

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15.

God reveals himself to Moses and promises to bring the Israelites out of slavery.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12.

Some of the Israelites accepted their deliverance from slavery, but did not respond with faith in God. This brought them death.

Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9.

The fruitless tree will be cut down; but God will give us yet another chance to turn to him and do his will.



Points for Reflection

Today's Scripture Readings warn us against the danger of being overconfident about our salvation.

1. The **First Reading** presents Moses, who is called by God to deliver the Israelites from slavery.
2. In his **Letter to the Corinthians** St Paul points out that the history of Israel must be a warning to us Christians. All the Israelites, under the leadership of Moses, crossed the Red Sea, but most of them, because of their lack of faith in God, did not reach the Promised Land. They died in the wilderness. The same thing could happen to us as well: the fact that we are all baptized will not guarantee our salvation, unless our hearts are really converted to God.
3. The same warning comes from today's **Gospel**: *"If you do not repent, you will all perish"*. Jesus refers to two tragic incidents that took place in Jerusalem: a repression of

a group of Galileans and the fall of a tower, which caused the death of many people. Jesus points out to the crowds that those who were murdered and killed in those two incidents were no greater sinners than the rest: *"If you do not repent, you will all perish as they did"*. Then he clarifies his thought with the parable of the barren fig tree. Israel must repent before the time of grace runs out.

4. We are Christ's disciples. He has delivered us from slavery to sin. We belong to his Church, and we all share the same Eucharistic Banquet. This, however, is no guarantee of salvation. Unless we repent, we will all perish. Thus, what really matters in our Christian life is our being converted to God. A living example of "conversion to God" is Jesus Christ Our Lord. Like him, we should put God the Father at the centre of our values and concerns. It is by doing the will of God, like Jesus did, that we are gradually converted to him.



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

Colour the picture of Moses below.

