

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Genesis 2: 18-24.

God says that it is not good for man to be solitary, and he gives him a companion.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2: 9-11.

Jesus is truly our brother and he has shared everything with us.

Gospel: Mark 10: 2-16.

Jesus gives his teaching on the indissolubility of marriage and on the dignity of children.



Points for Reflection

From the whole history of salvation, we know that God loves us with an infinite and everlasting love. He will always keep on loving us, no matter how ungrateful we are to him.

Being God's love for us is the model and the strength of our love for him and for one another, we should try our best everyday to love God and one another with an unceasing love.

This makes us understand why God, through the teaching of Jesus, tells us that marriage is indissoluble. The basis of marriage is love between husband and wife. And if they are both Christ's disciples, they know that their mutual love is to conform to God's love for mankind and to Christ's love for his Church. Therefore, the unity, which springs out of their love, becomes as unbreakable as the love of God for us, as God's covenant with mankind, which has its highest expression in Christ's bond with his Church.

Of course, Christian spouses remain weak and sinful persons: their mutual love is bound to undergo moments of misunderstandings and difficulties. While striving for a life of self-giving

and generosity, they may now and then be tempted to egoism and selfishness. Yet, God's love for us, so resplendent in Jesus' life, death and resurrection, remains the model which Christian spouses are to keep vivid in their minds and their lives, a love which they are called to make visible to each other and to the children God has given them.

Nowadays, we are witnessing so many marriages ending in a divorce. As much as we sympathize with all the people concerned and are in no position to judge or condemn any one of them, let us today and every day pray for Christian spouses. May they find in God's love for them the inspiration and strength they need to overcome the difficulties that they may have to face to remain faithful to their mutual love. Let us also pray that all children may find in their parents the sign of God's love for them and for his family.

And let us all grow in love for God and one another: a love that knows no end.

October is Mission Month

"All the churches united for the conversion of the whole world"

Pope John II, Redemptoris Missio, No.84

"Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel" (1 Cor 9:16)

Preaching the Gospel is the primary duty of the Church. Consequently, every member of the Church has a duty to be a "witness" so as to spread the Good News. The celebration of World Mission Sunday was originally held only one Sunday in October. But beginning in the 1970s, to help every Catholic fulfill their mission in the Church, the whole month of October became Mission Month in many Dioceses and Communities. The experience made people realize that witnessing to the Gospel not only benefited non-Christians, but also became a powerful instrument in renewing the Faith of those who were proclaiming the Gospel.

Sacred Heart Church Sai Kung (E-mail: sacredheart@netvigator.com)	
Phone: Office hours: 27922967 (with answering machine) After office hours: 27920181 Fax: 27922967	Eucharistic Celebrations: Sundays: 9.00 am (English) 7.45 am (Chinese) 10.30 am (Chinese) Anticipated Sunday Masses Saturdays: 6.00 pm (English) 7.30 pm (Chinese) Public holidays: 8.00 am (Chinese) Weekdays: 7.00 am (Chinese)
Parish Priest: Fr Carlo Tei carlotei@gmail.com Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung (helping on Sundays)	
Secretary: Miss Tse Choi Ping Office hours: Mon-Fridays: 9.00am – 1.00pm; 2.00pm – 5.30pm Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon	Confessions: Sundays before Mass and during the 7.45 am Mass Weekdays on call
Parish Council Chairlady: Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays: 2.30 pm 1 st Thursday of the month: 8.00 pm

First Week of Mission Month PRAYER

PRAYER is the source of every missionary undertaking, and it is also a guarantee that each undertaking is true "evangelization" and not just proselytizing.

Through prayer and meditation we draw our strength from the very source of every proclamation of the Gospel message, and we become good instruments in the hands of God.

The Pope says, "Among the forms of sharing, first place goes to spiritual cooperation through prayer, sacrifice and the witness of Christian life. Prayer should accompany the journey of missionaries so that the proclamation of the word will be effective through God's grace. In his letters, St. Paul often asks the faithful to pray for him so that he might proclaim the Gospel with confidence and conviction". (*Redemptoris Missio*, No.78)

A few ideas for practicing during the week:

1. During the week, each Parish of the Deanery holds a EUCHARISTIC ADORATION to pray for the missions. In this way we will also help our parishioners to understand the importance of prayer for "Evangelization".

OR

On the First of October, when we celebrate the Feast of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, Patroness of Missions, hold a Eucharistic Adoration in one of the Parishes and invite all Catholics of the Deanery.

2. Every day of the week, say the Rosary, using the special Missionary Rosary beads, to remind us that we pray for the whole world. (The Missionary Rosary beads are of different colours, each representing a different continent.)
3. Prayers for special intentions: For VOCATIONS
"And I heard the voice of the Lord saying: *Whom shall I send? And who shall go for us? And I said: Lord, here am I, send me*". (Is 6:8)

The command of the Lord :

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field". (Mt 9:37-38)

Not only for our Diocese, but for the universal mission of the Church: "ad gentes". (i.e. Those who do not yet know Christ).

