

ISSUE
#14



CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS
JOHOR BAHRU ✕ 新山耶稣圣心主教座堂



*stories from
the heart...*



新山耶稣圣心主教座堂
CATHEDRAL OF THE
SACRED HEART OF JESUS
JOHOR BAHRU

1982-2022



SHC POHD (Parish Office of Human Development)

History

Year 2000 – Founded and officially launched by the then Father Francis Sebastian in the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (SHC) – the first to be formed in the Southern District of Johor.

Under the guidance and training of Sr. Felicity, Christina Chong worked hard on the rules and policies of the Constitution.

First recruits : Magdalene Liang
Mary Fernandez
Ignatius Wong

Funding was from the SHC Parish which was used for walk in and emergency cases.

Then, a big dream materialised when Bishop Emeritus James Chan launched the MJDOHD and every parishioner from every parish in the diocese was encouraged to contribute 10% of their monthly earnings. The money collected was dispensed to orphanages, old folks homes, charitable homes and Monfort School.

Vision & Mission

To carry out specific functions of POHD as stated in the Melaka-Johor Diocesan Office for Human Development Constitutions, especially in matters pertaining to the promotion of charity, integral human development and for justice and peace at parish level.

This includes providing financial relief to needy families, emergency aid, health aid and raise social awareness through education, formation programs and projects. POHD gets funding from MJDOHD and through efforts to raise funds at parish level.

Activities Of POHD SHC

Journey with FINS (Friends-in-need) -

1. Temporary Financial Aid to help families and single mothers.
2. Medical aid.
3. Home visits to families, providing friendship, comfort and support.
4. Feeding the Homeless & underprivileged at Downtown Streetside lunch and dinner.
5. Getting to know the FINS and family members and encouraging them to find their own source of fund by selling food and handy craft articles.
6. Going back to school project.
7. Chinese New Year and Christmas Ang Pao to needy children.
8. Helping FINS to apply for Kebajikan and other government assistance.

Home visits



Visiting Elderlies in their Homes



Streetside Lunch & Dinner (with our SHC BECs/ SHC Ministries)



Night walks to the Homeless within our church's vicinity
(with our SHC brothers & sisters)



Bonding with our FINs' families through fun activities cum lunch.



Kopi morning (stalls set up & manned by our FINs with the help of SHC volunteers.)



Handmade mooncakes by SHC brothers & sisters distributed to our FINs.



Christmas & Chinese New Year Ang Pao. (To enable FINs to prepare their children Back To School.)

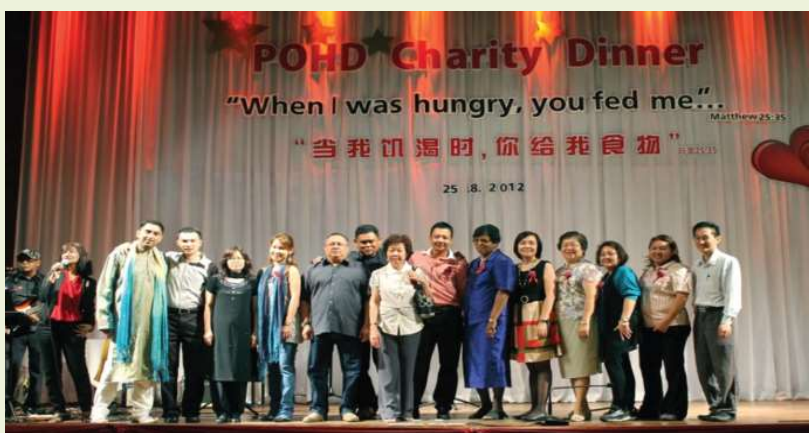
Storybooks, educational toys, goodie bags of sweet treats & masks.



Other Activities Related To Intergral Human Development

1. Spiritual formation with other POHD members in the South Johor District.
2. Lenten Campaign.
3. Sale of Lenten recycle bags.
4. Distribution of Easter Hot Cross Buns.
5. Blood Donation Drives.
6. Health Check Programmes.
7. Mental Health Talk for youths, young adults, working adults and the elderly.
8. Mothers' day Project.
9. Coffee Brunch & Membership drive.
10. Flea Market.
11. Migrant Gift giving.
12. Fun children's activities during school holidays.
13. Christmas visits to orphanages, homes for the handicapped and elderly.
14. Children Christmas party.

POHD Charity Dinner



Blessing of Hot-cross Buns by Fr Simon & distribution



Blood Donation Drive



Health Talk & Health Examination



Mental Health Talk



Gifts for the Migrants



Fun children's activities during school holidays



Christmas visits to orphanages, homes for the handicapped and elderly. (with SHC Youth Group & POHD members' family)

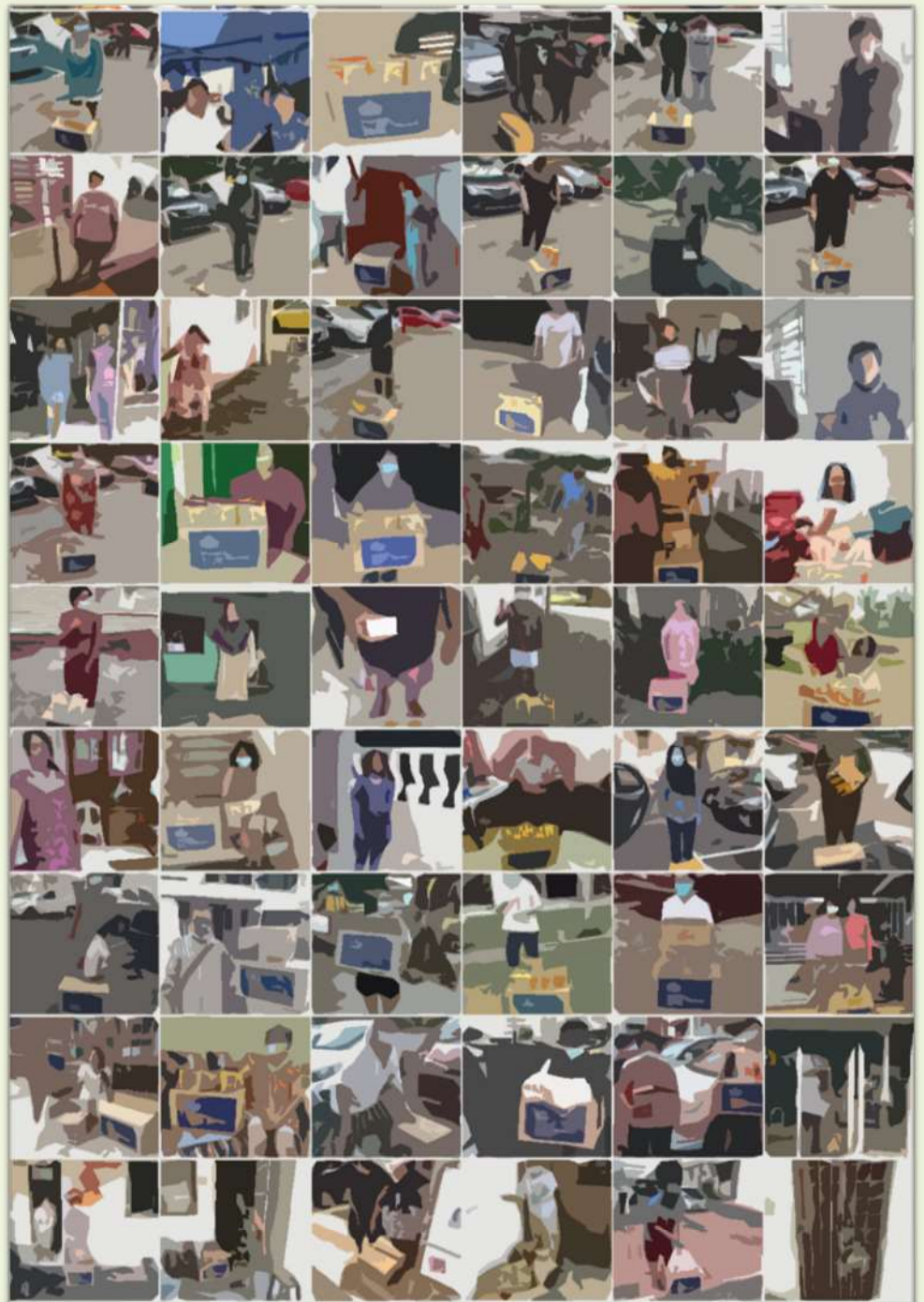


Children Christmas Party



Pantry Project 2019

In 2019, POHD started the POHD Pantry Project wherein we reached out to parishioners and donors for groceries and monetary donations. At that time, we could never have imagined how far this Pantry Project would eventually go during the pandemic. We have a POHD mini market and groceries never stop flowing in and until today The Yayasan Sultan Ibrahim Johor still sends POHD groceries like rice, noodles, biscuits, sugar, salt, sauces, etc. We thank His Royal Highness Sultan Ibrahim for his great love for our Raykat Johor.



DURING MCO/ CMCO/ RMCO/ NRP :

Besides helping our own FINs, we also helped locals, foreigners, migrants, squatters & our quarantine brothers & sisters with groceries, fresh produce, frozen food, bakery stuff, lunch and dinner boxes. We provided milk powder and diapers for children and elderlies in need together with wholesome food to adults with special health needs. Besides that, we also journeyed with migrant workers through their pregnancy.

We organised a lunch box station that provided about 100 lunch boxes every day at Taman Pelangi. People from the nearby housing areas register with us and come every day for the freshly cooked dinner boxes. Apart from that, we also maintained two Food Banks, filling them daily with rice, oil, vegetables, can food, etc for people to help themselves.

During the peak of the pandemic, we also often responded to the many urgent “white flag” call for help (a method used by many in urgent need of food by putting out a white flag outside their gates, door or windows to request for help from others during the pandemic).

Urgent financial aid were also often dispensed to meet medical needs, transport expenses for interstate travel, rentals, course fees and certification course required by jobs.

We also helped with job matching and also assistance for those needing Covid-19 vaccinations.





Love from Christina Chong...

Through our work with the grassroots of the community, I observed much as could be summed up as follows:-

1. Many of us have busy lives. We are contented and absorbed in our own daily activities and often do not see those in need who live in the same community with us, much less understand their problems.
2. Those in need will always keep to themselves as they feel they are unable to keep up with the Joneses. They often have low self esteem and low morale.
3. Unless we go out to the grassroots and reach out to them, we will not be able to understand their predicament, lives and problems.
4. Single mothers are striving very hard to keep their families intact and listening to their stories made me realise that our marriage vows are of utmost importance. For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health,...both husband and wife must strive to keep this vow. Many of the social problems we see stems from broken marriages.
5. Finally seeing many different real life situations make us realise how fortunate we are. It teaches us to value our lives and the lives of those around us.

**Never regret a day in your life, good days give you happiness
and bad days give you experience.**

Happiness is found when you stop comparing yourself with people.

And my favourite is a quote by Richard Branson with a slight addition.

***There is no greater thing you can do with your life and
your work than follow your passions –
in a way that serves Our God, the world and you.***



We would like to thank our Parish priests and religious sisters for their continuous support and guidance. We also thank our kind parishioners and donors from near and far, for their donations in cash and in kind, in time and in prayers.

*Come Join us to be the hands & feet
of our Lord Jesus Christ & Mama Mary!*



For Enquiries on Cash/Groceries donation or U have a Friend-in-need to refer to POHD or Interested in Joining Us, Please contact :

- * English Speaking : 016 - 905 6037 Romeo Demafelix (Chairperson)
012 - 711 7139 Pauline Ho
013 - 738 4298 Christina Chong
- * 讲华语 : 010 - 248 6136 Michelle Ng
017 - 768 6982 Catherine Loke
- * Tagalog : 019 - 725 5454 Josephine Fernandez

Terima kasih, semoga Tuhan memberkati semua!

Thank you & God bless!

感谢, 主佑平安!

Maraming salamat po at naway pagpalain kayo ng Diyos!