

Kapitkamay カピットカマイ

Shinjō Catholic Church Newsletter



教会から教会へ、より良い共同体のためにお互いに助け合う

今年は雪が少なく、例年よりも早い春の訪れでした。美しい桜とその甘い香りはあっという間に散ってしまった。今年は大変忙しくなりそうです。4月から始まった教会の屋根工事が5月15日で全て終了しました。実は6年前に一度屋根を補修したことがあるのですが、補修よりも破損したもののほうが大きかったと思います。

2018年の暑い真夏のある日、教会の外の花畑の作業をしていたとき、暑さのせいかめまいを感じました。教会の中に入ってベンチで休めば気分が良くなるだろうと考えました。

天井を向いて寝転がると、屋根の垂れでできたシミを見てびっくりしました。ああ、なんてことだ！ これは重大な問題であり、何とかしなければならぬ。当時は私が会長でしたので、それを役員会議で話し合うのが私の責任でした。数カ月後、新庄市の建設会社によって修復された。

2022年、廊下の天井からの雨漏りが再び始まり、少しずつ最悪の状態になりました。とても心配でした。私たちはそれを直すための費用を支払う余裕がありません。でも、たとえお金がなくても、すぐに屋根を修理しないと教会全体が壊滅してしまいます。私はこの問題を解決する方法があると強く信じています。意志があれば道は開ける！

幸いなことに、酒田教会の会長であるコスモホームズの柿崎圭介さんとお話することができました。それ以来、雨漏りや教会の屋根に積もっ



た大雪のビデオや写真を撮ってほしいと頼んできました。彼と何人かが何度も教会を訪れました。ある日、柿崎さんはミサに出席し、教会の屋根の状態に関する調査結果について話しました。そして、私たちに説明していくうちに、彼は保険会社に損害賠償を申請するという考えにたどり着くことができました。

その時から柿崎さんは保険会社の承認を得るために一生懸命働きました。

山形教会事務所の協力により、2023年末までに、雨漏りした屋根の修理に要した費用を適切に補償する保険会社の承認を得ることができました。

何よりもまず、私たちにいつも与えられているすべての祝福を神に感謝します。神にとって不可能なことは何もありません。そして、私たちの問題を解決するように協力してくれた成井大介司教様、新潟教区、ワルヨ神父様、山形教会と酒田教会の親切さに心から感謝を申し上げます。彼らの助けがなければ、教会の屋根の修理は不可能でした。

長南ジュリエット

From one church to another, helping each other for a better community

Juliet Chōnan
Shinjō Catholic Church



Spring has arrived earlier than usual due to the country having less snow last winter. The beautiful cherry blossoms with its sweet scent had gone and made the time go by quickly. It seems like we this year will be very busy for us.

The repair on our church's roof which started last April was finally completed on May 15. The roof was last repaired six years ago and accumulated an amount of damage throughout these years.

It was evident when one day on a hot midsummer of 2018, as I was working on the flower garden outside the church, I felt dizzy thinking that it might have been caused by the heat. I went inside the church to just take a rest on one of the pews and recover for a while. As I lied down facing up to the ceiling, I was surprised to see the stain that was formed by the drippings from the roof. Oh, what a stuff! It was a serious matter that we had to immediately deal with. At that time, I was the chairman of the pastoral council, so I took on the responsibility to discuss it at the committee meeting.

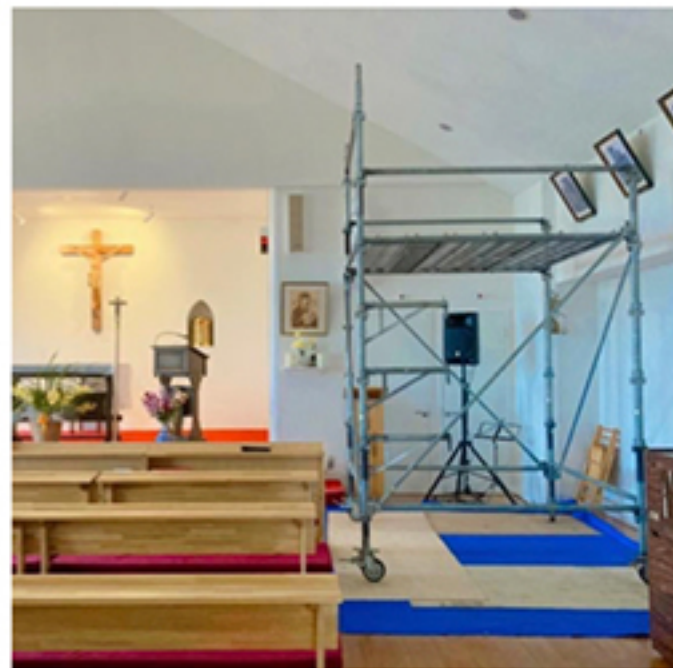
Months later, it was repaired by a construction company in Shinjo. However, in 2022, the ceiling in the hallway started leaking again, and the situation gradually got worse. I was so worried about it. We couldn't afford to pay for the cost to fix it once again. In spite of the lack of funds, it was important to repair the roof right away or whole church could

be affected. I strongly believed that there would be a way to resolve this problem. If there's a will, there's a way!

Thankfully, we were able to talk with Mr. Keisuke Kakizaki of Cosmo Homes, the chairman of Sakata Church. Since then, he asked me to take videos and photos of the leaks and the heavily packed snow covering the roof of the church. He visited the church many times and sent some of his crew to do some inspections on it. One time, Mr. Kakizaki came to attend Mass and talked about the findings of the condition of the church's roofs. And while explaining it to us, he put forward the recommendation to file a claim with the insurance company for damages. Mr. Kakizaki worked hard to get their approval.

With the cooperation of the Yamagata Church Office, we were able to obtain the approval from the insurance company and they provided adequate compensation for the repair costs of the leaking roof in the end of 2023.

First and foremost, we thank God for all the blessings that He has always bestowed upon us. There's nothing impossible with God. And we also extend our utmost appreciation to the kindness of the Niigata diocese and his Rev. Bishop Daisuke Narui as well as Fr. Sri Waluyo and Yamagata church, and Samara church, who helped us. Without their help it would not be possible for us to have repaired our church's roof. ***



*Photos during the repairs
of the church's roof and ceiling*

Shinjo Church Roof Repairs



*During the repair of the roof and ceiling at
Shinjo Catholic Church and the results*

May, the month of Mary and of our mothers + Community BBQ Event

Jon Ivan Pinsan
Shinjō Catholic Church



There are many things to celebrate in the month of May and our church has continued its commitment to bring the members of our community together and strengthen our bond and our faith in the Lord.

We dedicate this month to honor Mary, the Mother of God. Along with hymns dedicated to our Blessed Mother, we also celebrate Mothers' Day and how blessed are we in this earth to receive the love, support and caring from our mothers. Mary is also a great model who had been by Jesus' side from His birth all the way to his death on the cross and in his eventual resurrection and Ascension which is also commemorated this month.

At the end of Golden Week on May 5th, we also had a community barbecue event after Mass sharing stories and strengthening our connections together over food and music. Friends and loved ones - some even coming from outside our community - have joined us to create good memories and grow as individuals and as Catholics. May the Good Lord continue to bless this community and help us grow in faith and in our lives.



Fr. Sri Waluyo blessing congregants celebrating Mothers' Day as well as birthday celebrants during Mass.

Photos from the day of the Community BBQ



Sharing Stories at Shinjō Catholic Church

Jon Ivan Pinsan
Shinjō Catholic Church



Our church and parish community are always delighted to meet and share our time with Catholics visiting from different places. In this newsletter, I would like to share impressions and stories from our recent guests.



We shared stories with Ms. Kokubun (center) along with Fr. Sri Waluyo after Mass

The Beauty of Catholic Hymns

One of our recent guests is Ms. Kokubun from Yokote, a city north of Shinjō located in Akita Prefecture. Although she has been to the church before, she felt inspired with how the Holy Mass (on April 28th) played hymns in English and Tagalog. She said, “the songs took me to another part of the world” and through this, she learned about what how the faithful in other countries appreciate and manifest their faith in God at Mass. Ms. Kokubun was also happy about how the community members come and gather together having lively and cheerful interactions after the Mass.

The Masses have become international Masses in Shinjō Church considering how the majority of the church community are native speakers of other languages - English, Tagalog, Indonesian, Vietnamese, etc. The main parts of the Masses are done in Japanese. However, we also have the chance to play hymns in English and

Tagalog which - apart from reminding people of the Masses where they grew up - is a way to become joyful in worshipping, praying and celebrating our faith. And we are happy to share this to all those coming to Shinjō Church, regulars and visitors alike.

I also agree that the closeness of the Shinjō church community is inspiring. I've only lived for seven years in Shinjō, but with every member of the community living distances apart from each other in the Mogami region, our shared faith and identity as Catholics - let alone our origins - has brought us together in a church that is 14 years young and is home to a praying community that continues to build itself a pathway to God's Kingdom.

The hymns played on the Mass were “Here in this Place (Gather us In)”, “Gift of Finest Wheat”, “Be Not Afraid” and “Hosea” all sung in English and “Ama Namin” or The Lord’s Prayer in Tagalog.

A young Indonesian Catholic on his journey of faith in Yamagata

Galih, working in Yamagata City through an internship program with to his university back in Indonesia, visited Shinjō Church for the first time and cheerfully and gladly shared with us his experiences as a Catholic from Indonesia living in Yamagata.

Originally from an area near Surakarta (500km east of Jakarta), one of the first things Galih noticed about the church in Japan is how small the community is compared to St. Anthony's Church in his home city. There are also more older people and very few congregants from the youth. Like myself during my short interview and chat with him, he hopes for the parishioners in Yamagata's churches to grow in numbers.

(continued next page...)



We were blessed by the visit of Galih to our church for Sunday Mass.

(Welcoming Guests... continued)

He is surrounded by Catholic friends in Yamagata which also includes friends from his home country which helps him in keeping up with his faith. He shared that he was a member of a vocal group called *Belcantore Singers* at St. Anthony's Church back in Surakarta. Being a Filipino-born Canadian, I found it interesting in our conversation to learn a connection between my experiences being a Filipino Catholic and Galih's experiences as an Indonesian Catholic

through *The Lord's Prayer*. The melody for "Ama Namin" ("Our Father" in Tagalog) using the arrangement by Fr. Teofilo Vinteres is similar to the Indonesian equivalent entitled "*Bapa Kami*" which they have used in their Masses. I would definitely recommend listening to both. Make sure to search "*Bapa Kami Filipina*" on YouTube to listen to the melody of the song similar to Ama Namin. Galih's journey in faith continues here in Yamagata and we are praying for his success and for his life along with his family to be filled with more blessings.

Special thanks to both Ms. Kokubun and Galih for sharing their time with our community. In whatever we do in the church community, we all do it for the Lord.



The first line of "Ama Namin" with music arranged by Fr. Vinteres

♩ = 60

Em Am/C G/D D7 G D7 G D7

A - ma na - min, su - ma - sa -

9 C/G G G/B C A7 D7

la - ngit ka. Sam-ba - hin ang nga - lan mo. Ma - pa - sa -

The first line of "Bapa Kami (Filipina)" with music arranged by Fr. Vinteres

C Dm C F Dm G C Dm C

5̣.6̣ | 5̣ 1̣ .7̣ 1̣ 2̣ | 4̣ 3̣ 3̣ . 1̣ 7̣ | 6̣ 6̣ .1̣ 7̣ 1̣ | 2̣ . . 5̣.6̣ | 5̣ 1̣ .7̣ 1̣ 2̣ | 4̣ 3̣ 3̣ . 5̣ |

Ba pa ka - mi di da lam sur - ga, di - mu - lia - kan - lah na - ma - Mu. Da - tang - lah ke - ra - ja - an - Mu. Ja -



2024年6月の予定 June Mass Schedule

6月2日(日) 14:00 ミサ (ワルヨ神父)

June 2, Sunday
14:00 Mass (Fr. Sri Waluyo)

6月9日(日) 14:00 ミサ (ワルヨ神父)

June 9, Sunday
14:00 Mass (Fr. Sri Waluyo)

6月16日(日) 14:00 集会祭儀 (シスター・内原)

June 16, Sunday
14:00 Liturgy of the Word (Sr. Uchihara)

6月23日(日) 14:00 ミサ (ワルヨ神父)

June 23, Sunday
14:00 Mass (Fr. Sri Waluyo)

6月30日(日) 14:00 ミサ (ロレンゾ神父)

June 30, Sunday
14:00 Mass (Fr. Chito Lorenzo)



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit the Church Website:
<http://www.catholic-yamagata.com/shinjo-church/>



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PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF SNOWS

Oh Our Sweet Lady of the Snow
Captivated with thy most loving gentle face
Till now, you're unpredictable
Only you who is forever be the most desirable
Beatitude, with a charismatic way you possess
Everyone will surely be of pure delight
Reach out your hands



Be our shields in a snowstorm that comes in our lives
Guide us and keep us strong never to freeze
But even when harden as crystals
Just by your Love and sweet caress alone
Gently and swiftly it melts away
O hail Our Lady of the Snow
Warm our hearts in the coldness of the snow!