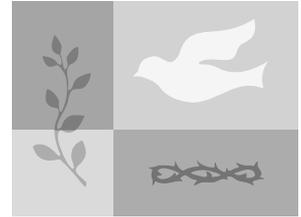


## This Week's Readings

### First Reading: Acts 4: 32-35.

The first community of believers, though poor, is noted for its attitude of sharing. By the power of Jesus' resurrection, the followers of Christ are now of one heart and mind, sensitive to those in need.



### Second Reading: 1 John 5: 1-6.

A believer who holds that he or she is loved by God is inspired to love God in return. To keep God's commandments is a joy and not a burden.

### Gospel: John 20: 20-29.

Jesus comes and stands among the apostles; they see the Lord. And Jesus says: *"Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe"*.

## Points for Reflection

1. **Today's Gospel tells the story of Thomas**, who in his grief, unbelief, and sense of failure, refuses to believe in the news of Jesus' resurrection, but in the end, when he sees the Risen Jesus, confesses him as his *"Lord and God"*.

Thomas is a representative figure who brings this story into the lap of Jesus' disciples of all times and places. We, too, sometimes feel like Thomas – our faith is not strong enough to withstand the onslaught of suffering, death, and evil in the world. Like Thomas, we would like to see clear signs of Jesus' victory over death and corruption and of God's presence in the world and in our lives.

May the Lord, as he did with Thomas, open also our eyes to the power of the resurrection and transform our doubts and fears into confident faith, fearless hope and boundless joy.

2. This Octave Day of Easter is also **Divine Mercy Sunday**. Promoted by Sister Faustina Kowalska, whom Pope John Paul II canonized on 30 April 2000, the devotion to the Divine Mercy is a perennial invitation for us to face, with confidence in divine goodness, the difficulties and trials of the present and the future.

The Risen Jesus, bearing the marks of human cruelty on his body, declares to the first disciples and to us that it is **mercy** that should characterize Christians. Forgiven by divine mercy, the Church must be a merciful and forgiving community.

Jesus shows us that merciful forgiveness is not weakness but the benevolence of the strong and the victorious!

-- Fr Carlo Tei

<b>Sacred Heart Church Sai Kung (E-mail: <a href="mailto:sacredheart@netvigator.com">sacredheart@netvigator.com</a>)</b>	
<b>Phone:</b> Office hours: 27922967 (with answering machine) After office hours: 27920181 Fax: 27922967	<b>Eucharistic Celebrations:</b> Sundays: 9.00 am (English) 7.45 am (Chinese) 10.30 am (Chinese)
<b>Parish Priest: Fr Carlo Tei</b> <a href="mailto:carlotei@gmail.com">carlotei@gmail.com</a>  <b>Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung</b> (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)
<b>Secretary: Miss Tse Choi Ping</b> <b>Office hours:</b> Mon-Fridays: 9.00am – 1.00pm; 2.00pm – 5.30pm Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon	<b>Confessions:</b> Sundays before Mass and during the 7.45 am Mass Weekdays on call
<b>Parish Council</b> <b>Chairlady: Miss Candy Chan</b> 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

