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# Good Shepherd Catholic Parish



A. 88 South Circular Road, Gladstone Park PO Box 2400 T. (03) 9338 2840  
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**CONTACT DETAILS**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Dishan Candappa  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr An Le  
**Deacon:** Rev Poukesi Vaka'uta  
 0423 659 605 (*Tongan Chaplain*)

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 Tuesday - Friday: 10:00 AM - 2PM

**PARISH SCHOOLS**  
**School of the Good Shepherd**  
 PO Box 2400  
 88 South Circular Road  
 Gladstone Park Vic 3043  
**Principal:** Carmela D'Amato  
**Tel:** 9338 7686 **Fax:** 9335 2586  
 E. [principal@sogsgpark.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sogsgpark.catholic.edu.au)

**St Carlo Borromeo**  
 5 - 9 Drummond Street  
 Greenvale Vic 3059  
**Principal:** Kevin Gleeson  
**Tel:** 9333 2572 **Fax:** 9333 2187  
 E: [principal@scgreenvale.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@scgreenvale.catholic.edu.au)

**Mary Queen of Heaven**  
 75 French Road  
 Greenvale Vic 3059  
**Principal:** Renae Gentile  
**Temporary No.** 0458 548 234  
 E: [principal@mqhgvale.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@mqhgvale.catholic.edu.au)

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:**  
**Monday - Friday:**  
 9:15 AM - Good Shepherd Church

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES:**  
**Saturday:** 9:15 AM - Good Shepherd  
 6:00 PM - Good Shepherd  
**Sunday:** 9:00 AM - St Carlo Borromeo  
 11:00 AM - Good Shepherd  
 5:00 PM - Good Shepherd

**ADORATION & BENEDICTION**  
 The first Friday of the month after the morning Mass at Good Shepherd Church.

**MARIAN NOVENA**  
 Wednesday at 6:30 PM preceded by Adoration/Confession at 6:00 PM

**CONFESSION & RECONCILIATION**  
**Wed-Fri:** 8:40 AM - 9:00 AM  
 Wed: 6:00 PM - 6:20 PM  
**Saturday:** 9:45 AM & 5:30 PM, or by appointment.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION**  
 2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 PM.  
**Bookings essential.**

**WEDDING PREPARATION**  
 Bookings to be made 6 months prior to wedding date. Bookings made through Parish Office.

**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



In today's Gospel Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of questions and challenges. At this point the disciples of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of taxes.

Matthew sets up an unusual partnership between the Pharisees and the Herodians. The Herodians were supporters of Herod Antipas, a Jewish political leader who collaborated with the Romans. Such collaboration would have required a compromised observance of the Mosaic Law. The Pharisees, on the other hand, taught scrupulous observance of the Mosaic Law and opposed Roman occupation. Herodians favoured the payment of taxes; the Pharisees opposed it. The Herodians and the Pharisees approach Jesus, asking that he take sides in their dispute. If Jesus answers with the Pharisees, he shows himself to be an enemy of Rome. If he answers with the Herodians, he offends popular Jewish religious sensibilities.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap him exposes the guile of his questioners. From his first words to them, Jesus shows that he is very much aware of what they are trying to do. He asks to see a Roman coin, which is readily provided to him. It may have come from the hand of a Herodian, but the Pharisees show themselves to be quite willing to accept this compromise. Jesus has already exposed the Pharisees as hypocrites.

Jesus takes his response one step further. He asks that his questioners examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawfulness altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs to God.

Jesus' response to the Herodians and Pharisees suggests the ethic that Christians ought to adopt. It reminds us of the importance of keeping things in their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to worldly things at the expense of the love and honour that we owe to God?

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