

Keeping the words of Jesus

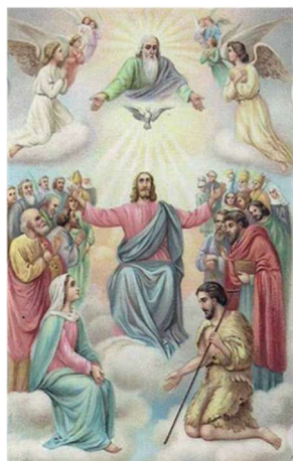
Jesus said to His disciples, "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me." (John 14:23-24)

What are Jesus' words that we must keep? When we think of Jesus' words, we may think that these only pertain to the words He spoke that were recorded in the Gospels. However, if we consider that Jesus said that His words are not His but that of the Father who sent Him; then we can begin to understand that Jesus' words also include the word of God in all of scripture. Therefore, Jesus' words are not only His moral teachings and commandments in the Gospels, but also includes the messages of God to the people given through the prophets and the commandments of the Old Testament.

If we love Jesus, then we will keep His words; here, "keeping" means not only knowing, but living by His words. We cannot select and keep only the ones that we like, nor can we interpret Jesus' moral teachings and the commandments in such a way that suits us.

The word of God is the objective truth; it does not change, because "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) Some people say that the commandments in scripture are not universal; i.e., they don't apply to all peoples in the world, nor do they apply to the world today because the values of the world have changed.

However, Jesus' words, the word of God has not lost its significance, even in today's world.



St. Ambrose, in his writings, consistently emphasized that Jesus is not just the speaker of truth, but that He is Truth itself. It might be hard to imagine any person as Truth itself, even Jesus. However, the testimony of a man who died, faced the Truth and was given the chance to come back to life can probably shed some light to what it means that Jesus is Truth itself.

A man had a massive heart attack and was pronounced clinically dead. His soul separated from his body and he saw all the doctors hovering over his body in the emergency room. In an instant, He was pulled into some place which he reckoned as standing before Jesus for judgment. But Jesus wasn't sitting behind a desk with a gavel. Rather, he saw a white light, not a blinding light that causes pain to the onlooker, but a beautiful light that made him see the whole truth. Right before his eyes he saw all the things he did in life, good and bad, big and small. Jesus was that light. Even on earth, Jesus was the light that moved sinners from the bottom of their hearts. Just looking at Jesus made them see the truth, the error of their ways, and the love of Christ which compelled them to true repentance.

The man saw Truth itself, the error of his ways, and the great love of Christ for him. He desired nothing more than to return to earth and to change his life. After seven minutes, the man came back to life in the emergency room. He lived to carry out the changes in his life once and for all. He had learned that loving Jesus is not just feeling or saying he loved Jesus, but that loving Jesus meant keeping His words. Lord Jesus, help us to keep your words.

耶穌聖名華人天主堂

THE HOLY NAME of Jesus CHINESE CATHOLIC MISSION

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每週公告 Weekly Bulletin

2025年五月二十五日 May 25, 2025

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will hold a Lector training on Sunday, May 25 after Mass. All current lectors and parishioners interested in becoming lectors, you are required to attend the training class.

Attention Chinese Cursillo members! The Ultreya meeting on Sunday, May 25 has been moved to the following Sunday, June 1.

Funeral Mass for Peter Lee has been arranged for May 29 at 10:00am in our church. Interment service will be at Greenlawn Cemetery at 1:00pm.

The date for our Spring Garage Sale has been changed from May 24 to May 31, the time is still from 8:00am to 2:00pm. Please check if you have clothes, household and gift items in good condition to donate. You may start bringing donated items any time before May 17. Please sign up with Daisy Tsui if you can help during the garage sale.



Our church will hold a week-long Eucharistic Renewal event from June 18 to June 24, 2025. Our invited guests include Most Reverend John Lee Juo-wang, Bishop Emeritus of the diocese of Tainan, Taiwan and Fr. Francis Ching of the Companions of the Cross based in Toronto, Canada, as well as Mr. Jianren Zhu from Los Angeles. Come, participate and make the most of that week with our special guests. They are coming to Atlanta especially for you, in order to inspire and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist!

Prayer List: Chu Waitat, Liu Kejiu, Ni Yufang, Lydia Chen, Stephen Jerez, Lu Shumi, David Wang, Chen Jianxin, Liang Chenjing and Xu Taicheng.

Mass Schedule	Confessions	Bible Study
Sundays 10:30 AM (Chinese)	Sundays 9:00-9:30 AM	Wednesdays 10:00 AM (Chinese)
Sundays 2:00 PM (English)	Tuesdays 2:00-3:00 PM	Mondays 6:00 PM (English)
	By Appointment	
Mondays 12:00 PM (English)		Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesdays 12:00 PM (English)	Anointing of the Sick	Sundays 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Wednesdays 12:00 PM (Chinese)	First Sundays after 10:30 AM Mass	Tuesdays 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Fridays 12:00 PM (English)		
First Friday 7:00 PM (English)		
First Saturday 10:00 AM (Chinese)		