

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-7.

The mysterious Suffering Servant of God, who prefigures Jesus, frees all people by facing his enemies without flinching.

Second Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11.

The glory of Jesus comes from the total emptying of self. His passion and death are his exaltation.

Gospel (Shorter form): Matthew 27: 11-54:

This is Matthew's account of the sufferings and death of Christ.



Points for Reflection

The feast of the Lord's Passion, more commonly known as Palm Sunday, jumpstarts our celebration of Holy Week. What drives Jesus to face danger and death in Jerusalem is the same passion that has fueled the three years of his public ministry. It arises from his love for the Father and his fellow human beings. The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews quotes Jesus as saying: *"Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in. Behold, I come to do your will"* (10: 8-9).

His passion to do the will of the Father animates the very life of Jesus. It is based on an inner decision, a heart-felt desire rather than a compulsion imposed by outside forces. Found at the Temple after a search of three days, the Child Jesus tells Joseph and Mary: *"Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"* (Lk 2: 49).

Doing the Father's will is something that Jesus truly relishes and delights in: *"My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work"* (Jn 4: 34). Jesus strives to be consistent in his passion to do the will of the Father. It brings him to the Mount of Olives where he pleads with the Father before finally yielding to his will: *"Not my will but yours be done"* (Lk 22: 42). Jesus is brought even further by his passion. On Calvary, before he breathes his last, he utters the words of a man of peace who has accomplished his mission: *"It is finished!"* (Jn 19: 30).

As we contemplate the passion and death of Jesus, it is necessary to remember that Jesus is on Calvary not because of the cruelty of evil men. What leads Jesus to take the decisive trek to Jerusalem and beyond is his burning love for his Father, which is best expressed by the love Jesus bestows on us by his death on the cross.

May we continue to follow Jesus in this journey of loving God and neighbour, with the same passion, in this life and beyond.

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 (E-mail: carlotei@i-cable.com ; carlotei@gmail.com) Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung (helping on Sundays)	Confessions: Sundays before Mass and during the 7.45 am Mass Weekdays on call
Secretary: Miss Tse Choi Ping Office hours: Mon-Fridays: 9.00am – 1.00pm; 2.00pm – 5.30pm Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays: 2.30 pm 1 st Thursday of the month: 8.00 pm
Parish Council Chairlady: Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322	

Kids' Corner

Colour the picture of Jesus below.



Announcement

The Music Ministry for the Saturday evening English mass is currently looking for volunteers to come and play guitar (or keyboard) for mass. We meet at the church for rehearsal every Saturday evening at 5 pm. Mass begins at 6 pm. Anyone interested in helping us out please contact Stephen Cooley at 6031 7794. Thank you.