

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Hoseah 11: 3-4, 8-9.

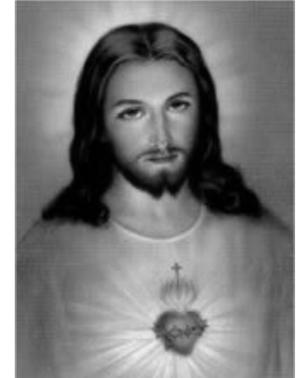
No matter how much they anger him, God will never stop loving his faithless people.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3: 8-12, 14-19.

The love of Christ is beyond our understanding.

Gospel: John 19: 31-37.

Jesus gives his life for us.



Points for Reflection

Today is our Parish Feast Day, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

It is a time of celebration, deepening friendships and parish unity; a time of our determination to be active members of this parish by imitating our Patron, the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

As disciples of Jesus, we, too, like St Paul, are to preach "*the unsearchable riches of Christ to the Gentiles*". But in order to be able to preach it, it is more than natural that we should know it first. Today's Liturgy is meant to help us stop a moment and meditate once more on God's infinite love for us, which is revealed in Jesus Christ his Son; to help us rejoice in it and announce it to the world, to the people we meet in our everyday life.

From today's **First Reading** we know that God's love for us is **self-forgetting**. We may forget him; he, however, will never forget us. He has always a Father's heart and a Father's love for us. From the **Second Reading** we know that God's love is **boundless**: it reaches all men and women, and exceeds all our expectations and

dreams. How easily and how often we forget this! From the Second Reading and the **Gospel** we know that God's love **has been revealed in Jesus Christ**: this is today's central theme. God so loved the world as to send his Son. And in his Son, who became a Man, we see, above all, the gratuitous initiative of God's love. Salvation is the fruit of God's free love for us. What moves God to save us is his love, which is beyond all our understanding and merits.

But in Jesus we see also **how we should respond to God's love**. In Jesus' obedience to the Father unto death, we see that salvation was brought about not only through the initiative of God, but through the free and loving cooperation of the Man Jesus with God's plan. Jesus' obedience to the Father is also a gift bestowed on us, a gift through which God comes so close to us as to share his life with us and make us his children; we are inspired and guided by the same Spirit of Love, enabled to address God as our Father, to share in Jesus' filial obedience to the Father, to imitate him in his response to God's love and to become also God's associates in carrying out his plan of salvation for mankind, in

revealing to all people we meet his eternal love working our salvation in Jesus Christ.

In a world, in which selfishness and greed still seem to have the upper hand, the leaders of all nations, our society, our families and children, our parish communities, more than ever, need to be told the good news that God is Love, and that no true and lasting happiness can ever be achieved unless we allow ourselves to be filled with this love and are willing to share it with one another.

This is the mission entrusted to every parish community: by our mutual love (understanding,

respect, compassion, forgiveness, encouragement, help and support), we should become the visible and most credible sign of God's infinite, merciful, faithful and liberating love for us.

This mission is not beyond our strength, if we keep the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our Model and Patron, always before us, and let his Spirit of Love enlighten and guide us.

Happy Parish Feast Day to each and every one of you!

--Fr Carlo Tei, P.P.

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 Chairlady: Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays: 2.30 pm 1 st Thursday of the month: 8.00 pm

Kids' Corner

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

