

## This Week's Readings

### First Reading: Isaiah 55: 6-9.

We are told to seek God, no matter how far from him we have gone: his pity and forgiveness will always come to meet us.

### Second Reading: Philippians 1: 20-24.

Paul declares his life to be centred in Christ and given for his fellow men.

### Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16.

Jesus uses a parable to describe God's compassion and our tendency to censure it.



## Points for Reflection

**Isaiah (First Reading)** sings of God's compassion. Unlike us, God is always forgiving, and Isaiah is awed by the significance of this.

In **today's parable of the landlord**, who stands for God, Jesus draws a contrast similar to that of Isaiah. God's compassion for the labourers quite consciously passes beyond the fact that some deserve more reward than others. The wage for those who worked one hour would be insufficient for them to feed their families. They are all rewarded equally, so all can be saved from hunger. Jesus says that the men who worked longest grumbled about an unfair deal. But, he asks, are we going to censure God because his actions don't conform to our rigid and self-rewarding standards?

**Paul (Second Reading)** shows us that Christ bridges the gap between God's ways and man's. Jesus' own way of living and actions are God's ways expressed in a man. Paul loved Jesus and centred his life on him. This enabled him to go on living for the sake of his fellow men.

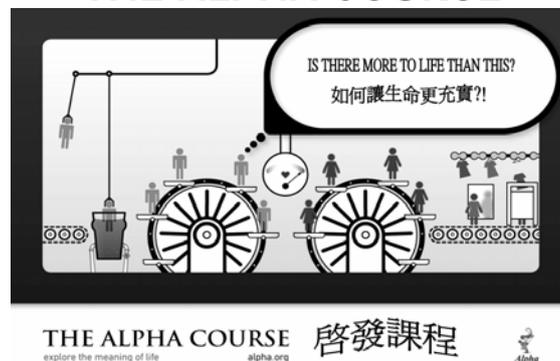
If our lives are centred on Christ, we, too, can offer our brothers and sisters in need the compassion, understanding and care which far transcend mere legal justice.

| <b>Sacred Heart Church Sai Kung</b> ( <i>E-mail: sacredheart@netvigator.com</i> )  |   |
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| <b>Phone:</b> Office hours: 27922967<br>(with answering machine)<br>After office hours: 27920181<br>Fax: 27922967  | <b>Eucharistic Celebrations:</b><br>Sundays: 9.00 am (English)<br>7.45 am (Chinese)<br>10.30 am (Chinese)   |
| <b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Carlo Tei ( <i>E-mail: carlottei@i-cable.com; carlottei@gmail.com</i> )<br>Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung, (helping on Sundays) | Anticipated Sunday Masses<br>Saturdays: 6.00 pm (English)<br>7.30 pm (Chinese)<br>Public holidays: 8.00 am (Chinese)<br>Weekdays: 7.00 am (Chinese) |
| <b>Secretary:</b> Miss Tse Choi Ping<br><b>Office hours:</b> Mon-Fridays: 9.00am – 1.00pm; 2.00pm – 5.30pm<br>Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon                    | <b>Confessions:</b><br>Sundays before Mass and during the 7.45 am Mass<br>Weekdays on call  |
| <b>Parish Council Chairlady:</b> Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322   | <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:</b><br>Thursdays: 2.30 pm<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month: 8.00 pm                                  |

## Announcement

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church**  
is sponsoring

### THE ALPHA COURSE



**Tuesday, 23 Sept 2008, 7:30-9:45pm**

At "In Sai" Café & Bar

Waterfront Park, near the Pier, Sai Kung

**It's not too late to register!**

**Please Contact:** [sacredheart.hk@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheart.hk@gmail.com)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

To register, speak to Anna Boon at the back of the Church after mass, or ring...

Anna: 6492-0590 or Carla: 9861-0453 or Tel: 2792-2967 (for Cantonese)

Come and join us for 12 weekly sessions, for dinner, a video and chat: to explore the meaning of life....