

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Wisdom 11: 22-12: 2.

It is by God's kindness and love that we came to be. Despite our sinfulness he gives us a chance all the time.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians. 1: 11-2: 2.

Paul prays that we may be worthy of our Christian vocation.

Gospel: Luke 19: 1-10.

Touched by the approach of Jesus, Zacchaeus becomes a changed man.



Points for Reflection

1. **Today's First Reading**, taken from the Book of Wisdom, can be regarded as the best commentary on Jesus' behaviour towards Zacchaeus, towards sinners, that is, towards each and every one of us.

God trusts all of us in spite of our sinfulness, because he loves everything he has created; and all things created exist precisely because God loves them. The sinner tries to deny, through his deeds, the life and love of God present in himself, in his fellowmen and in the universe. Because of his selfishness, the sinner is willing to pollute the universe, cheat and oppress his fellowmen, disown his true self and condemn life and love. God, however, is always willing to correct the sinner and remind and warn him of his sinfulness, so that he may be freed from wickedness and willing to put his trust in him.

2. The mission of Jesus was precisely to make God's love for his creation all the more visible, especially for sinners. He was sent to make God's life and love flow once more in the hearts of sinners.

Today's Gospel is an example of Jesus' willingness to convert a sinner to choose life and love: the life and love of God. Zacchaeus, the chief tax collector of Jericho, is a sinner, despised and hated by the people. But even he can be reborn to the life of love he was created for. As soon as he comes into personal contact with Jesus, as soon as he can see with his eyes the merciful love of God made visible in Jesus, he changes his life: he is reborn into the true life, the life of love he has tried to deny before through his sinful deeds.

3. **We, as Christians:**

- On the one hand, **must behave like Zacchaeus**: we must become ever more aware of our sinfulness, so that we may let God's merciful love continually flow in our hearts and lives.
- On the other hand, like Jesus, **have to become the sign of God's love for mankind**. Every experience of God's mercy urges us to practise mercy to others in turn, aware as we are that nobody can ever come to experience God's love unless he experiences his fellowmen's true, genuine, unselfish and merciful brotherly love.

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

Kids' Corner

Colour the picture of Jesus below.

