

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 45-46.

The leper must live as an outcast from the community, because he is contagious and regarded as religiously unworthy.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 31-11-1.

Paul urges us to be considerate of the feelings of others.

Gospel: Mark 1: 40-45.

Jesus cures a leper.



Points for Reflection

1. **Our world knows many outcasts:** the poorest, the illiterate, the alcoholic, the drug addicted, the neurotic, the handicapped, the immigrants, those afflicted with AIDS, the lonely and all the unwanted. We do everything to avoid them. Our society excludes those whose culture or way of life is different. Even we, the Church, tend to be exclusive, at the risk of profaning the name of God and betraying our Christian faith.
2. **Today's Gospel tells us that Jesus cured a leper and, by doing so, he restored him to his original dignity and freedom, and to the world to which he belonged.** Thus the man could enjoy life again, as well as work, company, family and friends. This is, indeed, what the kingdom of God, inaugurated by Jesus, means: destruction of all barriers that keep men segregated from one another and restoration of men to a fellowship of brotherhood, justice and love.
3. **In God's kingdom we are all sinners who have been restored to God's favour by Jesus.** We belong to it on one claim alone: that of people restored to friendship with God and to human fellowship and brotherhood through Jesus' mercy.
4. **Therefore, as Christians, we, too, like Jesus, are called to contribute to the spreading of God's kingdom by trying our very best to gradually destroy all the barriers we have raised among one another.** We are to welcome all people into our hearts and lives, irrespective of whatever differences they have with us, because we are all loved by the same God. His creating and saving love, in which we share, makes us all brothers and sisters, and calls upon us to welcome and love one another. All failures on our part to do that would make a mockery of God's name and of our Christian faith.

Sacred Heart Church Sai Kung (E-mail: sacredheart@netvigator.com)	
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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, Mark 1: 40-45

