

Anglican Cursillo #1 in Hong Kong – So, what was it like?

Well – it was an incredible privilege to be asked by Archbishop Paul Kwong to bring Anglican Cursillo to Hong Kong – and believe us when we say that the Team got as much out of it (if not more) than the candidates. The Team was made up by volunteers from the Dioceses of Bendigo, Bathurst, Tasmania, Perth and Newcastle.

Our Hong Kong brothers and sisters in Christ were an absolute blessing and encouragement to us. There were 14 candidates from Hong Kong (unfortunately a few of the original 19 had to pull out at the last minute) plus Fr Will and Fr Robert from the HK Cathedral both of whom were on Team and an enthusiastic asset. The hospitality of Archbishop Paul and Fr Matthias (the Dean of St Johns Cathedral) was exceptional and we were made incredibly welcome.

All the talks were given and received with enthusiasm and the discussions amongst our table communities were open and responsive.

The Team were welcomed with enthusiasm and the Silesian retreat where the Cursillo was held on Cheung Chau Island was adequate to the task (although the solid nature of the beds tested a few of us). The Chapel was really fantastic and was set with seats in a circle surrounding a central altar – there were a few rooms through doors at the rear which proved to be a good place for our SDs to see anyone privately.

Tai Chi was held every morning led by Liz Palmer and this proved relaxing and very popular with everyone.

The Emaus walk was scheduled on Day 2 immediately following the Healing Service and this allowed participants to move from the service to the walk and yet give enough time to come back to the Chapel for prayer if they wished.

It was the first mixed Cursillo that we had attended and it worked very well. There were 2 ladies tables and 2 men tables and this did not seem to cause any inhibitions. Discussion flowed freely.

We understand that the enthusiasm of the attendees is high and they had their first Ultreya for 25th October 2018 – they are also setting up Group Reunions and planning HK #2 for October 4-7 2019.

Each of the Dioceses represented on team donated items, banners, crosses (LDs, speakers Chapel Cover etc.), bells, theme bags, palanca bags, tripod etc. as well as generous gifts for the candidates. Melbourne Diocese gave a large monetary donation. All of these gifts were given to help Hong Kong establish HK #2 which they are already enthusiastically planning.

The support from everyone in Australia with prayer and tangible good wishes was enormous and made a huge impact on all who attended. Heart-felt thanks for your self-sacrificing efforts.

Amazing people – amazing support – amazing love – Amazing God – To Him be the Glory !

Jim & Barb Warland