

## This Week's Readings

**First Reading: Isaiah. 40: 1-5, 9-11.**

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all people shall see it.

**Second Reading: Titus 2: 11-14.3: 4-7.**

Jesus Christ saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

**Gospel: Luke 3; 15-16, 21-22.**

When Jesus had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened.



## Points for Reflection

1. **Today, the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord is another Epiphany**, a feast of a further manifestation of our Lord.

We see Jesus as a grown man who is baptized by John in the River Jordan. This fact shows that **he was taking upon himself the sins of the whole world and the responsibility of making reparation for them even though he was perfectly innocent of sin.**

Our Lord's baptism summed up just how he would accomplish the redemption of the world. His baptism was a self-abasement, a humiliation. But from the waters of the Jordan he emerged as a glorified Saviour.

Moreover, the words of God the Father make the epiphany of Jesus all the more shining: *"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased"*. **In Jesus we see the idea of the Suffering Servant of God contained in the Old Testament realized in its fullest sense. Jesus would, indeed, suffer for the sins of the people, all people.**

We know that Jesus took away sin through his obedient and loving acceptance of his suffering and death on the Cross. We also know that the favour he won from God was clearly shown by his glorious resurrection from the dead.

2. **Today's feast**, then, manifests that Jesus came to be our Saviour through his obedient and loving acceptance of suffering. But it **also manifests what our lives ought to be as followers of Christ.**

Our Christian life began with our baptism. It, too, was a self-abasement, a humiliation. But we emerged from the waters of baptism as new people with a new life, the life of God's favour, the life of the children of God. This life means generosity and self-sacrifice.

But all of our sacrifices and acts of generosity are worth it, for they will lead us to the fullness of life, which is our hope and expectation.

**Sacred Heart Church Sai Kung (E-mail: [sacredheart@netvigator.com](mailto:sacredheart@netvigator.com))**

<b>Phone:</b> Office hours: 27922967 (with answering machine) After office hours: 27920181 Fax: 27922967	<b>Eucharistic Celebrations:</b> Sundays: 9 am (English) 7.45 am (Chinese) 10.30 am (Chinese)
<b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Carlo Tei (E-mail: <a href="mailto:carlotei@gmail.com">carlotei@gmail.com</a> ) Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Fr Augustine Zaw, Sr Mary Leung (helping on Sundays)	Anticipated Sunday Mass Saturdays: 6.00 pm (English) 7.30 pm (Chinese) Public holidays: 8.00 am (Chinese) Weekdays: 7.00 am (Chinese)
<b>Secretary:</b> Miss Tse Choi Ping <b>Office hours:</b> Mon-Fridays: 9.00am – 1.00pm; 2.00pm – 6.00pm Saturdays: 10.00am – 12 noon Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon	<b>Confessions:</b> Sundays before Mass; Weekdays on call
<b>Parish Council</b> <b>Chairlady:</b> Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322	<b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:</b> Thursdays: 2.30 pm 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month 8.00 pm

**Kids' Corner**

Colour the picture below based on today's Gospel reading.

