

COVID-19 TIGHTENING MEASURES 16TH MAY TO 13TH JUNE 2021

All Mass bookings for this Sunday 16 May have been cancelled. Parishioners will be required to re-book on 16 May at 3pm. All bookings must be done via MyCatholic.sg and no walk-ins are allowed. All check-ins must be done via TraceTogether app/token. Physical IDs must also be brought for verification

Also take note:

All physical ministry meetings are suspended. You are highly encouraged to conduct your meetings online.

Catechism sessions (including Home Cat) will be conducted by Zoom only.

Private prayer time and rosary devotions are suspended.

Columbarium will be closed.

Infant Baptism sessions are also cancelled.

Wedding services are capped at 50 persons.

Funeral services are capped at 20 persons.

DONATIONS TO CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Parishioners who wish to continue their weekly donations may consider sending your cheque favouring **Church of the Holy Family**.

Alternatively you may also send via PayNow. Please enter **T08CC4048E** Unique Entity Number (UEN) for "Church of The Holy Family" and in the reference, type **Mass Collection**.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA): AN INVITATION

An invitation to non-Catholics: are you searching for meaning in your life, searching for God? Have you been thinking of joining the Catholic Church? You are invited to come and see what the Catholic Church teaches through a process called the RCIA. Through this process, you are guided and cared for as you are gradually introduced to Catholic belief and way of life.

Calling baptised Catholics: help bring others to faith in Christ! Do you have friends you would like to introduce to the Catholic faith? Invite them to the RCIA in our parish. Live out your baptismal calling by serving as a sponsor in the RCIA to accompany and support others in their journey of faith. Make a difference in your own faith life and in the lives of others by registering as a sponsor. Training will be given.

The next RCIA journey begins on 2 June 2021. Registration forms for sponsors and inquirers are available in the parish office.

GIFT CONTRIBUTIONS

This weekend is the collection for the GIFT (Giving in Faith and Thankfulness) programme to build a more vibrant, evangelising and missionary Church. Sign up for a monthly pledge, the most sustainable source of funding for the archdiocese, to support its organisations and projects. Or give regularly via PayNow to 201231391K (include name and mobile no. or email). GIFT envelopes can be dropped into the collection box/bag. More info at catholicfoundation.sg



CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Mass Times

Weekdays:

6.30 pm (Mondays to Fridays)

9.00 am (Public Holidays)

Saturday Sunset Masses:

3.45pm & 5.30pm (English)

Mandarin Mass

8.00 pm (1st & 3rd Saturdays)

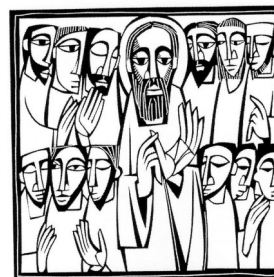
Sunday Masses:

7.45am, 9.30 & 11.30am &

5.30 pm

Weddings: Apply at Parish Office at least 1 year in advance

~~ All activities and events remain suspended ~~



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 16, 2021 – Year B

Sunday Missal Page No:

686

GOD'S CHOICE

The Trinity chooses us because God loves us even more than we love each other. After discerning who might be qualified, Peter and the rest left it to God to choose Matthias to replace Judas. Like Joseph and Matthias, we have known about Christ Jesus "beginning from the baptism of John until the day he was taken up from us." (Acts 1:22). We have become witnesses to the resurrection. This is what we celebrate together, and this is the content of the Gospel of Mark, which we read this year. We know all this and are ready to share the Spirit that breathes life. God will choose each of us according to the divine plan. Although Joseph wasn't chosen to join the Twelve, he got a different call. of Christ. After all, what would we have to lose?

Sunday Missal Readings for next weekend – 16 May

Ac 2:1-11 Gal 5:16-25 Jn 15:26-27, 16:12-15

MESSAGE FOR SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, 16TH MAY, YEAR B, 2021

The First Reading recounts the choosing of Matthias to fill the vacant place left by the treachery and death of Judas. This took place soon after the Ascension of Jesus but before the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Matthias (who may have been one of the 72 disciples mentioned by Luke in his gospel) then took over with the other Eleven the responsibility of an Apostle, which was to hand on, with accuracy and in its entirety, the message of Jesus' life, teaching, suffering, death and resurrection as the Incarnate Son of God. This is what we now call 'Tradition' with a capital 'T'. There were, of course, later traditions which became part of the life of the Church which did not have the status of Apostolic Tradition.

Perhaps the very heart of that Tradition is expressed in the Gospel reading. It is part of the long discourse at the Last Supper which is recorded for us in John. It begins with Jesus saying: "As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love." The word for 'love' throughout the passage in the original Greek is agape. This is a very special kind of love. It is not a grasping, clinging love. On the contrary, it is an outreaching love, unconditionally wanting the wellbeing of the other. This is the love which the Father extends to Jesus and it is the love that Jesus extends to us. And we are to 'stay', remain in that agape-love.

And how are we to stay in that love? We do it by keeping the commandments of Jesus, just as Jesus himself remains in his Father's love by keeping his Father's commandments. And what are these commandments? They are not the Commandments of the Old Testament; in fact, there is only one which is all-embracing. "This is my commandment: Agape-love one another as I have agape-loved you." The whole of the Gospel, the whole of the teaching of Jesus is there. If that was all we had of the Gospel, it would be enough.

And Jesus goes further: "No one has greater agape-love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." A degree of love which Jesus will soon show. And who are his friends? "You are my friends, if you do what I command you," that is, all those who unconditionally agape-love their brothers and sisters. And if that is the measure of Jesus' love for us, it is also to be the measure of our love for others. If we all kept this commandment, our world would be transformed! We would become a world of people who spent their lives caring for each other's needs.

But there is another definition of Jesus' friends. "I have called you friends because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father." And the most precious thing he has told us is that central command of agape-love. To have heard that message is a huge privilege but also a huge responsibility. Because it is a message that the whole world needs to hear. As Jesus put it himself: "By this will all know that you are my followers, that you have agape-love for one another." This is to be the distinctive mark of our communities. Would it describe mine?

This is the message that Matthias and his fellow-Apostles inherited and which they passed on. It is for us to spread the same message and it is done most effectively not

by words but by the witness of our interacting life together.

Jesus continues his prayer for his disciples. He prays for their continued loyalty to the gospel message and for unity among them. He has kept them true to his name. One was lost, although that was foreseen from all time.

They have accepted the message of Jesus and, because of that, they will be hated by the world as Jesus himself was hated. Because, like Jesus, they do not identify with the world and its values and priorities.

At the same time, Jesus makes it very clear that he is not asking that they be removed from the world's environment, only that they be protected from its evil influences. It is only by being in the world that they will be able to communicate the Gospel message. Armed with truth, with the integrity of Jesus himself, he is sending them into the midst of the world. That is where they are to do their work. They were, as he said elsewhere, to be "the salt of the earth" and the "yeast in the dough".

Jesus prays that they be consecrated in truth, the truth of God himself. This truth does not consist of a set of dogmas. Rather it consists in the living out lives of perfect integrity and wholeness, in perfect harmony with the will of the Father and the Way of Jesus and dedicated to bringing that truthfulness and integrity to the world. They do this by living lives of love, a love expressed in service to the well-being of all. They have the full backing of Jesus: "I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth."

Let us then pray today:

- ◇ *for the unity among us which Jesus prayed for in his disciples*
- ◇ *that we may be ready for the hostility and the indifference of the world*
- ◇ *that we may realise that, if we want to give witness to the Gospel, we must be fully inserted into the world by which we are surrounded. To be 'holy' is not to escape and distance ourselves physically from that world, which is what many are tempted to do or even think is the right thing to do.*
- ◇ *that we may be people of complete integrity, that we may be filled with truth and sincerity so that what people see in us is what we truly are and wish to be: disciples of Jesus.*

~ Living Space

MASS OFFERINGS—3 WAYS

Cash—drop your envelopes in the donation boxes in Church or at 2nd Level Pastoral Centre.

Cheque favouring Church of the Holy Family with the time, date of mass, intention and name(s)

Paynow T08CC4048E Unique Entity Number (UEN) for "Church of The Holy Family" and in the reference, type **Mass Offering**. Send a screenshot of the acknowledgement of transfer by email to chf.secretariat@catholic.org.sg with time, date of mass, intention and name(s).

For those who wish to have your Mass Offerings printed for the upcoming masses from Saturday to Friday, please submit them by dropping it into Mass Offering Box at the Office, Pastoral Centre Level 2 latest by Friday 12 noon.

Mass Offerings placed into the black boxes at the Exit of the Church during the week will only be updated once a week on the following Monday for upcoming masses from Saturday to Friday.