

The Diocese of Singapore
St Andrew's Village
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12th April 2024

The Bishop of Singapore

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and Peace to you in the Name of our Risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It has been several years since the start of the Jurong Building Project, and I am grateful for this opportunity to express our heartfelt appreciation to all of you who have been faithfully giving unto the Lord – giving in terms of monetary, time, and prayers. I believe that God, in His own timing, will ordain and create a new work out of these precious sacrifices and gifts.

### **Original Intent of the Project**

The idea for the Jurong Building Project was first brought to Synod in November 2013, when we presented 4 options to establish a Church in the West, namely:

- 1) Purchase HDB stipulated land and develop a church building there,
- 2) Purchase a strata-title space from a Developer,
- 3) Obtain Civic & Community Institution (C&CI) space from commercial building, or
- 4) Collaborate with a Developer to develop a place for resort / entertainment/ convention.

In 2017, we were made aware of the possibility of a plot of land in Jurong West becoming available for religious use. Motivated also by the hope of finding a permanent place of worship for their extension centres (Westside Anglican Church (WAC) and Jurong Anglican Church Mandarin (JACM)), St Andrew's Cathedral, both English and Mandarin Congregations, took up the challenge of spearheading the project. Regrettably, to date we still have no news as to when the land will be released but do be assured that we have plans to ballot for it when such a time comes, all other conditions being satisfied.

As explained below, even if the plans for the Jurong West land bidding and building do not materialize, the Diocesan leadership continues to pray for the realization of this vision. We remain watchful for the opportunity to embark on a new Anglican Church Project in Western Singapore. When another God-given opportunity is presented, we will re-visit the 4 options above. We look forward to the exciting possibilities that the Lord has in store for us.

### Funds that were Raised by St Andrew's Cathedral

In 2017, anchored by both St Andrew's Cathedral English and Mandarin Congregations, the Jurong Church Building Fundraising Committee embarked on several fundraising projects and together, they managed to raise S\$11.8million (including bank interests earned less bank charges), as of 31st December 2023. Praise be to God!

These funds were originally held on trust for the Diocese by both St Andrew's Cathedral Mandarin Congregation and Westside Anglican Church. In 2023, the decision was taken to transfer these funds back to the Diocese. The Diocese will hold and manage these funds, which will be applied when the right opportunity arises. During this time, as we wait upon the Lord for greater clarity on the way forward, even though we may not actively raise funds, we remain open to receive funds from members prompted by God to give. Indeed, we believe that in His time, every gift received will be fruitful when God opens the door.



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2024年4月12日

亲爱的主内弟兄姐妹们,

我奉复活的救主耶稣基督的名, 赐恩惠、平安与你们。

裕廊建堂项目从启动至今已有好几年了。许多的会友忠心地为主献上金钱、时间和代 祈,用不同的方式来支持该项目。我很感恩能藉此机会,表达衷心的感谢。相信神会 使用这些宝贵的献上,在祂所计划的时间里,衍生出新的事工来。

# 建学项目的初衷

裕廊建堂计划于 2013 年 11 月首次提呈与教区年议会。当时我们提出了在新加坡西部建立一所圣公会教会的四种方案,即:

- 1) 购买建屋发展局规划为宗教发展的地段并建堂
- 2) 从发展商手中购买分层地契产业
- 3) 在商业建筑中获得公民及社区机构 (Civic & Community Institution, C&CI) 空间使用权
- 4) 与发展商合作, 开发度假村, 包括消闲或会议场所

在2017年,我们注意到裕廊西的一块地段有可能用于宗教用途。一方面为了满足在西部建立圣公会教会的需要,另一方面也为了能为圣公会属下西部教会(WAC)和圣公会裕廊华语教会(JACM)建立一个永久的崇拜场所,圣安德烈座堂华语部和圣安德烈座堂(英文部)毅然挑起了主导该项目的重担。遗憾的是,截至目前为止,我们还没有收到任何有关该地段何时会被政府推出的消息。但请放心,一旦时机到来,在各所需的条件都能得以满足的情况下,我们会按计划参与抽签分配。

诚如以下所述,即使裕廊西土地招标和建堂计划不能按时实现,教区领导层仍会为实现这愿景不懈地向主祈求。我们会继续关注在新加坡西部建立圣公会教会的机会。一旦神赐下的时机出现,我们将重新慎重考虑以上所列的 4 个方案。我们期待着主为我们准备的令人振奋的时机到来。

### 圣安德烈座堂所筹的款项

从 2017 年起, 在圣安德烈座堂华语部和圣安德烈座堂(英文部)的带领下, 裕廊建堂筹款委员会着手开展了多项筹款活动。感谢赞美主, 截至 2023 年 12 月 31 日止, 总共筹集了 1180 万新元(这包括银行利息及扣除银行费用等)。

这些资金最初由圣安德烈座堂华语部和圣公会西部教会(WAC)代教区保管,并在2023年,分批地归还与教区,以后将由教区保管。教区会在合适的机会妥善地使用这些款项。在我们静心等待主清晰的指示的当儿,我们或许不会大力推动筹集资金,但我们仍会继续接受会众的捐款。我们切实相信,收到的每一份捐献都将在神计划的时间里,结出累累硕果。

In the meantime, with the completion of the initial fundraising plans, the fundraising committee, so ably helmed by the Cathedral leaders and members, have been dissolved. We wish to thank each and every one of them for their excellent work, and for their witness to one and all yet again the beauty and importance of being united in the Spirit.

In particular, I wish to appreciate and commend the respective leaders and members of 2 of our extensions centres - Westside Anglican Church (WAC) and Jurong Anglican Church Mandarin (JACM). They have been tirelessly raising awareness and support for this project. We are greatly encouraged by the enthusiastic commitment and stewardship that have been shown by our members of WAC, JACM and the wider Cathedral family.

# The Vision remains – to establish an Anglican Church Presence in the Western Part of Singapore

Over the last few years, there has been an exciting development in ministry opportunities for both WAC and JACM. The Lord has opened the door for them to provide chaplaincy support to the children and youth, as well as their family members in St Andrew's Mission School (SAMS). This is a school set up by St Andrew's Mission Hospital to cater to children and youths on the autism spectrum so that they can access the national curriculum, at the primary and secondary levels.

At present, WAC and JACM are now located within the compound of SAMS. Should approval be granted by MOE, and all other conditions are satisfied, these two congregations may eventually relocate to SAMS' permanent site, which is situated in Clementi. This is a key development in the Diocese's expansion towards the western part of Singapore.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, do be assured that the vision and commitment of the Diocese to build a church presence in the western part of Singapore remains, and our leaders are committed to this vision and its realization, with God's help.

#### **Future Plans**

In 2023, there were some changes in the rules and regulations of usage of Singapore land, including a new Government policy of securing land for places of worship. With these changes, the Diocesan leadership is in the midst of reviewing our plans and options on how we can leverage on them to build a church presence in the west.

As you read this letter, may I encourage you to join us in prayer as we seek God's guidance in this. More than the infrastructure, let us seek His will on where He is leading the Diocese. I am personally touched by how so many members continue to support this project. The Diocese will continue to work with furnishing periodic updates to your parish and congregational leaders. Thank you for continuing on this journey with us.

With God's richest blessings.

The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung Bishop of Singapore

Anglican Diocese of Singapore

随着初步募集资金计划的完成,原由座堂领袖和会友组成的筹款委员会业已解散。我们感谢他们过去的付出。他们出色的表现,有目共睹,并见证了在圣灵里合一的美好和重要性。

我还要谢谢座堂牧区属下两间堂会 - 圣公会西部教会(WAC)和圣公会裕廊华语教会(JACM)的教牧领导和会众的参与。我衷心地感谢他们不遗余力的支持和推展这个项目。我们对WAC、JACM和众圣公会会友坚定不移地做神的好管家所付出的努力,给予赞赏。

# 坚守愿景——在新加坡西部建立圣公会教会

在过去的几年里,WAC 和 JACM的事工有着令人兴奋的发展。主为他们打开了牧养圣安德烈博育学校(St Andrew's Mission School. SAMS)里的儿童和青少年,及其家人的大门。这是圣安德烈社区医院为自闭症儿童和青少年所设立的学校,教导教育部小学和初中的课程。

目前 WAC 和 JACM 是借用 SAMS 的场所。若获教育部批准,并在所需的其他条件都能符合下,这两间教会最终可能迁入 SAMS 位于金文泰的校址。这是教区向新加坡西部扩展的重要里程碑。主内兄弟姐妹们,请放心,教区在新加坡西部建立教会的意愿和计划仍然存在。我们的教牧领袖在神的带领下,会竭力实现这一愿景。

# 未来的计划

新加坡土地使用规则和条例在 2023 年有了些许改变,其中包括了一项确保有足够的宗教场所的新政策。随着这些变化,教区领导层正在审查我们现有的计划和方案,以期能应用在西部建堂上。

当您阅读这封信时,我诚心邀请您与我们一起祷告祈求神的指引。除了基础设施之外, 让我们领受祂对教区的旨意。众多会友继续地支持这个项目,令我非常的感动。教区 将定期为您和教牧领袖提供最新的消息。感谢您与我们在这建堂项目上同工。

神赐最丰盛的祝福

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暨新加坡教区主教