

ST. JEROME'S CHURCH - ENGLISH COMMUNITY

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e-mail:
stjerome_englishcommunity@yahoo.com

Web.: <http://stjerome.catholic.org.hk>
TEL. 2448-8332



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

NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Activity	Place
Nov. 2 31st Sunday of the Ordinary Time			
ALL THE SOULS			
	9:30 am	Lectors	Rom 406
	9:30 am	Editorial Group	Rom 404
	9:30 am	Finance Committee	Rom 405
	3:30 pm	Taize Prayer	Chapel
Nov. 9 32th Sunday of the Ordinary Time			
THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA			
	9:30 am	Choir Group	Rom 411
	9:30 am	Eucharistic Ministers	Rom 406
	2:00 pm	Treasures' Meeting	Rom 405
Nov. 16 33th Sunday of the Ordinary Time			
	9:30 am	Vocation Group	Rom 406
	2:00 pm	Treasures' Meeting	Rom 405
	9:30 am	Migrant Desk	Rom 405
Nov. 23 34th Sunday of the Ordinary Time			
CHRIST THE KING			
	9:30 am	Groups leaders Elections	Rom 406
PRE-ADVENT RETREAT			
Nov. 30 1st Sunday of Advent			
	2:00 pm	Coordinating Committee	Rom 405
Each Sunday			
Mass 8:00 am		- Bible sharing 3:30	- Adoration 5:00pm

FOR OUR REFLEXION



MAY WE LOVE EVER MORE

May we motivate ourselves to committed love in Action.
May we motivate ourselves to live the life we wish to see in the world.
May we be the transformation we wish to see in the world.

From the inside out . . .
From the roots branching upwards . . .
From the heart
to thought
to word
to action.
Through life's trials and hardships
we can arise beautiful and free.

JESUS LOVES YOU

whatever you're going through
that Jesus loves you so

You may feel all alone
with a load of care
Maybe you needed to know
so these words with you I share

He cares about everything
that you're going through
Friend, I just want to say
that Jesus really loves you

Does love wear out with time?

Love is strong as death; its flashes are flashes of fire, a most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it

(Song of Solomon 8:6)

Love is not based on the feeling that I love or do not love someone. Moreover, it evolves with time. When a couple show their love in a different manner or less visibly this does not mean that it no longer exists.

It is true however, that different temperaments, time and suffering may bring on difficulties in the relationship.

■ So how can love not wear out?

By encouraging it to grow. We do not love just because the other person is lovable. Making love grow means wanting the happiness of your partner. It is also looking for the good that he or she does and not always keeping track of all the negative things. It is wanting to please your partner and giving freely. It often means taking the first step...

■ Love is based on a mutual decision to live out a commitment and not on the limitations that we may discover in ourselves. For example, if your parents are divorced, this does not mean that you are condemned to get divorced. You can build an authentic relationship based on love, forgiveness and being forgiven. So there is no need for fatalism. To decide to love means to renew that choice every day and to work at deepening the relationship.

■ In order to make love grow, we have to let love be rooted in Love. **For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.** (Rom 7:19) When God created man and woman, marriage and love were in harmony. If we are open to what God has to say, we will understand that because of original sin we are inclined to behave badly. This is what undermines love: arguments, anger, neglecting the other's needs, selfishness....

■ But with God, we can escape from our failures. He invites us, while respecting our freedom, to be connected to Love once again, to acknowledge our faults and to allow ourselves to be re-created. In the sacrament of marriage, we receive the capacity to renew our love by drawing on the Love of God.



Upcoming activities

PRE ADVENT RETREAT

Advent is a time of renewing within ourselves the "Coming of the Lord." This coming is our Hope for the future as well as our Hope in the present time.

St. Jerome's English Community will be holding their annual Pre-Advent Retreat on November 23, 2008 from 1:00 - 5:00 pm at 4F Church Hall.

The Advent Retreat is an opportunity to prayerfully and reflectively enter to this beautiful season of Light and Hope. The focus of this retreat will be on the Advent theme of "A Pilgrimage of Heart."

Different approaches to prayerfully enter this most Holy Season will be presented as well as time and space will be given to allow the participants to "prepare one's Heart" for the birth of the Messiah.

The presenter will be **Sr. Necitas de Rama**, a member of PIOUS Disciples of Divine Master followed by Tagalog Mass celebrating priest will be Rev. **Fr. Henry Cabral, SVD**. Everyone welcome to join in this most Holy gathering.

MIGRANT DESK CORNER

Take Your Rights seriously



If I'm stopped when I'm out in public, like on the street for example, can the police then search me and go through my stuff like going through my pockets or my bag/purse?

The police Force Ordinance states that if a police officer believes that you are acting suspiciously, he/she has the power to stop you and he/she requires you to show your ID card and question you about things like your address and where you were going. This law also gives the police the power to search you if he/she has a belief that you are carrying a weapon or anything that might be considered a threat to the officer.

What if I refuse to be searched by the police?

In that case, the law gives the police the authority to detain you for a reasonable period of time and do a search of you and your stuff in another place. Therefore, it's generally a good idea to be polite and co-operative in these situations. However, you may wish to ask to see the officer's warrant card (official identification) in order to confirm that this person is really a police officer. Remember that people other than the police are not authorized to search through your belongings.

What if I refuse to be searched and the police search me anyway, and find nothing illegal? Can they charge then me with not agreeing to be searched? So long as you do not resist physically (which is never a good idea anyway) they can't charge you with the offence of simply refusing to be searched.

What if I am at home? Do I have to produce my ID if the police or immigration officers come to my house?

No. The position here is that if the police or immigration officers come to

your house and demand that you open the door, you may if you like, invite them in.

Do I have to allow the police to enter my home?

No, If you aren't sure that you would like these officers in your home, or if you really would not care for them to come in, you should ask them if they have a search warrant, which specifies your address and is signed by a judge or magistrate. If they produce one, then you have to allow them in. If not, there is no legal obligation on your part to open the door. The authorities are the same as anyone else in that they have a duty to obey the law just as you do. What gives them the power to enter your house is not their uniform or their badge, but their legal authority.

This legal authority must normally be given to the police by a judge or magistrate based on reasonable suspicion that there is some illegal substance (such as drugs or forged documents) or there are over stayers or illegal immigration staying in that house. What do the police need the signature of a judge or magistrate to get a search warrant?

This is because a judge or magistrate is seen as being somewhat independent of the police. If the police could enter and search any house, flat or other types of private property any time they wanted, it could lead to abuses of power by the police. This is the idea that it is better to be governed by the law than by the will of the police.

Take Your Rights seriously (Jim Rice)



Celebrating the Parish feast day

Saint Jerome's Church celebrated his parish feast on September 28.. The Chinese and English Community joined together for a special bilingual mass at 5:00 pm. The English Community performed the liturgical dance and was in charge of some songs. The mass was impregnated with some adjustments, in order to know more about Saint Jerome and his love for the Bible, as he translated the Bible in Latin. At 7:00 pm a dinner party was held in Tin Shing restaurant.

We were all happy especially when we presented a presentation to the delight of the audience that they even asked a repeat performance, this time everybody joined dancing that even our own Fr. Sylvere, Deacon Paul and Brother Dominique shared their talents in cha cha. We also had a Filipino song sang by one of the member of the choir group. The most awaited moment when delicious dinner was served and the highlight was the lucky draw. We were lucky because some of us went home as winners. We're looking forward for another Parish feast day. Happy feast day St. Jerome's.



MONTH'S SCRIPTURES



Nov. 2: All the Souls (Cycle A)

Theme: In memory of the faithful departed

Readings: ♦ Wis 3:1 – 9

♦ Rm 6:3 - 9 ♦ Mt 25:31 - 46

From the time of the early Church, Christians have prayed for the dead, and many monasteries reserved a special day to pray for their deceased members and benefactors. In time, the tradition of keeping “with joyous affection, the memory of all the faithful departed who have

lived from the beginning of the world until the end.” was universally accepted., to commemorate that “God who raised Jesus from the dead, will also give new life to our own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in us.” (Rom. 8:11)

Nov. 9: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Cycle A)

Theme: Christ dwells among us

Readings: ♦ Ez 47:1 – 2, 8 – 9, 12

♦ 1Co 3:9c – 11, 16 - 17 ♦ Jn 2:13 - 22

-For many years, the early Christians secretly gathered in their homes for worship. When the emperor became a Christian, and the Church was no longer persecuted, the numbers of Christians grew and they needed a larger place. The Lateran Basilica was originally a public meeting hall and one of the grandest buildings in Rome. The Church was dedicated as a place of Christian Worship on November 9th, 324. It was renamed St. John in honour of John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. It is the cathedral church for the bishop of Rome, the pope, and considered the mother church for all of us.

-When we celebrate the dedication of a church, we are celebrating as feast in honour of the Lord who dwells in the Church, as well as all of us, the community of Believers, the People of God.

Nov. 16: 33th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

Theme: Taking risks

Readings: ♦ Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

♦ 1 Thes 5:1-6 ♦ Mt 25:14-30

Everything good and worthwhile in the adventure of a human life is such, because it shows forth in some way, the glory of God. Each person made in God’s likeness, possesses a capacity for knowledge that is transcendent, a love that is unselfish, and freedom for self-direction...These qualities reflect the essential immortality of the human spirit. To bear these fruits, we must be prepared to risk all for the sake of the gospel, even if it means persecution, suffering or death. What risks does our faith in Jesus call us to take?

Nov. 23: 34th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

Theme: Christ the King

Readings: ♦ Ez 34:11-12, 15-17

♦ 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28 ♦ Mt 25:31-46

-Today, the Church celebrates the Feast of Christ the King of the Universe. The reign of our King is marked by love and mercy. In this Kingdom, God identifies with all those who are powerless or needy. Like a shepherd he watches over us, tending us with care.

-The Church, a community of loving believers in the Risen Lord is called to be a sign of God’s reign among us. It is called to serve the kingdom and to advance it among all the peoples of the world... We the church must be committed to justice, love and peace, to grace and holiness, and to truth and life, for these are the signs of God’s Kingdom.

Nov. 30: 1st Sunday Advent (Cycle C)

Theme: Waiting on God

Readings: ♦ Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

♦ 1 Cor 1:3-9 ♦ Mk 13:33-37

We have God’s promise, “I will dwell in the midst of my people and I will be their God.” At Christmas we celebrate the Incarnation, God’s coming as one of us, a baby born of Mary and Joseph. Advent prepares us for that celebration. But, we must remember, that God also comes to us each day, in creation and in one another. During this time let us prepare our hearts and minds to watch and wait for Jesus coming...

COMMUNITY FUN DAY

ties into two parts.

The community organized a fund raising activity in the church Hall on October 7, 2008 (Chung Yeung Festival) . More than 100 people came and supported by buying raffle and bingo ticket. The funds will be used for the activities of the community.

The day started with the community gathering at 8:00 am. Everybody were busy preparing the things to be needed. You can see on their face the gladness that this is one moment that everybody shared together through playing, joking, dancing and singing. We begin the activity with an opening prayer led by one of our choir member, Ms. Alice Madla. We divided the activi-

The first part was the bingo games, raffles draw and some parlor games. As expected, there were winners and losers but just the same contentment and enjoyment. As we go to the highlight of the activity, some members presented an intermission number, it is a modern dance to the delight of the audience that they also dance and yelled. The video ok competition kicked off at 2:00 pm. The judges are hard up judging. Congratulations to all winners. We would like to thank all our generous donors for their untiring support. Hope to see you all again next time.

