

Tel: 67602461 website: <u>www.chij-sisters.org</u>

# Latest News of the IJ Family



Msgr Peter Zhang was the celebrant at mass and the retreat master at the beginning of the year retreat for the IJ Board of Management, Prinvipals and Vice-Principals on Jan 11 2025 at St Nicholas Girls' School.

## The 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of IJ Presence in Singapore



20,000 participants were present to celebrate Founder's Day at the National Stadium on 20 May 2024.

It was a day where the whole IJ family, students, staff, parents, alumni, past pupils and friends came together to thank God for His blessings on us all these years and pray for His continued guidance and blessings in the years ahead.

It was also a day when we celebrated the gift of each person in the IJ community and to know that each one can continue to radiate God's love and joy to our society.



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Here is the link for the live streaming of the 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mydEyC44fyw



Speech by Ms Vivienne Lim, Chairperson, IJ Board of Management





Our IJ Sisters (and our Srs from Italy, Japan, Malaysia and Thailand) with His Eminence Cardinal Goh

Here is the report of the event published in our local newspaper

https://str.sg/ATJZ



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Here is the article from the Catholic News

https://catholicnews.sg/2024/05/29/celebrating-170-years-of-the-ij-dream/

Listen to the 2024 version of Hold on to our Dream sung by Alemay Fernandez and the CHIJ Schools Combined choir <u>https://youtu.be/YyzCGx8L-FE</u>

A special album of songs has been launched to commemorate the 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0co6909fswsVpbNTwbpjKLkZgS2-6Mis&si=y2larPM6PSDI91tU

Listen to one of the songs giving tribute to the IJ Sisters

https://youtu.be/-HOWceNFev8?si=3sR7x3NXzS0QyUQd

Our IJ 170th Anniversary Prayer

Heavenly Father, we praise and thank You for Your unending love and the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who is our inspiration, guide and salvation.

On the 170th anniversary of the Infant Jesus (IJ) mission in Singapore, we give thanks for the countless blessings You have bestowed upon us. Thank You for the vision and dedication of those who have nurtured this mission, from its humble beginnings to its present.

Bless our community with a renewed spirit as we commemorate this milestone. May we come together in gratitude, love, hope, and dedication to our shared mission, continuing to build a community that embodies Your love and justice.

Inspire us, Lord, to open our hearts to Your guidance and to live lives enriched by gratitude for all that You have provided: the people who have touched our lives, the opportunities to serve, and the grace to grow in faith. Help us to witness to the values of truth, justice, freedom, and love, treating everyone with the dignity they deserve.

Blessed Nicolas Barré reminded us to "put love in our actions," and by doing so, even the hardest tasks become easier. Let this wisdom guide us every day as we use our gifts and talents not for ourselves but for the betterment of others and to make the world a more compassionate and just

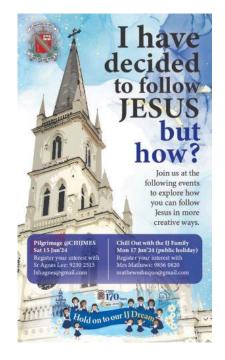
place. Instil in us a spirit of generosity, that each day we may perform acts of kindness that reflect Your love.

Mary, Mother of the Church and our guide, pray for us. Protect our mission and intercede for us, that we may be effective ambassadors of your peace, love and stewards of your creation. We entrust the future of our mission in Singapore to your loving care, confident in your powerful help and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Continue to bless the IJ Family with your grace. Amen



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Participants who went on the pilgrimage to CHIJMES and those who attended the chill-out session were enriched by the experience!

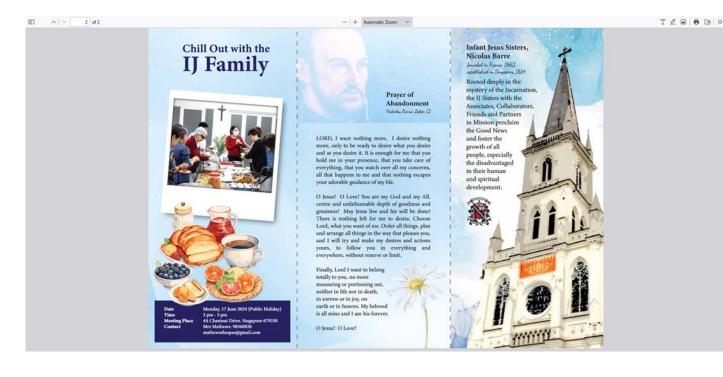


## **Our promotion poster**



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Fr Eugene Vaz was the celebrant and retreat master at the end of year IJ Board of Management retreat held at CHIJ Our Lady Queen of Peace on 15 Nov 2024.



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Fr Vaz blessing 3 Principals on their new journey!

• IJ Sisters, Associates, IJ Board of Management, IJHCC management Committee, Principals and Vice Principals welcomed the new year on 13 Jan 2024 with a special mass and blessing presided by Fr Eugene Vaz at CHIJ St Nicholas, who hosted the gathering.



Fr Vaz blessing the retiring Board members

Sr Maria thanking all for their dedication and commitment



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• CHIJ St Theresa's Convent celebrated her 90th anniversary in Nov. 2023

## Our IJ gives back event



Dr Ng Eng Hen expressed his gratitude to the principal, teachers, students and alumni of CHIJ Toa Payoh for showing care to his residents at Toa Payoh Central on 11 Nov by giving groceries and daily necessities to household in need. The IJ Youth Mission girls were there to help!



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#### CHIJ St Joseph's Convent 85th Homecoming



Ex-Principal Ms Susie Ho with Alumnus Pauline Chan

IJHCC's presence at CHIJ SJC 85th Homecoming

SJC girls were around to recruit volunteers to help in the CHIJ Infant Homes and Centres!

Mrs Mathews and Ms Jacinta Cardoza shared with some interested alumni their mission in Laos and Myanmar on Sep 23 2023. Mrs Alice Cheong translated the talk into Mandarin.



• Founder's Day 2023 began with the celebration of the Eucharist at each of the 11 schools and IJHCC on 24 May 2023. This was followed by school activities and the IJ Student Forum at



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CHIJ Secondary school hall. It was attended by both Secondary and Primary school representatives.

The Theme was "Going beyond oneself".

Our panelists, also our school alumni, were Evelyn Louis,(St Theresa's Convent), Mathilda Ho (St Joseph's Convent), Nadia Ahmad Samdin (Katong Convent), Rachel Teo (St Nicholas Girls' School) and Teo Jin Lee (CHIJ Victoria St), with Jacqueline Loke (the moderator) also from CHIJ Victoria St.





*Ms Evelyn Louis, Ms Teo Jin Lee, Ms Jacqueline Loke Mathilda Ho* 

Ms Nadia Samdin, Ms Rachel Teo, Ms



Students queueing to ask the panelists questions

 CHIJ Primary schools had an inaugural CHIJ football fiesta at Jalan Besar Stadium on 22 May 2023. It was organised by CHIJ Our Lady of Good Counsel. There was good support from the Football Association of Singapore (FAS) and AFA who sent a few National girls team players and ActiveSG coaches to coach our girls. <u>...read more</u>



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- CHIJ St Joseph's Convent had her Awards Ceremony on 5 May. Ms Pauline Chan, an alumnus, was there to share her joy!
- Our IJ Sisters, Associates and Collaborators were at the Vocation Fair organised by the Carmelite Fathers at Sts Peter and Paul Church to distribute brochures to promote vocations.



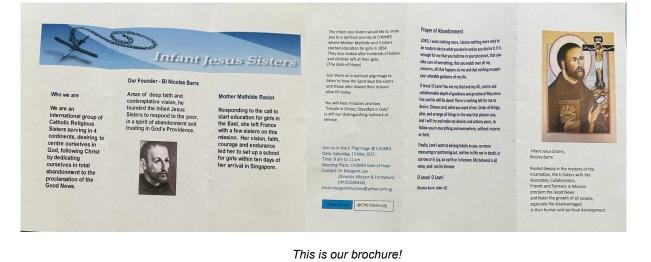


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Sisters, Associates and Collaborators helping out



• On 29 April, CHIJ St Theresa's Convent invited the children of the IJHCC's Galilee and Agape Centres to her School Carnival as part of her 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.







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Statue of St Theresa at the entrance of the school Veronica

Tel: 67602461 website: <u>www.chij-sisters.org</u> Our 3 Special ladies – Valerie, Clara and





Sr Elizabeth and staff with Valerie, Clara and Veronica



IJHCC children participating in the activities

• On Mar 29 2023, 28 students and 2 teachers from Yokohama Futaba High School, Japan, visited CHIJ ST Theresa's Convent. The visitors were introduced at Assembly and had some



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interaction with our girls.

#### Our Japanese friends with some students and staff at CHIJ St Theresa's Convent





 On 27 Mar 2023, some students and teachers from Shizuoka Futaba School visited CHIJ secondary, that has a standing Twinning Programme with the above-named school, Fukuoka Futaba and Yokohama Futaba since 2011, and Denenchofu Futaba since 2017. ... read more



The Japanese Visitors with some students and staff at CHIJ Secondary

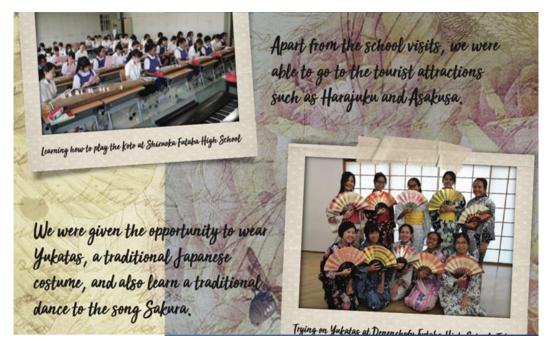
Our CHIJ students visited Japan too.

There was great interaction among the students!



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• CHIJ St Joseph's Convent celebrated her 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a mass on 24 Mar.







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Some Sisters and Associates also attended the Catholic Education Conference via Zoom.

Members of the CHIJ Family attended the Catholic Education Conference on 14 Mar 2023



• CHIJ Katong Convent celebrated Honours' Day on 9 Mar.

### Welcome Sr Brigitte and Sr Jane

• We were honoured to be graced with the visit of our IJ Superior General, Sr Brigitte Flourez, and her General Councillor, Sr Jane, in late Feb 2023.



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Sr Jane and Sr Brigitte at CHIJ Secondary School chapel





Sr Brigitte and Sr Jane welcomed by the key personnel of CHIJ Primary and Secondary Schools



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With the Sisters



With the Associates at Fr Barre's statue



Sr Brigitte and Sr Jane at lunch with the Pioneering Community



Sr Brigitte and Sr Jane with the Principals of the 11 CHIJ Schools and Fr Danker SJ



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Sr Brigitte and Sr Jane at the Infant Homes and Children's Centres (IJHCC)



Read more about Sr Brigitte and Sr Jane's visit

CHIJ St Nicholas Girls' held a CNY Thanksgiving mass and launched their 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations on 20 Jan.



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• IJ Sisters, Associates, IJ Board of management, IJHCC management Committee, Principals and Vice Principals celebrated the new year on 14 Jan 2023 with a special mass and blessing presided by Friar Francisco OFM at CHIJ St Nicholas, who hosted the gathering.