

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10.

How beautiful are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing salvation!

Second Reading: Romans 10: 9-18.

How can they believe unless they have heard of him? And how can they hear unless there is someone to preach?

Gospel: Matthew 28: 16-20.

Go and make disciples of all the nations.



Points for Reflection

Today we celebrate the feast of St Joseph Freinademetz, missionary in China for 29 years.

Born in Northern Italy in 1852, at the age of 23 he was ordained a priest for his diocese of Bressanone. However, feeling called to be a missionary, after only two years of pastoral ministry in his diocese, he joined the "Society of the Divine Word" and just one year later, in 1879, he set out for China. He spent the first two years here in Sai Kung and in Lantao Island, and the remaining twenty seven years in the South of the Shantung Province, where he dedicated his life to the work of evangelization and to the building up of Christian communities.

"Love is the only language everyone understands". These are the words that inspired and characterized his life as a missionary. These words should also inspire all of us in our determination to be true to our Christian and missionary call.

1. **First of all, we take the opportunity to thank God once again for sending missionaries to China.** All of them spent their lives to bring the message of salvation to many Chinese people. Some of them even died martyrs for the sake of our Lord who sent them *"to make disciples of all the nations"*.

2. **We are well aware that so many people in the world are still waiting for Christians to proclaim to them the Good News of salvation:** *"How can they hear unless there is someone to preach?"*
3. **We are also aware that the duty of the proclamation of the Gospel belongs in a very special way to those who are officially dedicated to missionary work. Yet, it affects all Christ's disciples.**
4. **We know that what makes us missionaries is above all the witness we give.** Wherever we are and whatever we do in our private, family or social lives, we are called to be witnesses to Christ's love for mankind. *"Love is the only language everyone understands"*. The most convincing and effective way of proclaiming the Gospel to the people we meet is by reliving in ourselves the infinite love of God, which was manifested to us in Jesus Christ and through the examples of the many missionaries in the history of the Church.

May St Joseph Freinademetz obtain from God all the graces of light and strength we need to proclaim the Gospel to the people of Hong Kong by witnessing to Jesus' merciful and saving love in our daily lives.

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 am (English) 7.45 am (Chinese) 10.30 am (Chinese)
Parish Priest: Fr Carlo Tei (<i>E-mail: carlotei@gmail.com</i>) Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Fr Augustine Zaw, Sr Mary Leung (helping on Sundays)	Anticipated Sunday Mass 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 – 6.00pm Saturdays: 10.00am – 12 noon Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon	Confessions: Sundays before 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

St Joseph Freinademetz, Missionary in China

