

	<b>ST. JEROME'S ENGLISH COMMUNITY</b>	<b>JUNE</b>
	<b>BULLETIN</b>	<b>2008</b>
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## JUNE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Activity	Place
<b>June 1 - 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Ordinary Time (A)</b>			
	2:00 pm	Finance Committee	Rm. 405
	3:30 pm	Taize Prayer	Chapel
<b>June 8 - 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Ordinary Time (A)</b>			
<b>Philippines's Independence day</b>			
	9:30 am	Martha's - Lectors	Roof
	9:30 am	Altar Servers - Ushers	Roof
	9:30 am	Editorial	Rm. 405
<b>June 9 - Dragon Boat</b>			
<b>June 15 - 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Ordinary Time (A)</b>			
<b>Eucharistic Ministers renewal - Father's Day</b>			
	9:30 am	Coordinating Meeting	Rm. 405
	9:30 am	Vocation Gp.	Roof
<b>June 22 - 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Ordinary Time (A)</b>			
	9:30 am	Migrant Desk	Rm. 405
<b>June 29 - 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Ordinary Time (A)</b>			
	12:15 pm	Farewell party	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor
<b>Each Sunday</b> Mass 8:00 am - Bible sharing 3:30 - Adoration 5:00 pm			

## Forgive Yourself as God forgives you



We often think of the word "Forgiveness" as Forgiving Someone else for something that they have done to us. We don't place the

word with "Forgiving Ourselves" for things we have done in the past, either to Ourselves or Someone else things, that keep us from striving, excelling and moving ahead and being all that we can be in our lives.

### Forgiving Yourself - A Belief System

Forgiving yourself is essential. There is a tendency in all of us to hold ourselves more accountable than we do others. Perhaps you have been one who can justify forgiving others, even for a heinous offense, yet you find no justification for forgiving yourself for an equal or lesser offense. Perhaps you believe that forgiving yourself is not even a consideration because you think you must hold yourself in a state of constant remembrance, lest you forget. Perhaps you believe there is a price, some form of life-long penance that you must pay.

### Forgiving Yourself - The Divine Example

Forgiving yourself is not specifically addressed in the Bible, but there are principles regarding forgiveness that should be applied. For example, when God forgives us, it states that He remembers our sins no more (Jeremiah 31:34). This does not mean that our all-knowing Father God forgets, but rather, because He forgives us, He chooses not to bring up our sin in a negative way. Peter said, "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34). Applying "no partiality" to the issues of forgiveness, God does not choose to forgive one person and not another. He forgives everyone who believes in Jesus Christ. Applying His "no partiality" standards

to ourselves, it is just as important to forgive ourselves as it is to forgive others.

### Forgiving Yourself - Helping Others and Yourself

Forgiving yourself is also important for those in your sphere of influence. It is a well-known fact that hurting people hurt others. The longer you avoid forgiving yourself, the longer you allow yourself to harbor the feelings that you deserve to suffer for what you did, the more explosive you will become and, therefore, the more likely you are to hurt others.

The reality is that you cannot change what has happened. You cannot restore lives to where they were before the event. However, you can make a difference in the lives of others. You can give back some of what you have taken away by finding a different place to invest your time and compassion. Forgive yourself and let the healing begin!

Forgiving yourself will change the direction of your life.



## Forgive yourself...

- For putting yourself in a situation where you let yourself be hurt**
- For not knowing what to do or say**
- For failing in love recklessly**
- For putting yourself down by buying into attacker's insults**
- For blaming yourself and taking your attacker's side**
- For enduring a bad relationship too long**
- For feeling vulnerable and wanting to love again**
- For being perfectionist and not letting yourself make mistakes**
- For closing your heart to yourself**
- For rehashing hurtful accusations others made against you**
- For being ashamed of your pain**
- For blaming yourself for your misery.**

## MIGRANT DESK CORNER

*Termination of Contract; overstaying, and surviving*



**What if a worker doesn't get all of the information about dealing with termination until after her visa expires? Or what if she just runs away from her employer, and finds herself in a situation where she is an overstayer? What can a person like that do to help her situation?**

In fact, there are probably thousands of people who at one time find themselves living and working illegally as overstayers in Hong Kong. Because of the unfair nature of the employment laws in Hong Kong, and given the difficulties that migrant workers constantly face in terms of being able to assert their rights as against their employers, it is easy to see why some workers end up overstaying and working illegally.

And what's more, there are several different ways in which this situation may occur. Maybe over time, the worker has been underpaid by her employer. Maybe the worker is being abused or mistreated by her employer. The contract is then terminated. Not knowing what else to do, she makes the most basic decision regarding a major problem – in order to survive, she simply runs away from her unacceptable employment situation.

Once free of her employer, she will very likely meet up with a few of her friends and move into a flat or boarding house. Now she is at least free and away from her miserable employment situation. But the larger problems facing her remain the same. Given the larger debt that she still owes to the employment agency back in Indonesia, she feels that at this point, she cannot go home. This is almost entirely because of a lack of money. If she were to go home just now, with no savings in her pocket, how could she possibly pay back that debt? Just what could she do in central Java to earn that kind of money? What's more she fears, that her family might think that she has failed in her opportunity to

help them. But now there are new problems that are also facing her. And those are the problem of being an overstayer and ( if she gets a part-time job) of being an illegal worker.

*Take Your Rights seriously ( Jim Rice )*

## UPCOMING ACTIVITY

### “ Maria Elena Santacrusan ”

We're inviting everyone to attend the **KAMMPI** event on **June 9, 2008 (Dragon Boat Festival)** at **Choi Hong, Holy Family Church**. The highlight of the event is the coronation of Miss Maria Elena. Come and join the fun.

### Community Pilgrimage

Each year, our English community has a vocational pilgrimage to learn more about the church, various ministries and religious groups and to pray for vocations. On **May 1<sup>st</sup>, Labor Day**, 31 women and Fr. Sylvere went to **Macau**. Actually it was our second pilgrimage to this place but it seems it was already forgotten. One thing we were sure not to forget, was the beauty of the place. We left the TST ferry terminal at around 8:00 in the morning and headed to Macau. As the ferry sailed, everyone was excited and in high spirits smiling in front of the camera as we traveled from one place to another. Others had a little fear of the water and said they would just like to sleep. Luckily, we arrived in Macau with out incident.

In Macau, we rode in a bus going to our first destination with Sr. Margarita Baca as our guide. We visited **“Little Brethren of Mary Community”**, where we began our Rosary. From there we walked to **St. Lorenzo Church**. Along the way, we found several Filipino shops. The Next stop was **St. Augustine Church, Cathedral**, finally, we ended at **St. Paul's relics** where we had lunch. After that ,we went to **Fatima Church**, and our last destination was **St. Joseph's the Worker Church**.

At each church we had a simple introduction, prayer and reflection on the Saint's life. While we are were waiting for our ferry to takes back to Hong Kong, we went shopping and bought Souvenirs (**Pasalubong**) for our Ma'am and for some friends. We went home happy and satisfied after the dinner in KFC. **Next time, try and join us as it was all worthwhile.**

## MONTH'S SCRIPTURES



### June 1: 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: Hearing, Speaking, and doing

Readings: ♦ Deut 11: 26-28

♦ Rm 3:21 – 25, 28 ♦ Mt 7:21- 27

Those who put Jesus' words into practice and those who do not will suffer the respective consequences. From his important letter to the Romans, Paul tells us that Justification, is a gift of God, made possible through Christ's death and received through faith, not law observance.

### June 8: 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: Made to love

Readings: ♦ Hos 6:3 - 6

♦ Rom 4:18 - 25 ♦ Mt 9:9 - 13

It is hard for us to fathom the great breadth and depth of God's love. We so often put limits and boundaries on our love, careful to preserve our own interests. But, God calls us into a relationship of covenant love that knows no limits. It is a love that is manifest in our words, our thoughts and our actions. Even during moments of doubt or anxiety, God remains faithful and Jesus gently reminds us.

### June 15: 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: Call to serve

Readings: ♦ Ex 19:2 - 16

♦ Rom 5:6 - 11 ♦ Mt 9:36 – 10:8

Christ unceasingly bestows the Spirit on the members of the Church, thus joining us to Himself in continuing His mission to the world. We, the Church are called to minister to all peoples, to heal and reconcile. Each one of us is called to holiness, to share in the “one Lord, one faith and one baptism.” (Ep. 4:5) Every vocation is worthy of honour, every gift given for the good of all. Together we can build up the Body of Body of Christ, by our love and service.

### June 22: 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: Courage of Conviction

Readings: ♦ Jer 20:10 - 13

♦ Rom 5:12 - 15 ♦ Mt 10:26 - 33

To be a disciple means witness to the Gospel. We may experience intimidation, misunderstanding, rejection, and persecution when the

gospel values conflict with the norms of society. But, we have Jesus as our guide. In him we can find the courage to persevere. Achieving the final triumph over sin and evil is a lifelong task for each one of us.

### June 29: 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Theme: Hospitality

Readings: ♦ 2 Kgs 4:8 – 11, 14 - 16 ♦ Rom 6:3 – 4, 8 - 11 ♦ Mt 10:37 - 42

Christ teaches us that the Love of God and the Love of neighbour spring from the same Spirit and are inseparable. Christ is our model as He commanded, “Love one another as I have loved you.” Jesus love was universal; he welcomed all who came to him, the poor, the outcasts and sinners, as well as the religious leaders. Whenever we truly welcome another into our lives, we must be ready to grow, change and adjust.

**Truth is!  
Lies have to be invented.**

**... For every  
incredible thing  
that you've ever  
done ...**



**H**appy Father's Day to my dear Dad!  
**A**s you have loved me, so have I loved you,  
**P**leased to tell you, now that words are due,  
**P**leased to have this chance to make U glad.  
**Y**our years of love and sacrifice have had

**F**or me the force that U would wish them to,  
**A** wind that takes me home to harbors new,  
**T**he inner voice in clothes familiar clad.  
**H**ow might I be myself, except I see  
**E**ach gesture in the mirror of your grace,  
**R**emembered as it was when long ago,  
**\*E**re I knew why, I looked to you for love?  
**S**o am I of you inextricably,

**D**efined by trends not difficult to trace  
**A**s I grow into someone that I know,  
**Y**et myself in ways that time will prove.

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