那真是一個資料十分豐富的活動,加上濃厚的歷史故事及富有特色的建築,使我們對天主教在過去百多年在香港的發展有了全面的認識。很多事跡,聖堂各區域的作用以及圖畫的意思都是現在才知道,我自己讀了10多年天主教學校也未曾學過;兒時聽過的高主教書院,恩主教學校原來都是有特別意義的。感恩天主,教會及各同工給了這個寶貴的機會讓我們認識這些故事,滋養心靈。教會發展至今是經過歷代無數人的心血,無私付出甚至犧牲生命構成,很感動,主佑大家!

Chatwin, Clara and Henry



在參加完導賞後,對香港天主教會的歷史有了更深的認識和了解。原來舊址(威靈頓街)當時用了八萬元建成,而且還辦學校來培育我們的上一代,因而成為我們香港的基石。原來主教堂還擁有不少歷史文物和瑰寶等;還有聖人的聖物,如已故教宗若望保祿二世的12條頭髮等。香港只是一個漁港,但竟能升格成為教區,並擁有那些珍貴的聖物,真的很感恩。透過今次的導賞活動,我將更有自信地與其他人分享香港教區的歷史和主教堂的瑰寶。在此,感謝各位導師,主祐!

仁慈的天父,感謝你保佑我們的的導賞團圓滿完成。坐堂內的一磚一瓦、一草一木,以至一椅一桌均歷盡考驗,細說著不平凡的故事。安全及心安理得的祈禱場所,背後有著不同人的努力,犧牲及無盡的善意,在天主無限大愛包圍下,給我們更好的安排,讓大家可以在主的安排之下,服務更多有需要關懷的人。也感謝導賞團的導賞員,分享堂內的各段歷史,令到整個行程有趣又細緻。

施建欣



## Guided Tour: The Hong Kong Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

After the 2.5-hour guided tour to the Hong Kong Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on 14 August 2022, I have more in-depth knowledge on the history of the building and the stories on the different settings inside it.

The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception is beyond doubt an architectural masterpiece in Gothic architectural design. Through the guided tour, I learnt an integrated lesson in Religion, Architecture and History. It has a simple and elegant architectural design.

Before the guided tour, I had found the cathedral very beautiful and elegant. I always feel very peaceful and calm when sitting inside. But I may not know all the history and stories of the surrounding altars, chapels, Crucifix, lectern and even the main door.

After entering the main door, the Baptismal Font really reminded me on the baptism held for me in April this year. This sacrament in which, by water and the Holy Spirit, I was cleansed of all sins and reborn as son of God. I felt so happy after that.

And it was good to know that one can pray for our loved ones, and all the dead at All Souls' Chapel. I was interested to get to know the stories on the relics of the Chinese martyrs at the foot of the altar of the Chinese Martyrs' Chapel as well. They were all very great people who helped to spread God's good news in the past.

The Crucifix is a symbol of redemption and the source of eternal salvation. I also got to know the main images on the glass windows behind depict the symbols of the four gospels: Matthew is represented by the Man, Mark by the Lion, Luke by the Calf, and John by the Eagle. So when visiting the other cathedrals in Hong Kong or other places in future, I have this background knowledge to understand more about the stories behind the beautiful images and appreciate the architectures.

Apart from the above, this tour was really helpful in deepening our faith in God as we could learn from the martyrs who all had upheld the truth, sacrificed their lives for God.