

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-7.

God's servant loyally carries out his mission despite the suffering it brings him.

Second Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11.

Jesus, says Paul, is the divine servant who accepted our human condition and whom God raised from the dead.

Gospel: Mark 15: 1-39 (*Shorter Form*)

Mark's account of the suffering and death of Jesus



Points for Reflection

This is Holy Week, the high point of our liturgical year. And yet, we have mixed feelings as we begin the celebration:

- We are indeed part of the cheerful crowd, amazed at what Jesus has done for the poor, the sinners, the sick and those awaiting deliverance. His message about God and his kingdom of love, justice and peace has generated in our hearts infinite hope.
- But we are also part of the drama that is about to unfold, the drama of a Prophet, the Son of God, who is going to be rejected, denied, condemned and crucified. How can such wonderful hope end in the scandal of Calvary?

We know the story all too well: it has been called "the greatest story ever told".

But this time, unlike so many stories, the hero is no superman. He is so truly human that his final words are the most dramatic cry ever heard: *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"* So truly human and yet so truly divine: *"Truly this man was God's Son!"* It is God who lies on the cross and shares the tears and dereliction of all those who suffer.

Now we can understand how this day became Passion Sunday: it tells us the story of a passionate God, embracing suffering out of love for humankind: *"God so loved the world as to send his only Son"*.

All along this very special week, let us remember that it is not suffering as such that saves the world, be it even the suffering of Jesus. It is the passionate love of God for the world, love incarnate and made manifest in Jesus that alone can account for our salvation.

Sacred Heart Church Sai Kung (<i>E-mail:</i> 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

Announcement

**There will be no English Anticipated Sunday Mass on Saturday 11 April
(Easter Vigil)**

Schedule of English Masses during Holy Week and Easter

5 April (Sun)	9:00am	Palm Sunday
9 April (Thur)	8:00pm	Holy Thursday–The Lord's Supper (<i>Bilingual</i>)
10 April (Fri)	5:00pm	Good Friday–The Lord's Passion
12 April (Sun)	9:00am	Easter Sunday

