

ST. JEROME'S CHURCH - ENGLISH COMMUNITY

BULLETIN NO. 6

**JUNE
2009**



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

JUNE 2009 SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	PLACE
June 7	The Most Holy Trinity		
	Philippines Independence Day -Thanks Giving Mass		
	9:30 am	Altar servers	Rm. 407
	9:30 am	Editorial	Rm. 405
	2:00 pm	Finance Committee	Rm. 406
	3:00 pm	Taize Prayer	Chapel
June 12	Philippines Independence Day		
June 14	The most Holy Body and Blood of Christ		
	9:30 am	Ushers	Rm. 406
	9:30 am	Eucharistic Ministers	Rm. 407
	10:30 am	Treasurer's Meeting	Rm. 408
	2:00 pm	Liturgy Commission	Rm. 406
June 21	12th Sunday of the Ordinary Time		
	Father's Day		
	9:30 am	Vocation Group	Rm. 406
	9:30 am	Martha's Group	Rm. 405
	9:30 am	Choir Group	Rm. 411
June 28	13th Sunday of the Ordinary Time		
	9:30 am	Migrant Desk	Rm. 406
	9:30 am	Lectors Group	Rm. 405
	10:00 am	Coordinating Committee	Rm. 406
EACH SUNDAY		Mass 8:00 am	
		Adoration: 5:00 pm	

FOR OUR REFLEXION

THE PENTECOST



Pentecost is one of the Christian church's more exuberant and joyful celebrations. Considered to be the Church's birthday, Pentecost takes place 50 days after Easter Sunday.

Story of Pentecost

Believed to be the oldest feast in the Church, the story of Pentecost dates back to the first century. The feast originated from the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which occurs 50 days after the Passover (Deuteronomy 16:10). According to Jewish tradition, the Ten Commandments were given to Moses 50 days after the first Passover, which freed the Hebrews from their bondage in Egypt. As the Hebrews settled into Canaan, the feast became a time to honor the Lord for blessing the fruits of their labors. At the time of Jesus, the festival focused on rabbinical law and traditions.

Meaning of Pentecost

According to Scriptures in the Book of Acts, the Church came into being on the day of Pentecost. As 120 worshipers, including the Disciples, were fasting and praying in an upper room in Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit descended upon them in a violent rushing wind that was heard throughout the city. Small flames of fire rested upon their heads, and they began to speak in other languages. As crowds came to investigate the commotion, the Apostle Peter spoke to them about Jesus and exhorted them to repent. From the crowd of Jews and con-

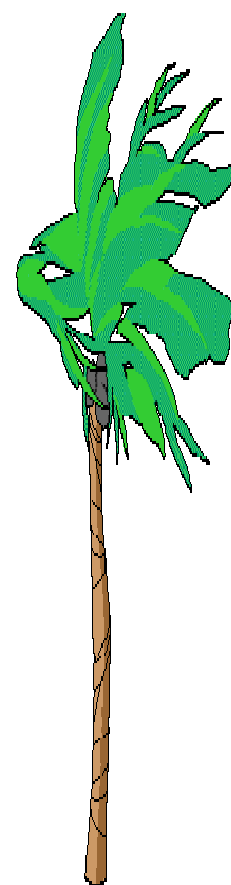
verts, 3,000 realized the truth of his words and became followers of Jesus.

Pentecost Traditions

There are many Pentecost traditions. In some churches, baptisms are performed throughout the day. Pentecost is also known as Whitsunday, because of the white garments worn by those who are baptized. In most Pentecost services, priests or church officials wear red vestments. Sanctuaries are decorated with banners depicting flames, wind, and doves. Churches in Italy disperse rose petals from the ceiling to symbolize the tongues of fire described in the book of Acts. French churches blow trumpets throughout the service to suggest the Holy Spirit coming with a violent rushing wind. Both Catholic and Protestant services have scripture readings from the books of Isaiah, Ezekiel, Joel, or Acts.

The purest meaning of Pentecost is that of a time of renewal for Christian believers. Through studying the story of Pentecost, many seek and pray for spiritual gifts for the church during this time of holy celebration. There is a renewed focus on evangelism, empowerment from the Holy Spirit, deeper intimacy with God, and fellowship. For Christians, the celebration of Pentecost imparts faith, hope, a sharing of community, and an awareness of a purpose much greater than themselves.

FATHER'S DAY (June 21)



FATHER

- F**antastic
- A**marzing
- T**errific
- H**onorable
- E**xceptional
- R**emarkable

Anyone can be a father, but it takes someone special to be a **DADDY!!!**

MIGRANT DESK CORNER



Out of Service

The right to silence and statements to the police or immigration officials.

So then, I should tell them absolutely nothing?

Let's further assume that you are being questioned at one of the offices of the immigration department. You have already been at the immigration office for some time. You are also probably tired. The officer is asking you question like; "We have good reason to believe that you are working in unapproved employment". You begin to get uneasy and uncomfortable in your seat.

Suppose that instead of being questioned at the immigration department, you actually are caught by the police as you are serving food in a restaurant. Further suppose that you took the job as a way to earn some extra money. It's the lunch hour and you are coming out of the kitchen with a tray of food in your hands. Or maybe you are selling lunch boxes in Victoria Park on Sunday afternoons. Your friend tells you that it would be a good way to earn a little extra money. Suddenly, two officers wearing badges grab you and say you are under arrest.

As we know that such activity would be considered as being an offense of unapproved employment .then, here's a question. What do you think would happen if they caught you in the act of serving food in a restaurant in Central lunch boxes in Victoria Park?

If they caught me doing something like that, they would likely arrest me. The police would probably take me to a police station.

That's exactly what they would do. You most likely would be taken to the police station. In other words, they wouldn't bother to waste several hours of their time asking you questions about what you were doing, since they caught you in the act of doing so. They already know what you were breaking the law. But more importantly, they have good evidence, which can be put before the court that you were breaking the law. Even so, the police must tell you that you are under arrest and that anything that you say will be used against you in evidence. So, it is very important to stay silent in such a situation.

But remember that in order the judge to do anything to you; it is first necessary that legal evidence is brought

before the court, In the case of where you are arrested for working in a restaurant, the evidence against you would be clear. There would be a police officer there in the courtroom as a witness. In such a case, what would happen is you would almost certainly be found guilty of unapproved employment. This would probably be true if you pleaded either guilty or not guilty. The evidence itself would be enough to convict. Most likely, in that event you would go to jail for a few months at least. You would then be removed from the territory and sent home to your country of residence.

Take Your Rights seriously (Jim Rice)

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

• **PHILIPPINES INDEPENDENCE THANKSGIVING MASS**

The English Community will celebrate Philippines Independence day on the 7th of June. A mass at 8:00 am in English, the 2nd reading and some songs will be in Tagalog. The prayers of the faithful will be in 5 different dialects in the Philippines. Members will wear national dresses.

• **father's Day (June 14 , Sunday)**

Your word of wisdom and fatherly advice are greatly appreciated with love and gratitude, we wish you a very happy Father's day.

• **EUCCHARISTIC MINESTER'S RE-NEWAL**

On June 14th, the Eucharistic Ministers will make their renewal of commitment to continue serving the Lord and may remain faithful followers of Jesus.

• **Fr Sylvère Farewell Party**

Fr. Sylvère will be going for vacations on June 23. When back in Hong Kong in September, he will be having another assignment. The Parish (English and Chinese Communities) will organize a Farewell Party for him on **Sunday 21 June 12:30 pm** (4th Floor). You are invited.



MONTH'S SCRIPTURES



June 7: The Most Holy Trinity

Theme: **Three persons in one God**

Readings: Dt 4:32-34,39-40

♦ Rm 8:14-17 Mt 28:16-20

The mystery of the Holy Trinity was revealed in the person, words and works of Jesus Christ. He revealed His Father as "our Father" and Himself as God's eternal and divine Son. He also made known the third divine Person, the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, sent by the Father and himself to the Church. None of us will ever be able to fully understand the mystery of the Trinity. But, by celebrating this feast, our faith in the living and loving God who reveals Himself as Father Son, and Holy Spirit is affirmed. -

June 14: The Body & Blood of Christ

Theme: **The Body and Blood of Jesus**

Readings: Ex 24:3-8

♦ Heb 9:11-15 Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

The Church expresses and celebrates its identity in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is the heart of Christian Life. It helps us to understand that when we receive communion, we are nourished with Christ, the Bread of Life, so that we may be filled with love of God and our neighbour, and work together to build up the Christian Community with acts of charity, service, missionary activity and witness

June 21: 12th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: **God's Saving Power**

Readings: Jb 38:1,8-11

♦ 2Cor 5:14-17 Mk 4:35 -41

Today's Readings focus on human suffering and the difficulties that weigh us down. But the Church through its prophetic mission and teachings helps us understand the meaning and value of this suffering and sheds light on the mystery of God's saving power. Through the power of Jesus, our Risen Lord, we are given the "strength to overcome patiently and lovingly these afflictions and hardships which assail us."

June 28: 13th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: **Life is Precious**

Readings: Wis 1:13-15,2:23-24

♦ 2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15 Mk 5:21-43

Christians believe that God is our creator and source of life. Still, we sometimes struggle with the existence of pain and suffering in our world. But, we also are people of hope because we know that Jesus conquered death by his own suffering and crucifixion. Jesus healed many people as a sign of His Love, Compassion and Power to conquer sin, suffering and death. He taught us to reach out to those who suffer and are in pain. Life is a precious gift from our Creator. Each and every person is made in God's image and likeness. We should strive to preserve and protect Life in all its forms.

Saying goodbye...

In our Congregation, *Immaculate Heart of Mary* (CICM), we are used to have vacations every three years. On April, my Mother asked me "when are you coming to see me again?". It was a way to remind me it was time for vacations and I realized three years and some months had passed since my last vacations. On Monday, the 23rd of June, I will be going back to my country (Congo) for vacations. With the blessing of God, I will be back in Hong Kong on September after three months, and be assigned in another parish.

It is time for me to leave Saint Jerome's Church. I would like to say goodbye and thank you all of you for all you have done for me all the time I was with you. It was really an honor to serve here in Saint Jerome's Church. I will never forget the Saint Jerome's church for welcoming me as brother (learning Cantonese), seeing me be ordained deacon and accompanying me in my first steps as a priest (5years). Your help would never be measured. I will never forget you. God bless you. Goodbye!!!!



Fr. Jean-Sylvère Mbuela, cicm

Fr. Sylvère



COMMUNITY'S ALBUM



Pilgrimage (Peng Chau - Trappist Monastery) (May 28)



Health talk (May 17)



Choir BBQ - Gold Coast (May 1)



Pentecost day - Prayer of the faithful (May 31)



Mather's day (May 10)