati. ..."* (Yohanes 11: 25-26).

Biarkan mesej malaikat pagi Paskah pertama menggalakkan setiap seorang daripada kita, **"Ia telah bangkit."** (Markus 16: 6, Matius 28: 6). Biar ungkapan **"Ia telah bangkit"** sering di bibir kita.

Kebangkitan Kristus memberitahu kita bahawa penderitaan dan kematian tidak mempunyai kata akhir. Ketika kita melihat seseorang menderita, sakit, mati atau diturunkan ke dalam kubur, atau ketika kita sendiri harus mati satu hari, kita harus melihat di luar keadaan dan mengulangi doa dan mengakui bahawa **"Ia telah bangkit."** **"Kristus telah bangkit."** Di dalamnya ada harapan sekarang dan di luar kubur.

Kerana **ia telah bangkit**, kita juga akan bangkit. Yesus berkata, *"Kerana Aku hidup, kamu juga akan hidup"* (Yohanes 14:19). Semoga Tuhan yang Bangkit terus memberkati anda dengan jaminan kasih dan kehadiranNya selalu. Amin.

Mission School ETHOS, CHARACTER AND TRADITIONS

It's the time to give....

by Bernadette Teh.

It was in the late 60s when I was still a primary school girl in Convent Datuk Keramat, the only Chinese-medium Convent school on the Island of Penang, at that time well known as the 'Pearl of the Orient'. My principal in school was Sr. Pierre Low, a religious sister from Thailand, belonging to the Infant Jesus Congregation (IJS). The sisters started schools for girls since the time when society did not believe in education for girls.

I came from a family following traditional Chinese religion. I never understood the season of Lent and Easter such as I know today, the summit of the Christian faith. However, each year in the month of March and April, I knew that it was the time to give. During Religious Knowledge lessons, Sister Pierre tried to explain that the season of Lent is a time to help the poor. There would be one week demarcated when all the students were encouraged to bring some food for the poor. I remember running back home with excitement telling my parents about it. Poor as we were, mother would buy me two tins of condensed milk or a packet of oats or biscuits to be brought to school.

Looking back, I am deeply grateful to my very generous parents, always ready to help the poor. I also remember feeling so good when I took the small gifts to the basket placed in front of the class. It is small wonder why I can still remember this part of my school life after so many decades. It is because there is joy in giving and no one can take this joy away.



Years passed by and I passed out from the university as a teacher. I was teaching in a girls' school in my hometown in the nineties. One of the subjects given to me which I accepted with great joy was Pendidikan Moral. As I never believe in making moral an examination subject for SPM, I only taught my students the trick to give a good answer. I always reminded them that the answers for examination is head knowledge, but living the values would be the most important grades for us. Once we talked about the things we gave to people. I asked my students the reason for people to give only second hand things to the poor, like hand-me-downs. 'It is a good time to discard the old clothes so we can have space in the wardrobe for the new ones', 'Sayang to give new things away', 'Can give away old stuff is already very good. Many people don't give to the poor', 'Teacher, of course we only give used stuff to people, where can you find people who give new clothes and they themselves wear old clothes'..... These were some of the answers given. I talked much about human dignity and the poor are dignified human persons. Then I challenged my students if we could give away something we really like. It was early April. The churches were collecting things for the poor. Within a week, I had collected many things. One student brought a beautiful doll that she loved so much. She told me that the doll was precious to her even at that time but she wanted to give it away to a child. I hesitated, wondering if I should be so harsh on her. I took the doll after she insisted on giving it away, but I kept it for a while just in case she regretted or her parents would come after me. After a few days I asked her if she missed her doll, thinking in my heart to give back to her if she was really in agony. She gave a positive answer but ended up saying '...but teacher I am really so, so happy that I can give someone the thing I like most'. 'Girl, you will be very happy each time you give with love', I affirmed her. My eyes blurred. On that day a seed of hope was sown in the heart of this beautiful young girl. I thank God, I thank my parents, I thank Sister Pierre, I thank the IJ Sisters, I thank Fr. Julian, I thank the YCS (Young Christian Students Movement) and I thank this student whom God used to affirm my vocation as a teacher even though I was not teaching in a mission school.

To all Christian teachers, I pray for you that God will strengthen you in your mission as you try to live the Gospel values wherever you are. Kudos to you! God bless you!

Mission School ETHOS, CHARACTER AND TRADITIONS

Here are some things to know about the cycle of liturgical seasons observed within many Christian churches:

1. The Christian calendar is an annual schedule that commemorates certain days and seasons related to the history of salvation. Some denominations tend to focus on only a few dates, such as Christmas and Easter. They viewed celebrating these days as a celebration of the salvation which Christ had already accomplished for them in his Incarnation (Christmas), death (Good Friday), resurrection (Easter), ascending to the Father (Ascension), and giving of his Spirit (Pentecost).

2. The season of Advent is a time when Christians reflect on the comings of Christ to Earth. The term Advent is taken from the Latin word *adventus*, which means “arrival” or “coming,” and was from the translation of the Greek *Parousia*—a word used for both the coming of Christ in human flesh and his Second Coming (the prophesied return of Christ to Earth at the Last Judgment).

3. Holy Week is the week before Easter, a period which includes the religious holidays of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Many Protestants observe only Good Friday, which commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. Holy week does not include Easter Sunday.

4. Easter Sunday (also known as Pascha or Resurrection Sunday) is the holiest day on the Christian calendar, a date commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Scripture records the death and resurrection of Jesus occurring around the time of the Jewish Passover which can fall on any date from March 22 through May 6.

5. Ascension Day commemorates the bodily Ascension of Jesus into heaven, traditionally celebrated the 40th day after Easter Sunday.

6. Pentecost Sunday is a commemoration and celebration of the official birthday of the Christian church, marked by the receiving of the Holy Spirit by the early believers (Acts 2:1-4). On the Christian calendar, Pentecost is celebrated fifty days after Easter Sunday.



Sr Enda Ryan shared that in SMK Assunta in Petaling Jaya, in recent years, they celebrate the Christian Seder Passover meal after Mass. The Catholic boys from SMK La Salle PJ would join the girls from Assunta that evening. After the Mass was conducted with the Last Supper liturgy, the Seder meal was prepared where each element was explained: like the bitter herbs for suffering, the unleavened bread (to be ready to move quickly), the cups of wine, the roasted egg, the sweetness of Charoset (dates, apple and honey), the lighting of the candles, the washing of hands, and so on. A meaningful meal remembering the Passover of the Israelites of Biblical times and now the Christians go through because of God's love for them. The Seder meal is concluded with the same expression of faith and hope in God because of what Jesus Christ had done for us.



25TH NATIONAL SPM BIBLE KNOWLEDGE QUIZ 2021 (ONLINE QUIZ)

BK 21 ONLINE QUIZ : **Date** : 26 June 2021
 Time : 9 a.m.
 Text : Acts 1 to 18
 Open to Form 1 to Form 6 students

**SPM BK ONLINE QUIZ
(TEAMS OF 2)
SEMIFINALS :** **Date** : 31 July 2021
 Time : 9.a.m.
 Text : Luke & Acts
 Open to Form 3,4,5 BK students
 (Participants must also do the BK 21 Quiz)

FINALS : **Date** : 14 August 2021
 Time : 9 a.m.
 Text : Luke & Acts

Contact: bkquiz21@gmail.com

REGIONAL COORDINATORS:

Penang	Mr Charles Baboo	charlesb4800@gmail.com
Ipoh	Mrs Jessie Loi	loi.jessie@gmail.com
Melaka	Mdm Reeta Baniface	reetajesu@yahoo.com.my
Kuala Lumpur	Ms Audrey Lui	bkquiz20@gmail.com
Kluang	Mdm Chong Chin Ping	livingstream1@rocketmail.com
Seremban	Mr Lawrence Tay	lawtay0202@gmail.com
Labuan	Mdm Jenny anak Mew	janeminnie86@yahoo.com
Kota Kinabalu	Mr Marcus Khoo	marcuskhoo@gmail.com
Tawau	Mr Chin Tze Yit	chintzeyit9@hotmail.com
Sandakan	Mdm Shim Hui Chyeon	shimhc103@gmail.com
Miri	Ms Su Li Na	charlenesu_06@hotmail.com
Kuching	Father Francis Lim, SJ	francislimsj@jesuits.net
Sibu	Ms Ida Wong	idamoo85@yahoo.com
Bintulu	Ms Arnie Ajan	arniejan@gmail.com

Acts 1:8

"But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

BK Teachers Seminar on the new Format for BK 2021 (KSSM)

Date: 1 May 2021,
Saturday
Time: 9.00 am – 12.00
noon
Online on ZOOM

Contact Angeline:
angeline.fcmsm@gmail.com

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFAmz2VRvMo>

Check out St Joseph International School Kuching recap video to sum up their experience of 2020 despite the challenges of the covid-19 pandemic

Items for Prayer:

- This Holy Week and Easter will be a meaningful one for all
- April – as secondary school students return to school in person
- All teachers and students back in school
- FCMSM Annual General Meeting on 8 April 2021
- The upcoming Bible Knowledge Quizzes
- BK Teachers Training Seminar



**Gabungan Sekolah-Sekolah Mubaligh Kristian Malaysia
FEDERATION OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOOLS, MALAYSIA (FCMSM)**

BB Education Centre, Bangunan CBMPTB, c/o SMK (L) Bukit Bintang,
Jalan Utara, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor D.E., Malaysia

Editor: Tay Choon Neo