

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Exodus 24: 3-8.

The blood of a sacrifice sealed the covenant which God made with his people.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11-15.

Here we have the description of the wonderful sacrifice which Jesus has made on our own behalf.

Gospel: Mark 14:12-16, 22-26.

At the Last Supper Jesus gives us the New Covenant sealed with his blood.



Points for Reflection

1. **On Mount Sinai God entered into a relationship with the people of Israel.** He would be their God; they would be his people and keep his commandments. Moses acted as mediator between God and the people. Animals were sacrificed and offered to God. Animal blood was taken, and some given to God by pouring it on the altar, and some given to the people by it being cast towards them. God and the people were thus shown being in communion. This ceremony, however, was only a temporary substitute for the reality to come.
2. **On Calvary God entered into a new and lasting relationship with his people – us.** He is our God; we his people. This time it was the God-Man, Jesus, who acted as mediator. Christ offered a perfect sacrifice to his Father – himself. By pouring out his life's blood he united us with God. His blood cemented the relationship forever.
3. **The sacrifice of Jesus is made sacramentally present to all generations in the Eucharistic celebration.** By repeating what Jesus did during the Last Supper, the Church not only commemorates his sacrifice, but it makes it present again and again until the end of time. *"Do this in memory of me!"* Jesus told his disciples. What did he do? He anticipated the sacrifice he was going to offer on the following day on Calvary. Now, during Mass, we re-enact this sacrifice. The whole value of the first Eucharistic celebration, performed by Jesus and the Apostles, depended on the sacrifice Jesus would offer to his Father on the following day, Good Friday. The whole value of our Eucharistic celebrations now depends on the same sacrifice offered by Jesus on the Cross. However, since now it is the whole Church who has to re-enact what Jesus did, and participate in it, the true value of our Masses depends also on our interior sacrifice: on our own disposition and determination to give our lives, to shed our blood for our brethren, to spend our lives for others as Jesus did.

In order to participate in the sacrifice of Jesus and thus share divine life, it is not enough to perform a ceremony: to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion. Besides this, it is also necessary to live unceasingly in us what the Eucharistic liturgy intends to signify and enable us to do, namely: the giving of our lives and the shedding of our blood out of love for God and our brethren as Jesus did, and by the strength of the Holy Spirit who has been poured into our hearts. Each one of us must become a living sacrifice pleasing to God.

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)
Parish Priest:	Fr Carlo Tei carlotei@gmail.com Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung (helping on Sundays)	Anticipated Sunday Masses Saturdays: 6.00 pm (English) 7.30 pm (Chinese) Public holidays: 8.00 am (Chinese) Weekdays: 7.00 am (Chinese)
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		Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Chairlady:	Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322	Thursdays: 2.30 pm 1 st Thursday of the month: 8.00 pm

Kids' Corner

Colour the picture below.

