



**ST. JEROME'S ENGLISH COMMUNITY**

**BULLETIN**

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**August**

**2009**

**No. 8**

# AUGUST SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Activity	Place
<b>Aug. 2</b>	<b>18th Sunday of the Ordinary Time</b>		
	9:30 am	Altar Servers	Rm 406
	9:30 am	Editorial Group	Rm 405
	9:30 am	Finance Committee	Rm 406
	3:30 pm	Taize Prayer	Chapel
<b>Aug. 9</b>	<b>19th Sunday of the Ordinary Time</b>		
	9:30am	Lectors Group	Rm 406
	9:30 am	Ushers Group	Rm 406
	9:30 am	Eucharistic Ministers	Rm 406
	2:00 pm	Treasures' Meeting	Rm 405
<b>Aug. 16</b>	<b>20th Sunday of the Ordinary Time</b>		
	9:30 am	Vocation Group	Rm 406
	2:00 pm	Choir Group	Rm 411
	9:30 am	Migrant Desk	Rm 406
<b>Aug. 23</b>	<b>21st Sunday of the Ordinary Time</b>		
	9:30 am	Coordinating Meeting	Rom 406
<b>Aug. 30</b>	<b>22nd Sunday of the Ordinary Time</b>		
<b>Each Sunday</b>			
<b>Mass 8:00 am - Bible sharing 3:30 - Adoration 5:00pm</b>			

## FOR OUR REFLEXION

### LESSONS FOR LIFE

“ To celebrate growing older, I once wrote the 45 lessons life taught me. It is the most requested column I've ever written.

My odometer rolled over to 90 in August, so here is the continuation.....

26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
27. Always choose life.
28. Forgive everyone everything.
29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
30. Times heals almost everything. Give time.
31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
32. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
33. Believe in miracles.
34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
35. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
36. Growing old beats the alternative – dying young.
37. Your children get only one childhood.
38. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw every one else's, we'd grab ours back.
41. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
42. The best is yet to come.
43. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
44. Yield.
45. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF VACATION

Summer vacation has begun. How have you used this time?

Some like to sleep late, watch television or play with the computer. Many are planning activities and possibly trips to other places. They want to use this time to escape the daily pressures of work and study that can be tiring. Hopefully this period of rest will serve to strengthen their minds and bodies, to help them prepare for the coming year.

But, vacation time is much more! The holidays also give us a special opportunity to spend and enjoy each others company. It is also an opportunity to grow in our relationship with Christ, to take time to read and to pray.

How we spend our vacation, reveals what is important to us. When Jesus told his apostles were not only eager to take a break from their work, but more important, to take time to “rest with Jesus!” Our time of vacation is not given to distract us from “life” but rather to use the time wisely to grow and develop.

The people, we spend time, have been given to us as “gifts”, to be cherished. We can learn from them, come to know the better and experience their love and support.

The English word “Vacation” comes from the word “vacant” (empty). But that is only part of the picture, to leave behind our work, studies, responsibilities and pressures. Rather the word, “Holiday” is better, because it means to “make holy the day”. Take advantage of our free time to encounter love, truth, and beauty, to appreciate nature, and God's loving protection and presence. If this is our focus, then our days will be full of true and we will be re-created, renewed and ready to face the future challenges.

May you all have a very Happy Summer Holiday!!

## MIGRANT DESK



***If I do sign a statement, then can I have a copy for myself?***

Yes. This is very important for you as well. If you do agree to sign a statement that you make to the police or to the immigration department, you are entitled to have a copy of that statement for your own record. As I say, it's your document. Should you ever sign a police statement it is very good idea to demand a copy for yourself, because you will want to show it to a lawyer at a later date. That statement will provide very important information relating to your case, Always request a copy of any statement that you sign.

***What if I'm not sure whether it's a good idea to sign it, but they tell me that it is a good idea for me to sign it anyway?***

If you are not absolutely clear as to exactly what you are signing, you should never, ever sign it. It will not be in your best interests to do so. Also never sign a statement written in a language which you yourself cannot read or cannot read very well. Always remember that you have a right to a translator/interpreter. If you are not sure of your English ability, it is best to demand a translator during any questioning from police or immigration officers.

***Can a police force me to sign a statement?***

No, neither the police nor the immigration authorities can force you to sign anything that you have specific rights regarding these matters. It is important for you to realize that the police are prohibited from trying to get a statement from you based on threats, intimidation or inducements ( promises ) . In fact however they will often in trying to get you to admit to something.

But apart from using threats or promises, it is a very serious offence for the police to use any physical violence on you. It's also important to remember that it is a serious offence for the police to sexually assault or harass anyone in their custody, If you are a woman, and being questioned, there always be a female officer present. It is always important that any statement that you make or that you sign should only be what you done of your own free will in the absence of coercion. If in doubt, you should say that you would like to see a lawyer and get his or her advice. Should any of these things ever happen to you, it is important to keep in mind

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\* GETTING TO KNOW \*  
\* FR. JESUDHASAN MICHAEL, \*  
\* MEP \*  
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\* We are having a new priest, Fr. Michael Jesudhasan, a missionary of the Paris Foreign Mission (MEP), to serve our community. He joined our community and celebrated his first Mass with us on July 5, 2009. He will come to say Mass for our community every Sunday. Fr Michael comes from India, and he has been in Hong Kong for about one year. He is the Chaplain of the French Speaking community in Hong Kong. A well-known liturgist, Fr. Michael served the National Secretary for Liturgical Commission of the Bishops Conference of India between 2003 and 2007. He received his doctorate in Liturgy from the Catholic University in Paris, France in 2001 and he taught Liturgy in a few theological faculties in India.. We pray that through his presence with us, we may all walk and sing in joy in the Lord.

\* Welcome Father Michael. \*  
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## Sunday Readings



### SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

#### 2/8 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year: **BREAD OF LIFE**

Jesus gives us a new meaning for the word "bread", the Bread of Life, His own Body and Blood. Jesus gave himself as our bread, our nourishment, Holy Communion, which is the most important means, to sustain our lives. In the celebration of the Eucharist, we are filled with the love of God and our neighbor. We are given the strength to build up the Christian community through our works of charity, service, mission activity and witness.

#### 9/8 19<sup>th</sup> Sun. of the Year: **SHARING GOD'S LIFE**

In the Eucharist, Christ the Lord nourishes us not only with His Word, but especially with His Body and Blood. The Eucharist changes and transforms us to live a new life, to deepen our love for God and to give service to our neighbors. When we eat this Bread and drink this Wine we proclaim the death and resurrection of Jesus, until He comes in Glory.

#### 16/8 20<sup>th</sup> Sun. of the Year: **JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST**

When Jesus told his followers he would give them his flesh to eat and blood to drink, many thought these words were foolishness, and they were revolted by the idea. But, the wisdom, which comes from faith, recognizes in the Eucharist the real presence of Jesus Christ. We believe that the bread and wine are changed and our Lord as True God and True man is really and truly present.

#### 23/8 21<sup>st</sup> Sun. of the Year

#### **EUCHARIST: A COVENANT OF LOVE**

The Eucharist is the center and heart of Christian Life for both the Universal and local Church and for each one of us... The Eucharist increases charity within the community. In the breaking of the bread, we experience the Risen Christ and our hope of salvation is reaffirmed. Each time we share in the Eucharist, we renew our covenant relationship with God. We pledge to focus our lives on God and we promise to love others as Jesus loves us.

#### 30/8 22<sup>nd</sup> Sun. of the Year: **THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW**

-God's laws are given so that we can live in harmony, love and peace with God, with one another and with all of creation. Laws are part of our everyday life, they were made to serve people, promote the common good, and safeguard individuals. Sometimes however, laws are used to oppress people and deny them their human rights, and we feel burdened and restricted by these laws. Such laws are unjust, and a perversion of the real purpose of the law.

-God reveals to us in Jesus who we are and how we are to live. It is His plan that we freely respond to His call to holiness and the commandment of Love. The Church also shares responsibility for the promotion of Justice among all people and cooperation with others who esteem human values, seek justice and the development of peoples. This is the true meaning and spirit of the Law.