

閻德龍神父 Rev Joseph T.L. Yim

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## 總裁的話

人生最大的期盼是有始有終。母親將我們帶到這個世界,由母親受孕一刻起,我們已踏進人生的第一步。 在人生的旅程中,時常有許多意想不到的事情發生, 有如意的,不如意的,有起伏的,甚或遇上驚濤駭浪 的。沒有人的一生是一帆風順,萬事如意的,人需要 在逆境中,獲得力量走出困境,創建未來。

明愛作為天主教教會的社會服務機構,我們的使命就是陪伴有需要的弟兄姊妹,同行共進,一起面對和克服人生中遇上的困難和挑戰。明愛提供多元化社會服務,包括幼兒、中學至大學程度的教育服務;青少年、家庭、康復及安老等範疇的社會工作服務;優質而合乎經濟效益的牙科及全人醫療服務;乃至賓館、餐飲及營地服務等,務求全面照顧和支援人在不同人生階段中的需要,讓服務受眾在困境中能夠看見希望和光明,有尊嚴地生活。

滄海桑田,時光飛逝,轉眼間明愛已踏入第七十個年頭。回想成立初期,明愛只是一個為貧苦大眾提供救濟及康復服務的小型福利機構。隨著時代不斷變遷,明愛與時並進,持續發展成今天提供多元化服務的社會服務機構。

經過七十年的發展,可以是享受努力成果的時刻, 但明愛仍然選擇以「挑戰與蜕變」作為踏入七十周 年的主題。主耶穌交給我們使命,為弱小卑微的弟 兄姊妹服務,我們明白隨著社會的轉變,將帶來充 滿挑戰的前景。正所謂「不進則退」,惟有在蜕變 中迎向挑戰,才可讓我們走得更遠。明愛整個團隊 甘願選擇像蝴蝶一樣,經歷蜕變,縱然過程中難免 艱辛,但能夠重新整合各項服務,以新思維為社會 上有需要人士開展更適切的服務,繼續完成上主交 托的使命,體現其慈愛大恩。

孔子曰:「七十而從心所欲。」「心」正是明愛創立時的初心,讓我們堅守服務弱小的決心,使整個團隊上下一心,與各方人士一起同心,為服務受眾付出關心和愛心,陪伴他們重拾希望,開創人生新一頁。讓我們一起燃燒自己,照亮他人,讓明愛服務愈顯主榮,在愛主愛人中攜手前行。

## **Message from the Chief Executive**

The greatest aspiration in life is to live it to the fullest. From the moment we were conceived in our mother's womb, we have set foot on the journey of life. In this journey, we are bound to meet with many surprises, pleasant or unpleasant, ups and downs, and even turbulent moments. No one can sail in calm waters for his whole life. All of us need to grow through overcoming adversity, so as to gain strength to get out of our predicament and create a brighter future.

As the social service agency of the Roman Catholic Church in Hong Kong, the mission of Caritas is to walk hand-in-hand with our brothers and sisters in need. We walk together to face and overcome the difficulties and challenges in life. To achieve these goals, Caritas provides diverse social services to take care of people's comprehensive needs in different stages of their lives, to enable them to see hope and light in their hardship and to live with dignity. Such services encompass preschool, secondary to tertiary education; social work services for youth, families and the elderly; as well as rehabilitation and holistic medical services including high-quality dental services at competitive costs; and even extend to hospitality and camp services.

Time flies. Caritas is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. Looking back at the early days of its inception, Caritas was just a small welfare organization providing relief and rehabilitation services for the poor. To cope with the ever-changing social needs, Caritas has been keeping pace with societal development, and working relentlessly to transform itself into a social service agency that provides a full range of integrated and diversified services as of today.

After seven decades' development, this should be the moment to celebrate success and harvest the fruit of hard work. However, we have chosen "Challenges and Transformation" as the theme for our 70th anniversary. The Lord Jesus has given us the mission to serve the underprivileged, the last, the least and the lost in our community. We understand that changes in our society would invariably bring new challenges to us. The saying rightly put it, "Complacency breeds regression". Only through embracing the grave challenges in the course of social transformation can we move forward and go further. The whole team at Caritas is ready to metamorphose into a new phase. Although the process will inevitably be arduous, we are committed to reconsolidate our services with a new paradigm in order to provide more suitable services for the needy in our community, and continue to fulfil our mission entrusted by the Lord in manifesting His great love.

Confucius said, "At seventy, follow the rule of nature in your heart." Our heart embraces the original aspirations when Caritas was first established. Let us stick to our foremost determination to serve the underprivileged and the needy. Let our whole team be united and collaborate with people from all walks of life to care for and share our love with those we serve, help them see hope again as they embark on a new life. Let us burn ourselves up in order to light up the lives of others. Let us serve and move forward hand-in-hand in loving one another and in glorifying the Lord.



