

ST. JEROME'S CHURCH - ENGLISH COMMUNITY

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**AUGUST
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*Whoever does what is right is right-
eous, just as Christ is righteous.
1John 3, 7*



AUGUST



SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Activity	Place
Aug. 2	18th Sunday of the Ordinary Time		
	9:30 am	Migrant - Talk	4th Floor
	2:00 pm	Finance Committee	Rm. 406
	3:30 pm	Taize Prayer	Chapel
Aug. 10	19th Sunday of the Ordinary Time		
	9:30 am	Martha's Gp.	Rm. 406
	9:30 am	Editorial Gp.	Rm. 405
	2:00 am	Treasures' Meeting	Rm. 405
Aug. 17	20th Sunday of the Ordinary Time		
	9:30 am	Vocation	Rm. 405
	9:30 am	Migrant Desk	Rm. 406
Aug. 23	21st Sunday of the Ordinary Time		
	9:30 am	Lectors	Rm. 406
	9:30 am	Ushers	Rm. 405
Aug. 30	22nd Sunday of the Ordinary Time		
	9:30 am	Eucharistic Ministers	Rm. 405
	2:00 am	Coordinating Meeting	Rm. 406
Each Sunday			
Mass 8:00 am - Bible sharing 3:30 - Adoration 5:00pm			

FOR OUR REFLEXION



Let Us Help One Another

There is a story of two brothers who were crossing a lake one day, on the ice. They went on together until they came to a crack. The bigger boy leaped over easily, but the little fellow was afraid to try it. His brother sought to encourage him, but he could not put nerve enough into the boy to get him to make the attempt. Then he laid himself down across the crack in the ice, making a bridge of his own body, and the little fellow climbed over on him. That is what older boys should always be ready to do for their younger brothers – make bridges of their superior wisdom, strength, courage, experience, on which the little fellows may be helped over and on.

“Do to others whatever you would have them do to you. This is the law and the prophets” (Mt 7:12).

Have you ever experienced a thirst for something infinite? Have you ever felt in your heart a consuming desire to embrace immensity itself? Or perhaps, deep down, you’ve felt dissatisfied with what you do, with who you are. You’ll be happy to know that there is a formula for achieving the fullness you long for, a way of life that won’t leave you regretting how you spent your day. One Gospel phrase in particular makes us stop and think. As we grasp something of its meaning, it fills us with joy. It captures everything we should do in life and sums up the laws that God has inscribed in the depths of every human heart. Listen:

**“Do to others whatever you would have them do to you.
This is the law and the prophets.”**

This is the “golden rule” that Christ brought, although it was already widely known.

For example, the Hebrew Scriptures include it, and Seneca, the ancient Roman author and philosopher, also knew of it. In Asia the Chinese thinker Confucius taught it. This shows how close it is to God’s heart, how he wants all people to make it the basic rule of their lives. The passage forms a neat turn of phrase—it sounds like a motto:

“Do to others whatever you would have them do to you.”

Let’s love each neighbor like this, every neighbor we meet during the day.

Let’s imagine we are in others’ circumstances and treat them as we would want to be treated if we were in their place.

The voice of God within will suggest how to express love appropriately in each situation.

Are they hungry? Let’s say to ourselves, “I am hungry,” and give them something to eat.

Are they being unjustly treated? So am I. Are they in darkness and doubt? I am too.

Let us speak words of comfort and share their suffering, not resting until they find the light and experience relief. It’s how we would want to be treated.

OUR BBQ PARTY IN BUTTERFLY



English community's **bbq** party was held Tuesday, **July 1** in Tuen Mun Butterfly Beach. Prepared by Martha's group, the food was plentiful and delicious. Everybody brought some drinks and shared with everyone. 23 people attended and Mother Nature provided a beautiful day.

Some enjoyed swimming and playing in the beach. The picture taking was the highlight, while some remain in the bbq area, eating and chatting. Everybody was so cooperative and we really enjoyed the day.

Special appreciation and thanks to everyone for helping and joining the party. After all, we have shared a good relationship, we hope it will continue in years to come.



MIGRANT DESK CORNER

Take Your Rights seriously



***What about the law and me, out on the street?
What are some of my rights and duties with regard to
residency and identification,
as well as police powers of search and seizure?***

One of the biggest problems facing people who get into trouble with the police in Hong Kong is ignorance. They are all too often ignorant about what the law requires and they are ignorant what rights they have. Here, we're talking about the problem of getting into trouble with the authorities such as the police or the immigration department.

Often times, people who are not from Hong Kong, especially those who are overseas contract workers, are not really aware as to just what their rights and duties really are. Often people take the view that legal problems will never happen to them, because they only want to obey the law, and only troublemakers get into trouble.

But the reality is that legal problems can happen to anyone, even people who are careful to obey the law. In many cases, people have an unrealistic fear or respect for the authorities such as the police. Possibly they think that anything the police may do must be right because according to their reasoning, the police and the law are one and the same thing. Although it may be true to say that respect for the police and the law are a good thing, it never occurs to these people that sometimes, the police may actually be breaking the law. The reality is that it's a mistake to put your faith in the authorities, because they can do things to people that go outside the law.

The result of this is that you fail to arm yourself with the information that you need, then you will be the one who is denied justice. This might mean that you are deported, or even spend time in jail when the problem could have easily been avoided by getting and using the information that you need about the law and your rights and duties. Other people feel that they are victims and are simply powerless to do anything to help themselves.

These people feel that all people in position of authority are only there to harm or oppress anyone who falls into their hands. These people don't understand that there are some in positions of authority that maybe willing to help them. Actually, there are many people in Hong Kong who can be very helpful to those in trouble. But one thing that nearly all those who are overseas contract workers lack is a full appreciation for their own legal rights in Hong Kong.

(Jim Rice)



"Our health, is our Wealth"

I'm always amazed at how millions of individuals use similar movement strategies doing normal development. No one invents a new way to stand up or crawl, as our bodies seem to instinctively know the most efficient way to move our bodies around..."

On **June 6**, a very interesting discussion took place in St. Jerome (Hall), we had **Mr. Louie Leung** discussed and explained to us on how to take care of our health, his expertise: **OUR BONES.**

The Community appreciated the dialogue on this topic. We all appreciated the efforts put forth by both Mr. Leung and the members who attended.

After the talk, we certainly are enlightened and we are now aware of our movements, the importance of proper exercise, balanced food diet and of course, to take good care of our bones. After all,

"Our health, is our Wealth.

Louie, we hope to have you in the future for more enlightening and educational talks. Our sincerest thanks.

MONTH'S SCRIPTURES



August 2: 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: God answers all our needs

Readings: ♦ Ex 16:2-4

♦ Eph 4:17, 20 – 24 ♦ Jn 6:24 - 35

Everything good and worthwhile in our life shows in some way the glory of God. We come to know

God's goodness through all these gifts which He has given to us. In Jesus, God's greatest gift, we come to know even more deeply the greatness of God's Love. So, when we gather together to celebrate the Eucharist, in a special way, we should give thanks to God for all that He has given us.

August 10: 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: Peaceful Presence

Readings: ♦ 1 Kgs 19:9, 11 – 13

♦ Rom 9:1 - 5 ♦ Mt 14:22 - 33

It often seems when we are in trouble in need or in danger, we turn to God for help. And often, at such times God is nowhere to be found. But, God is always with us in good times and bad, when everything is going wrong, as well as times when everything is calm. We need to attune ourselves to listen to God speaking to us quietly in our everyday lives, calmly and lovingly in times of trouble, and joyfully in times of celebration.

August 17: 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Readings: ♦ Is 56:1, 6 - 7

♦ Rom 11:13 – 15, 29 – 32. ♦ Mt 15:21 – 28

Theme: God chosen People

People who feel threatened build barriers to protect themselves. Often they fear their way of life or their community would be contaminated by outsiders. But, God does not put boundaries on love. God offers salvation to everyone who is open to his call and the gift of faith. So when we encounter prejudice and persecution of others because of their religion, or race, we should strive to reach out in unity and communion.

August 23: 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

Readings: ♦ Is 22:15, 19 - 23

♦ Rom 11:33 – 36 ♦ Mt 16:13 – 20

Theme: Keeper of the Keys

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, the Son of God and our Savior. By God's design the church, was founded upon Peter and the other apostles and their faith, a faith that was God's gift. Jesus shared with them God's Plan of Salvation and gave his disciples and the Church, the strength to carry on His mission.

August 30: 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: Adherence to the Will of God

Readings: ♦ Jer 20:7 - 9

♦ Rom 12:1 - 2 ♦ Mt 16:21 - 27

Jesus chose to follow the way of love and truth, even though it eventually led to his death on the cross. Peter struggled to accept this reality, and tried to turn Jesus from this choice. But, the cross is an expected part of Christian life. To follow Jesus, we will often be at odds with the ways of society. Like Jesus, we can expect to be ignored, ridiculed, exploited, persecuted and even martyred.

Farewell Party for Fr. Ferdinand Bouckhout, cism



It had already been three months since we learned that our parish priest was leaving us. We knew that when he would come back to Hong Kong he would no longer be their parish priest. As **Sunday June 29, 2008** was his last Sunday before he left for a vacation in Belgium (July 1), he was asked to celebrate all Sunday masses. A special mass was celebrated at 11:00am and many children made a performance and offered flowers to him. After the mass the first farewell party was held on the 4th floor. The Chinese, English and Spanish Community joined together with performances to thank and congratulate their parish priest after 5 years of service.

We'll miss you and will always be in our thoughts, our prayer and our hearts.

Missing you !!!