Our Pastoral Ministry Department started in 1977. Now, we are happy to announce the launching of our communication - ‘Pastoral News’. It will be issued and distributed to each department every four months.

**2\textsuperscript{nd} Issue : July 15, 2016**

**3\textsuperscript{rd} Issue : Nov 15, 2016**

(Deadline for Submissions)

We welcome each one of you to share your thoughts, feelings and life/work experiences. Contact our staff to submit articles. Our email address (pastoral.olmh@gmail.com). Deadline for submissions as above.

**CURRENT SERVICES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Memorial Mass</th>
<th>Divine Mercy Prayer Gathering</th>
<th>Pastoral Care Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 12 May 2016</td>
<td>Date: 18 May 2016</td>
<td>We have renewed and updated our website introducing more about our services, please visit us on site:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 July 2016</td>
<td>20 July 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time: 3:30pm</td>
<td>Time: 12:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Venue: Chapel</td>
<td>Venue: Chapel</td>
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Whenever I enter the chapel at the hospital, I feel “at home”. It radiates a peace that immerses me into an ambience of serenity — the all-embracing love of Jesus.

How amazing it is that I am in communion with Him! I do not feel powerless in my life because I can entrust everything to Him. He empowers me when I am fragile and weak.

I am precious to God; He makes me live life in the reality of the moment. I cherish that there is a chapel in our hospital. I hope that more staff can discover this invaluable treasure in our midst. I thank God for His love to us and hope more of us can experience His precious love and overwhelming care in their lives in this chapel.

On 8 April, 2016, I joined the palliative team to visit the Haven of Hope Hospice Centre. In Dr. Leung’s briefing, he stressed the importance of spiritual care in hospice service. It integrates other domains of care to achieve a holistic care. When recalling my memory of the visit, I was most struck by the airplane painting outside the mortuary. It depicted the changes in life, from flourishing to the diminishment of our passivities (Teilhard de Chardin, The Divine Milieu). In the end, we rest in heaven through death. Life needs to be respected in all its stages. This is the heritage that the Maryknoll Sisters left us when founding Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital.
“For many people, the name of Taizé (France) evokes first of all a kind of music or a style of prayer. After all, the songs of the Taizé community, known for their simplicity and their contemplative quality, have spread far and wide from a village in France where they originated. Today they are sung by people of every church tradition on every continent. Others know Taizé as a place of pilgrimage that each year brings together countless young people from across the globe. For others still, Taizé signifies the existence of a small community, uniting brothers from different Christian denominations in a simple common life in the monastic tradition. All of this was rooted in the faith and vision of one man, Brother Roger, the founder and prior of the Taizé community.

Taizé is above all a place of prayer and of welcome. Since the 1960s, hundreds of thousands of young people have visited the community every year. They stay for a week of prayer, discussion, practical work, and searching together “at the sources of faith” for a meaning to their lives.” (Brother Roger of Taizé, Essential Writings, Orbis)

I have been to Taizé and I experienced its peace and serenity through its music. Whenever a patient is feeling restless and anxious, I ask if they would like to listen to some Taizé music. I once played the music for a terminally-ill patient who became calm when she listened to it. When she was dying, her family accompanied her at the bed-side with the music playing. Her funeral was held in the Viewing Chapel of our hospital. Her daughter and son-in-law came and asked for the Taizé music. They told me it became a part of their mother’s memory and they wanted to play the music throughout the funeral. I was moved by their words, attended the funeral and gave the music to them as a gift.
In 2013, I was luckily ‘invited’ by the Blessed Virgin Mary and started a pilgrimage journey to Medjugorje. I have been told stories about Medjugorje by my godmother and friends. So, I had great hopes in making this pilgrimage.

I arrived in Medjugorje in August, coinciding with their Youngsters Festival. The place was filled with excited pilgrims from around the world. During the Festival, Mass, spiritual talks and sharings were held everyday in St James Church Square. Even though it was hot summer, everybody was sitting around on benches, holding up their umbrellas and listening attentively. At intervals, Sisters came on stage to lead hymns, singing and praising God. Everybody participated, filled with joy.

What I mostly longed for was 6:40pm—the time when the Blessed Virgin Mary usually appears to the visionaries. Accompanied by the lovely music from Church, all the pilgrims, inside and outside, all knelt down and prayed. Except for the visionaries, others could not see or hear the Blessed Virgin. But the beautiful music just like the tender voice of Mother Mary, inspired everyone. It was so touching! You can search for the message of Our Lady of Medjugorje, calling for ‘PEACE’ which is continuously spreading the message of God’s love.

What impressed me most was, the morning, before dawn. As I walked up the Apparition Hill – Podbrdo, with my friends. We held our torches, crossing over rocks, chanting ‘Hail Marys’ and climbing. The whole journey was very smooth. We reached the Virgin Mother’s statue quite fast. We knelt down and prayed before Her, looking up at her beautiful face. I was so impressed and that picture stayed firmly in my mind. I never felt so peaceful, feeling Mary’s love. I felt heartened with the tender touch on my head, asking for my devoted heart. My eyes were filled with tears. Just when we finished prayer and stood up, the spot lights around the statue all went out, the sun rose, it was day! I saw other pilgrims coming up. I suddenly realized that I had just enjoyed a private moment with Mother Mary, indeed a loving moment with Her!

I was not baptized until 2012, a ‘new’ Catholic. I still have a lot to learn. Others always say you need not worry. Share your difficulties with God and Mary, depending on Her. She will bring you to God. After this Medjugorje trip, I fully understand the meaning behind it.

Lastly, my Medjugorje trip had one more reason…… to invite all my family and friends to God. Before, my friend didn’t want to join the Church. A week after I came back from Medjugorje, he suddenly wanted to be a catechumen. A year later, he was baptized. My younger sister became a catechumen this year. Different people have different experiences in Medjugorje. But I know the Blessed Virgin Mary will invite everyone. Once you experience in person the love and care of our Holy Mother, you will totally understand.