

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Zechariah 9: 9-10.

The coming Messiah will be a humble man of peace.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 9, 11-13.

Paul urges us to be aware of Jesus' Spirit in us.

Gospel: Matthew 11: 25-30.

Only humble, loving and genuine people can really know Jesus and the Father.

Points for Reflection

1. Jesus in **today's Gospel** says: *"No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son"*. Then he adds: *"And anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him"*.
2. Who is chosen to share in this relationship? Who is chosen to know Jesus and the Father? What sort of person will it be? The rest of today's Gospel provides us with the answer:
 - It will be those whom Jesus calls the *"little ones"* --- the men and women who, like the first disciples, are, or who have learned to be, humble, simple and open enough to acknowledge and recognize that they depend on Another, God. In fact, they are the people who resemble Jesus himself, the *"meek and humble of heart"*, Jesus, who affirms that all he knows and has comes not from his own resources, but is the gift of the Father.
 - The *"wise and learned"*, on the contrary, are those who wish to limit the source or content of our knowledge to what the human mind can observe or keep track of; who feel that there is nothing above or beyond that limited area: all these people cannot be chosen to share in the relationship which exists between Jesus and the Father.
3. Are we ranged with the *"wise and learned"*? or with the *"little ones"*?

Jesus knows we need help in choosing the right path; so he goes on to tell us some of the things we should do in order to be more solidly ranked among those whom the Father favours with the gift of his revelation.

- First he says: *"Come to me"*. That should be our first step. To go to him means breaking the grip of a self-enclosed world and all its illusions.
- Then he says: *"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me"*. Jesus seems to be suggesting that we should trade in the burdens which are of no advantage to us at all for the authentic ones that he offers us. For only he knows the yoke and the burden that will help us to become the *"little ones"*, people whom the Father favours with his revelation.

"To go to him" is to decide to wear his yoke and bear his burden. It is to live by his Spirit, who is a Spirit of love.

Love of God and of our brethren, demanding as it may seem and be, is an easy yoke and a light burden, because it is the only source of true freedom and inner and imperturbable peace. We have only to trust our Lord and try.

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: 9.00 am (English) 7.45 am (Chinese) 10.30 am (Chinese) Anticipated Sunday Masses Saturdays: 6.00 pm (English) 7.30 pm (Chinese) Public holidays: 8.00 am (Chinese) Weekdays: 7.00 am (Chinese)
Parish Priest: Fr Carlo Tei (E-mail: carlotei@i-cable.com; carlotei@gmail.com) Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung, Fr Raja (helping on Sundays)	Confessions: Sundays before Mass and during the 7.45 am Mass Weekdays on call
Secretary: Miss Tse Choi Ping Office hours: Mon-Fridays: 9.00am – 1.00pm; 2.00pm – 5.30pm Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays: 2.30 pm 1 st Thursday of the month: 8.00 pm
Parish Council Chairlady: Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322	



Announcements for the summer



1. The 6:00 pm Saturday evening Mass in English will be discontinued during the summer months of July and August, as many of our English-speaking parishioners will be leaving Hong Kong for the summer holiday. The Mass will resume again on Saturday 6th September.

2. On Tuesdays from 16th September to 9th December 2008, our parish will hold the *Alpha Course* in English with Cantonese subtitles. The course is a great way to get to know other parishioners, and to explore your faith in a relaxed environment. There will be 12 Tuesday evening sessions and one half-day Saturday retreat. Each session includes a shared meal, a talk and a small-group discussion. If you are interested in learning more about how you can register to attend (and/or invite your friends to register and attend), please contact Mrs Carla Basto Clark at 9861 0453; or Mrs Anna Boon on 64920590 or by e-mail at sacredheart.hk@gmail.com

3. We are currently looking for Cantonese-speaking volunteers who are willing and able to help with the running of the Alpha Course. If you are interested, please look for Ms Carla Basto Clark after Mass or contact her by phone or by e-mail (see details above).

