不一樣的固定朋友 — 智利來港的在俗傳教士瑪利亞

A Special Regular Friend – Ana Maria Jara, a Lay Missioner from Chile

瑪利亞於二月認識扶康家庭後，成為超塗軒的固定朋友，與我們的家庭成員慢慢建立了一份寶貴的友誼。本期的通訊我們會介紹這位固定朋友：從而分享超塗軒成員最近的共融生活情況。

Ever since Maria found out about Casa Famiglia in February, she has become a Regular Friend of Radiance and has gradually developed a precious friendship with the members of Casa Famiglia. In this issue, we wish to share with our readers the recent inclusive and harmonious life of Radiance through introducing you all to this Regular Friend.

瑪利亞作為固定朋友的協助包括:
As a Regular Friend, Maria helps in the following ways:

1. 陪伴外出活動
   Accompanying Members of Casa Famiglia to Outdoor Activities

在三月，成員於超塗軒家廳参与了花卉展覽，獲得了專業的指導及欣賞CAVALIA馬術奇幻表演。瑪利亞參與其中的許多活動及觀賞馬術表演。在成員身上學習照顧成員的壓力，成員也希望陪伴外出活動，為時光增添樂趣：瑪利亞也可以藉此機會接觸香港人的日常活動。

In March, members of Radiance visited the Flower Show at Victoria Park and were treated by the Hong Kong Jockey Club to watch the equestrian theatrical spectacular – CAVALIA for free. Through accompanying the members to the Flower Show and enjoying the equestrian show together, Maria not only relieved the burden of the housemothers, but also gladdened and added laughter to the outdoor activities. On the other hand, it was also a great opportunity for Maria to learn more about what Hong Kong people do in their spare time.

2. 協助平日晚上活動
   Helping with Night Activities during Weekdays

瑪利亞在智利是一位服務智障人士的老師，故超塗軒特別邀請她於平日晚上教導家庭成員做首飾及債務活動，令成員與家人的生活增添樂趣。此外，她又教授成員學英語，提升成員的英文表達能力。

Since Maria was a teacher for persons with intellectual disabilities in Chile, Radiance invited her to delight the Casa Famiglia members’ regular weekday nights by teaching them how to DIY hanging accessories and key chains. She also taught them English to enhance their abilities to express themselves in English.
3. Introducing Other Friends to Casa Famiglia

Identifying with Casa Famiglia's services, Maria invited Rev. Gregoire Vignola, PME and two lay missionaries from her religious group to pay a visit to Radiance. What was remarkable was that Rev. Vignola served at the Resurrection Church nearby and therefore knew a little about the members of Radiance. However, it was not until he visited Radiance did he realize how close Radiance and Resurrection Church were. We would like to thank Maria for her help in enabling members of Radiance to get to know more about Rev. Vignola.

不絶不絕瑪利亞服務處已有幾個月了，她很高興與我們分享她的感受:

Time flies and Maria has already served at Radiance for a few months. She would like to share with us how she feels:

瑪利亞的個人感想
Maria's Personal Thoughts

我喜歡到超靈軒，我很愛他們。

最初來的時候，因為我不懂講廣東話，所以我很害怕，甚至覺得自己一輩子也學不懂，因此我很不高興。但是，這兒的成員很好，他們能幫助我。在其他地方，一般人見我是外國人，都不會對我說廣東話，可是，超靈軒的成員不會，他們非常親切，他們很友善、常常笑，他們願意接納我不懂得講，而且他們很耐心，並且嘗試幫助我，這兒的環境幫我學到廣東話。

君榮是我的老師，他教我寫中文，我試著寫，他會糾正我。

燕琴很照顧我，即使是辜神父也看得出，她會特別照顧我，如食飯後確保我有紙巾用，外出活動時拖著我，我很享受這種被照顧的感覺。

作為一位在俗傳教士，我很感謝天主給予我一個機會到超靈軒學習，這讓我從另一個角度看到生命。由於我以往是一位老師，又是一位傳教士，我被教導要愛別人及教導別人，但由於不懂廣東話，我變成什麼都不懂。這個情況令我學會謙遜，學習怎樣從別人身上學習，接受自己的限制，耐心地面對他人，學習怎樣接受別人的授予，為別人對自己的付出而感恩。
I like being at Radiance. I LOVE them.

When I first got here, I was scared because I did not know how to speak Cantonese. I was pretty upset because I would have to learn the language. But the members here are fantastic. They would help me. Elsewhere, people normally won’t speak to me in Cantonese because I am a foreigner. But the members of Radiance won’t do that. They would speak to me in Cantonese, they are kind and cheery all the time. They are willing to accept my inability to speak Cantonese. They are very patient and are willing to help me. The atmosphere here helps me pick up Cantonese.

Kwan-wing is my teacher. He teaches me the Chinese characters. I would try to copy the words and he would correct me.

Yin-mei takes good care of me. Even Rev. Vignola can tell that she takes exceptionally good care of me. She would always make sure that I have a piece of paper towel after each meal and she would hold my hands whenever we go outdoors for activities. I enjoy being taken care of.

As a lay missioner, I thank God for granting me a learning opportunity at Radiance. This experience enables me to see life in a new light. Before I came, I was a teacher and a missioner. I was taught to love and guide others. However, my inability to speak Cantonese turned me into someone who knew nothing. Under such a circumstance, I learnt to be a humble person. I also learnt how to learn from others, accept my own incapability, be patient to others, accept what others have to offer and be thankful to what others have done for me.

The members of Radiance make me think of my elder brother. We had a huge age gap, but I loved him nonetheless. I was inconsolable when he passed away. He was also with intellectual disability. It was his deep concern and love that made me decide to serve persons with intellectual disabilities. It is indeed fun being friends with persons with intellectual disabilities.

對於有朋友是從遠方來的，超聲軒的家庭成員感受又如何呢?

And how do the members of Radiance feel about having a friend from a foreign country?

家庭成員的感想

Members’ Thoughts

初初是擔心溝通不到的，但有譯姑娘幫手做翻譯，透過親談，可以知多些智障人的情況，又知多些瑪利亞的的生活情況，很開心認識多個朋友。

At the beginning, I was worried that we could not understand each other. But with Ms Tam as the interpreter when we talk, I get to know more about the Chiles and also Maria’s life. I am happy to have made a new friend.

志成 Chi-sing

可以透過瑪利亞識多些英文，她又俾其他朋友來，我們又可以識多些人。

I am able to enhance my English skills through Maria. We are also given the opportunities to know more people because Maria always brings along her friends.
Maria teaches the members English.

Maria celebrates Chi-sing’s birthday with the members.

Maria wants to make a donation to Casa Famiglia.

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