

Reflection: Stephen, the first martyr for Christianity – suffered a most violent death by stoning. There were no appointed executors: the blame of death is shared among the faceless crowd in a mob execution. Likewise, in Jesus' passion, many actors contributed to his death. It was as if the whole of humanity contributed to his crucifixion. But in the examples of Jesus at the Cross ("Father, they know not what they are doing."), Jesus praying at the Last Supper (Gospel), and Stephen's prayer before his death (1st Reading) – they blamed not their aggressors, but prayed for their pardon.

Entrance: 458 Alleluia Sing To Jesus

Entrance Ant.: *O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.*

Ordinaries: *Mass VIII (de Angelis)*

Psalm: *The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.*

Gospel Acc.: *I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!*

Offertory: 406 Three Days

Communion Ant.: *Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.*

Communion: **Ubi Caritas (Durufle)**
Recessional: 469 The King of Kings, Christ Jesus Reigns

Marian Anthem: 416 Regina Caeli

Conductor:

Cantor:
Organist:

On Leave:

Announcements

1. SPP CHOIR Annual Workshop & Retreat 2019

Our annual music retreat is on Wednesday, 1st May 2019.

9:30am – 5pm at CANA, Level 2, Waterloo Street.

We appreciate a contribution of \$20/person to help defray our costs for the event.

Register at: <http://bit.ly/sppcmay2019>

2. Rehearsal with Orchestra for Alex Wedding

Saturday, 15th June, 7:30pm

Please have your dinner after Mass then come to the choir pews.

The orchestra is formed by students from the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory, NUS.

3. Corpus Christi Procession

Saturday, 22nd June

Attire: Themes of White / Black

Candlelight procession around church compounds at the end of Mass



May 2019 Year C



STS. PETER & PAUL CHOIR

Understanding Eastertide

Easter starts with the climax of Easter Vigil closing Lent & Holy Week. The first eight days constitute the Octave of Easter and are celebrated as solemnities of the Lord. The Paschal Sequence "Victimae Paschali Laudes" is sung throughout the Octave of Easter.

Since 2000, the Second Sunday of Easter is also called Divine Mercy Sunday (instituted by Pope John Paul II). The solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated on the fortieth day of Eastertide. The nine days from that feast until the Saturday before Pentecost are days of preparation for the Holy Spirit (from which the Novena prayer draws its practice from).

Special Themes celebrated on the Sundays of Easter:

2nd Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday

3rd Sunday of Easter – Jubilate Sunday

4th Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday / Vocations Sunday

6th Sunday of Easter – Rogation Sunday (in preparation of the Ascension)

7th Sunday of Easter – World Communications Sunday

The sixth Sunday after Easter is traditionally known as "Rogation Sunday" because the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this upcoming week are known as Rogation Days preceding Ascension Thursday. "Rogation" comes from the Latin *rogatio* / *rogare* meaning "asking / to ask". On these days of Rogation, the practice of fasting and prayer are observed to ask for God's mercy and protection from danger – although this practice is little known in the post Vatican 2 calendar.

The egg is an ancient symbol of new life and rebirth. In Christianity it became associated with Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. The custom of the Easter egg originated in the early Christian community of Mesopotamia (a region between Tigris and Euphrates rivers including Iraq, south-east Turkey and parts of Syria), who stained eggs red in memory of the blood of Christ shed at his crucifixion. The Easter eggshell is a symbol of the empty tomb of Christ.

The Easter Bunny is a popular legendary fabled Easter gift-giving character analogous to Santa Claus in modern culture. Many Western communities follow the tradition of colouring hard-boiled eggs and giving baskets of candy.

Saturday, 4th May: 3rd Sunday of Easter

Reflection: The theme of relentlessly praising God: "It is the Lord!". Some may argue that the apostles are fearless because they themselves have little obligation – living mendicant lives, hence death comes with lesser liability than the modern-day career person. Persecution comes in various forms today – martyrdom may be a rare occurrence. Consider the humiliation that the apostles suffered in being publicly chastised. We find ourselves in similar situations also: like how Christ was humiliated at his Passion. Christ continues to be present for us, like the bookends of Peter's mission – catching fish.

Entrance: 414 This Joyful Eastertide

Entrance Ant.: *Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.*

Ordinaries: *Mass VIII (de Angelis)*

Psalm: *I will praise you Lord, you have rescued me.*

Gospel Acc.: *Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.*

Offertory: 405 O Sons and Daughters

Communion Ant.: *The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.*

Communion: 407 At the Lamb's High Feast
Recessional: 428 Hail Thee Festival Day

Marian Anthem: 416 Regina Caeli

Conductor:

Cantor:
Organist:

On Leave:

Saturday, 11th May: 4th Sunday of Easter

Reflection: The 1st reading gives us a glimpse of the frustration and disappointments that Paul & Barnabas had to endure in their mission. The politics in religion continue to plague us even today. Different views from various camps – all seemingly reasonable, rational perspectives, that sound like "goodness". "The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me." (Gospel). The Lord leads the sheepfold. Forming our consciousness (CCC #1783) according to the collective wisdom of the Church, discernment & prayer enables us to listen better to the Shepherd.

Entrance: 414 This Joyful Eastertide

Entrance Ant.: *The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.*

Ordinaries: *Mass VIII (de Angelis)*

Psalm: *We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

Gospel Acc.: *I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me.*

Offertory: 405 O Sons and Daughters

Communion Ant.: *The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.*

Communion: The Lord's My Shepherd (Bro. James Air)
Recessional: 438 Come Down O Love Divine

Marian Anthem: 416 Regina Caeli

Conductor:

Cantor:
Organist:

On Leave:

Saturday, 18th May: 5th Sunday of Easter

Reflection: "At each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord..." (1st reading) Early church growing was unstable and suffered persecution. Leaders in various communities had many difficulties – externally in the environment, as well as internally within themselves. In the example of Jesus, through his prayer & fasting, and through the way He has lived his life: 'love one another just as I have loved you. By this everyone will know you are my disciples' May these passages counsel you as a modern-day leader of your faith.

Entrance: 458 Alleluia Sing to Jesus

Entrance Ant.: *O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.*

Ordinaries: *Mass VIII (de Angelis)*

Psalm: *I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.*

Gospel Acc.: *Jesus said: 'I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you.'*

Offertory: 406 Three Days

Communion Ant.: *I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.*

Communion: The Lord's My Shepherd (Bro. James Air)
Recessional: 438 Come Down O Love Divine

Marian Anthem: 416 Regina Caeli

Conductor:

Cantor:
Organist:

On Leave:

Saturday, 25th May: 6th Sunday of Easter

Reflection: The arguments & conflicting interpretations in the early church presented difficulties in knowing what was the right path for the early Christians. Jesus was not physically there to advise them. But the Holy Spirit was gifted as a helper by Jesus to the church communities. The Holy Spirit gives wisdom and is the counsel of the Church. By the grace of God (through the Holy Spirit), resolutions conclude passionate arguments, belief overcomes doubt, confidence overcomes fear. "Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. I anyone loves me he will keep my word, and we shall come to him."

Entrance: 414 This Joyful Eastertide

Entrance Ant.: *Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.*

Ordinaries: *Mass VIII (de Angelis)*

Psalm: *Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

Gospel Acc.: *Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.' Alleluia!*

Offertory: 406 Three Days

Communion Ant.: *If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.*

Communion: The Lord's My Shepherd (Bro James Air)
Recessional: 438 Come Down O Love Divine
Marian Anthem: 416 Regina Caeli

Conductor:

Cantor:
Organist:

On Leave: