

The Anglican Church in THE DIOCESE OF BARBADOS

WHY SUNDAY?

Why Sunday is special in the eyes of the Church?

Sunday is special to the Church because it commemorates our Lord's resurrection. Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the "First Day of the Week" according to the Scriptures. The day became very important to the disciples and the early Christians as they recalled this great event called the Resurrection.

Did the early church worship on Sundays?

Yes. On the first day of the week the early church met for worship. It was the day the community met to break bread. "On the first day of the week we came together to break bread" (Acts 20:7).

Is the Resurrection the only reason for us to speak about Sunday being so important?

No, the other important event which happened on Sunday, the first day of the week, was the Pentecost event. John 20:22; Acts 1:8.

Are there any other names by which it is called?

Yes; it is also known as the Lord's Day. Generally speaking, we believe that reference to the Lord's day in Revelation refers to Sunday. "On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard

behind me a loud voice like a trumpet" (Revelation 1:10)

Resolution 6 of the Lambeth Conference 1888 says:

*That from the time of our Lord's resurrection,
the first day of the week was observed by
Christians as a day of worship and rest, and
under the name of 'The Lord's Day'
gradually succeeded as the great weekly
festival of the Christian Church.*

Isn't the Sabbath the day to worship?

The New Testament never commands Christians to observe the Sabbath. One cannot point to any passage which says that Christians are to observe the Jewish Sabbath. When it does speak of worship it always mentions the 'first day' as the time when Christians assemble for worship and fellowship.

Did the Emperor Constantine changed Sabbath worship?

Constantine only made Sunday a legal holiday for the Christians who were already observing it as their holy day.

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