

## Saturday, June 1: Saint Justin

Justin was of pagan Greek Origin born in Samaria about the year 100. He trained as a philosopher but later converted to Christianity. Justin was a persuasive Christian apologist, travelling and teaching widely about Christianity. Denounced to the authorities, Justin and his companions were brought to trial. Court records reveal how they declared themselves Christians, refusing to sacrifice to the gods. They were condemned to death and martyred about the year 165. Of his writings, two of his Apologies survive, as well as a Dialogue in which he tells of his conversion.



### Ladies' Guild Spring Bazaar 2019

The Spring Bazaar will be held on 1 June (Sat) & 2 June (Sun)  
at the covered car park.

They are appealing for donations to support the Bazaar.

#### Acceptable donations include

English books, CDs & DVDs;  
Good quality adult & children's clothing;  
Paired shoes & handbags; &  
Good quality Bric-a-brac & unwanted gifts.

NO electrical items, furniture items, men's winter suits,  
used underwear, socks & tights

**Please deliver your donations to the Church on 1 June (Sat) morning  
or contact the Parish Office (2522-3992)  
to make prior arrangements before the delivery of the donations.**

Thank you for your support.

## 6th Sunday of Easter



# ST. JOSEPH'S NEWSLETTER

**26 May 2019**

### **Gospel-John 14:23-29**

Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.

"I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

You heard me tell you, 'I am going away and I will come back to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe."

### **ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH 37 GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG**

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Eucharistic Celebrations

Weekdays: 7:45 a.m., 12 noon & 6:00 p.m. Anticipated Sunday Masses: Saturday 6:00 p.m.  
Sundays: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Tagalog Masses: 1, 2:30 & 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday School Mass at St. Joseph's College, 7 Kennedy Road, Hong Kong 9 a.m.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE MASS

Before Jesus' Ascension, he promises his disciples that he will come back and the Father will send the Holy Spirit in His name. The Holy Spirit as Jesus' Advocate will make His presence among his disciples more fruitful, so they can understand Jesus as they have never done before. To make ourselves ready for Jesus' Peace and the Holy Spirit, let us now ask for God's forgiveness... *I confess...*

## HEADINGS FOR READINGS

**Acts 15:1-2, 22-29** - The one thing necessary for salvation is faith in the Lord Jesus.

**Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23** - The new city of God is splendid and magnificent because God is its center and heart. It symbolizes God's people.

**John 14:23-29** - Jesus will send the Holy Spirit as His Advocate, strengthen us in our faith in Him.

## SCRIPTURE NOTE

The first Church council, the Council of Jerusalem we hear about in today's First Reading, decided the shape of the Church as we know it.

Some Jewish Christians had wanted Gentile converts to be circumcised and obey all the complex ritual and purity laws of the Jews. The council called this a heresy, again showing us that the Church in the divine plan is meant to be a worldwide family of God, no longer a covenant with just one nation.

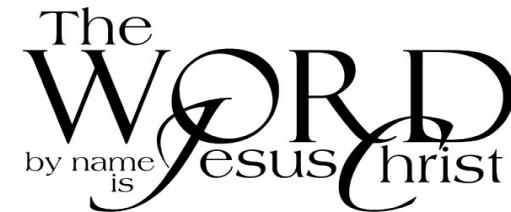
Today's Liturgy gives us a profound meditation on the nature and meaning of the Church. The Church is one, as we see in the First Reading: "the Apostles [bishops] and presbyters [priests], in agreement with the whole Church [laity]."

The Church is holy, taught and guided by the Spirit that Jesus promises the Apostles in the Gospel. The Church is catholic, or universal, making known God's ways of salvation to all peoples, ruling all in equity, as we sing in today's Psalm. And the Church, as John sees in the Second Reading, is apostolic—founded on the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb. All these marks of the Church are underscored in the story of the council.

Notice that everybody, including Paul, looks to "Jerusalem [and] . . . the Apostles" to decide the Church's true teaching. The Apostles, too, presume that Christian teachers need a "mandate from us." And we see the Spirit guiding the Apostles in all truth. Notice how they describe their ruling: "It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us." Knowing these truths about the Church, our hearts should never be troubled.

The Liturgy's message today is that the Church is the Lord's, watched over and guarded by the Advocate, the Holy Spirit sent by the Father in the name of the Son.

This should fill us with confidence, free us to worship with exultation, inspire us to rededicate our lives to His Name—to love Jesus in our keeping of His Word, to rejoice that He and the Father in the Spirit have made their dwelling with us. (Scott Hann)



## Calendars

### Monday, May 27: Saint Augustine of Canterbury

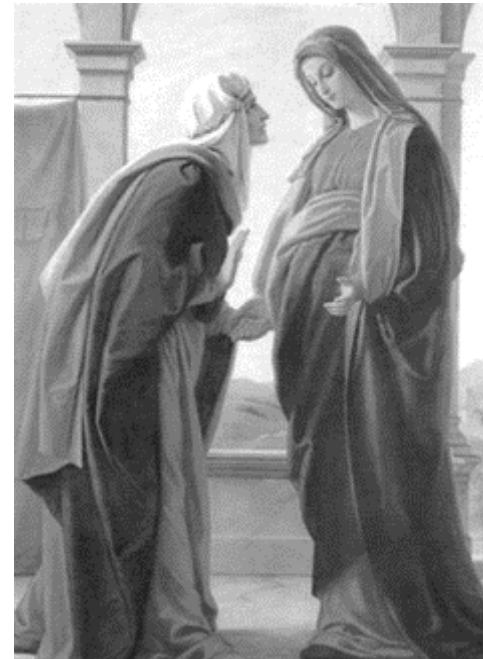
In 596, Pope Gregory the Great sent Augustine – prior of St Andrew's monastery in Rome and about 40 monks to evangelize England. The group was well received by King Ethelbert of Kent, who later became a saint himself. Augustine was soon made bishop and instructed to develop a hierarchy for England and to substitute Christian feasts for pagan celebrations.

Apart from the Welsh refusal to accept either Augustine or the Roman traditions he proposed, the mission was successful.

Augustine established a Benedictine monastery at Canterbury. The first archbishop of Canterbury, the 'Apostle of the English,' Augustine continued to work for the faith in Britain until his death in 604.



### Friday, May 31: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



This feast, commemorating the meeting between Mary and Elizabeth, has been celebrated in the Roman liturgy since the 8<sup>th</sup> century. Found in Luke's Gospel, this event is one of rejoicing in the wonders God has done, as both the barren Elizabeth and the young virgin Mary find themselves with child. Each woman experiences an outpouring of the Holy Spirit; Elizabeth's response is to declare Mary and her child blessed; and Mary's response is the hymn of praise, the Magnificat.