

Dear Padre,

Why should I believe Jesus is God, the Messiah?

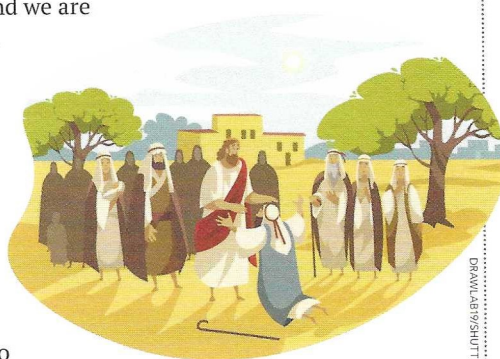
Jesus was a historical figure whose miracles and wise teachings were witnessed by other reliable historical figures—the apostles and other disciples. He demonstrated miraculous powers through physical healings, dislodging demons, and command over nature, such as walking on water and instantly calming a storm. Most importantly, reliable witnesses saw the risen Jesus in a glorified body after his death on the cross. Rather than deny the truth of what they saw and learned, they submitted to gruesome martyrdoms.

Our world needs a Messiah. Despite the philosophies humans have adopted throughout history, we find we are our own worst enemy. Our egoism and pride have led to conflict and inequalities, negligence and hurt. We try following worldly leaders who promise us more, but they can't rid us of the inner defect of our selfishness. Neither economic success nor military conquest bring lasting happiness. We long for more. We long to know the purpose of life, to live without dying. We long to know God.

Jesus is the Messiah we need. His teaching centers on God's love for us and the love among people as the binding force for human hearts. Jesus taught that God loves his creations so much that he forgives people even for the ultimate sin: crucifying Jesus. His plans for eternity are that we, too, shall have a resurrection in a perfected body.

The truths Jesus exemplified and taught resonate perfectly with the deepest desires of the human heart.

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DRAMA/ART/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

What is the secret of a happy life? Recognizing Jesus, but Jesus as the living God, not as a statue. Because it is not important to know that Jesus was great in history....what matters is the place I give him in my life, the place I give to Jesus in my heart.

ANGELUS, JUNE 29, 2020

Calendar

Monday

MAY 30

Easter Weekday

Acts 19:1–8

Jn 16:29–33

Tuesday

MAY 31

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Zep 3:14–18a or

Rom 12:9–16

Lk 1:39–56

Wednesday

JUNE 1

St. Justin, Martyr

Acts 20:28–38

Jn 17:11b–19

Thursday

JUNE 2

Easter Weekday

Acts 22:30; 23:6–11

Jn 17:20–26

Friday

JUNE 3

St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

Acts 25:13b–21

Jn 21:15–19

Saturday

JUNE 4

Easter Weekday

Acts 28:16–20,

30–31

Jn 21:20–25

Sunday

JUNE 5

Pentecost

Acts 2:1–11

1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13

or Rom 8:8–17

Jn 20:19–23 or

Jn 14:15–16, 23b–26