
This Week's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 58: 7-10.

God promises the people that if they show concern for others, especially the poor, then their light will be as the dawn. It will be a new day for others.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5.

Paul reminds the people of Corinth of his basic message about Christ crucified. It is a message that is backed by the Spirit. Thus, the faith engendered is not according to human wisdom but rests on the power of God.

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-16.

Jesus calls his disciples the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Points for Reflection

In today's Gospel Jesus calls his disciples the "salt of the earth and the light of the world".

1. By these words, Jesus, first of all, wants to point out that **his disciples do not exist for themselves, but for others**. As salt exists in order to make food tasty, and light in order to shine, so, according to Jesus' mind, his disciples exist for others. Being his disciples means above all existing for the world.
 - **He was a man who gave light** to help people walk along the true path, by revealing in himself God's loving care for mankind.
2. But how do we achieve this purpose? By being **two things in life: salt and light**. This means that we, as Christians, are called to be to the people around us what salt is to food and light is to life. We are called to make our lives meaningful for others, by showing, by word and example, the way to the kingdom of God to everyone around us, especially to those who are not yet Christ's disciples.

We have to take leaf from Christ's life:

 - **He was a man who gave flavour** to the life of those he met; he made life meaningful for them.
3. **Jesus' example will help us, too, to bring a taste of goodness and the light of love into the lives of those we meet.** Then, and only then, will the Gospel come alive and the true face of God the Father be revealed to mankind. Therefore, *it is by sharing bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless, clothing the naked – needs which are very much with us today – that our light shall break forth like the dawn*, as Isaiah tells us in today's **First Reading**. **It is mainly through our good works that we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world, because it is by seeing our good works that the people around us will be able to see our heavenly Father.**

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Parish Priest: Fr Carlo Tei (E-mail: carlotei@gmail.com) Fr Sergio Ticozzi (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 – 6.00 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

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS BENEDICT XVI
FOR THE NINETEENTH WORLD DAY OF THE SICK
(11 February 2011)

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Every year, on the day of the memorial of the Blessed Virgin of Lourdes, which is celebrated on 11 February, the Church proposes the World Day of the Sick.

This event, as the venerable John Paul II wanted, becomes a propitious occasion to reflect upon the mystery of suffering and above all to make our communities and civil society more sensitive to our sick brothers and sisters.

If every human being is our brother, much more must the sick, the suffering and those in need of care, be at the centre of our attention, so that none of them feels forgotten or emarginated; indeed, 'the true measure of humanity is essentially determined in relationship to suffering and to the sufferer. This holds true both for the individual and for society. A society unable to accept its suffering members and incapable of helping to share their suffering and to bear it inwardly through "com-passion" is a cruel and inhuman society' (Encyclical letter [Spe Salvi](#), n. 38). The initiatives that will be organized in each diocese on the occasion of this Day should be a stimulus to make care for the suffering increasingly effective.