

Alleluia, alleluia! / Shine on the world like bright stars; / you are offering it the word of life. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Come to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's,' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Reflections on the Gospel

OBEDIENCE TO GOD

Having entered Jerusalem as its messianic King, Jesus is drawn into a power struggle with representatives of various groups who, under the overall control of the Romans, currently wield power. To remove the threat he poses, they need to portray him to the Romans as dangerous and, at the same time, to lessen his authority with the people.

The tax question is a perfect stratagem to achieve these ends. If Jesus supports the payment of the unpopular poll tax, he will lose standing with the people; if he forbids payment, he risks being identified with groups rebellious towards Rome and so of appearing as a threat to peace and public order.

Jesus' majestic response not only frees him from the dilemma, it actually goes onto the offensive. By requiring *them* to produce a coin with Caesar's image on it he shows them up as already collaborating with the Romans. They carry around the offensive coinage. He does not.

Then his dual 'Render ...' instruction throws the dilemma back upon them. They had set the issue simply in terms of obligation to Rome; they had not brought God into the equation at all. Jesus takes possession of the religious and moral high ground by setting responsibility to the civil power (which he does not deny) within the broader and higher framework of obedience to God.

We can find here the beginnings of the later Christian sense of the separation of Church and State. We also have a recognition that believers have responsibilities in both realms that oblige in conscience before God.

Brendan Byrne, SJ



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

18 OCTOBER 2020

Isa 45:1, 4-6

FIRST READING

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations
before his countenance.*

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the joints of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one,

that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled;

there is no other God besides me.

Though you do not know me, I am you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 95:1, 3-5, 7-10. R. v. 7

R. Give the Lord glory and honour.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord. / sing to the Lord all the earth. / Tell among the nations his glory / and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**

2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise, / to be feared above all gods; / the gods of the heathens are naught. / It was the Lord who made the heavens. **R.**

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples; / give the Lord glory and power. / give the Lord the glory of his name. / Bringing an offering and enter his courts. **R.**



4. Worship the Lord in his temple. / O earth, tremble before him. / Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' / He will judge the peoples in fairness. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

■ The word of the Lord.



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Parish Priest:
Assistant Priest:
Secretary:

Fr Vic Ignacio MS -
Fr Tuan Tran
Ms Bern Press

02 6746 1133
Mon & Tues 9.00 - 11.00am
Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm

18th October 2020 - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Please Pray For Those Who Have Died

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Ray Baker; Barbara McNamara; Em Press; Alphonbus Nolan; Etra Guirey; Thora Sutton; Pamela Howard; Allen McNamara; Eise Perry; Patsy O'Donnell; Ivy Crossman; Frank Scanlon; Bill Murphy; Fred Taylor; Cherie McNamara; Tom Conroy; Hilton Baker; May Raymont; Gregory Guirey; Ireen Sippl; Neida Curran; Josephine Perkins; Robert Balwin; Joyce Doohan; Frank Moore; Cecily Howard;

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God Rest In Peace. Amen.

And for those who are ill:

Ray Lamb of Gunnedah; Les Ward; David Seiler; Rita Looney; Bobbie Pator; Fr John Willis; Fr John McHugh; Clare Crane; Bill Gleeson; Billy Godden; Ros Turton; Gavin Sewell; Ian Gallagher; Fiona Nolan; Gail Martin; Wendy Brown; Sue Thomson; Lucy Gijli; Father Pat O'Neill; Tom Sanderson; Colleen Hyatt; Michael McCormick; Dan O'Donnell; Marie Dalton; Jack Dunn; Colin Gallagher; Andrew McNamus; Ivy Taylor; Joan Greenlee; Rosslym Chan; and all the members of the Parish who are ill.

Other Intentions:

Roster

24/10/2020R: W Rheinberger
EM: G:
25/10/2020R: D Ryan
EM: G:
C: D Ryan & T Vereyken

Coming Events

- World Mission Sunday 18 October 2020
- First Confession Lessons commence on Wednesday 21st October 2020 at 3.50pm in the Father Stan Campbell Hall.
- First Confession Lessons commence on Wednesday 28th October 2020 at 3.50pm in the Father Stan Campbell Hall.
- First Confession Lessons commence on Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 3.50pm in the Father Stan Campbell Hall.
- Sacrament of First Confession Thursday 5th November at 6.00pm in the Church
- Clergy Retreat 8 November to 13 November 2020. No Mass in the Parish this week

Coronavirus

The following must be observed at all Masses:

1. Please sign-in on the log-sheets every time you enter the church.
2. Sanitise your hands, observe physical distancing and sit on allocated seats
3. **No congregational singing, only Father to sing; no Sign of Peace.**
4. Printed bulletins are for single use only and must not be reused by other people
5. One single line during Holy Communion.

Catholic Mission 2020 COVID-19 Appeal

With every country around the world affected in some way by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important that now, more than ever, we stand together in solidarity with our brothers and sisters and support them in any way we can. There are thousands of mission programs that provide both practical support and pastoral and faith-formation to children and communities around the world that need our help right now. We are still here for them, and we want to offer your parish the opportunity to get involved and offer their support. This year the appeal focuses on the work of the Church in Cambodia, supporting people who have been affected by disability and giving them home to live a fulfilling life.



We share the story of Chen, a landmine survivor who lost both his legs when he was sixteen years old. Chen has been given care and the opportunity to turn this tragic event into a positive outcome through the help of the Arupe Centre in the Apostolic Prefecture of Battambang in north-western Cambodia.

If you wish to donate, there are envelopes at the back of the church and you can return them directly to Catholic Mission in Sydney or to donate electronically to Catholic Mission BSB 062 784 Account Number 007156500 Ref 220114 Quirindi Parish. Once again thank you for your support.

CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST MARY MACKILLOP'S CANONISATION

Mary Mackillop join us in our gratitude on this 10th anniversary of your canonisation. Be with us in this time of crisis in our world as we gather fresh courage around us for working in God's healing mission. Keep us participating as a people of the gospel engaging with our neighbours for the good of all and serving with Christ in our common home. Holy Spirit strengthen us. Amen

Saints to Remember
Sts John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues & Companions - Memorial - 19th
St John Paul II - Memorial - 22nd
St John Of Capistrano - Memorial - 23rd
St Anthony Claret - Memorial - 24th

Daily Mass Book - The books will be \$20.00 each and will be ordered soon. They go from Advent to Advent. If you wish to purchase a Daily Mass Book please write your name on the sheet at the back of the Church. Many thanks.

Memorare

Remember, Our Lady of La Salette, true Mother of Sorrows, the tears you shed for me on Calvary. Remember also the care you have always taken to keep me faithful to Christ your Son. After having done so much for your child, you will not now abandon me. Inspired by this consoling thought, I come to cast myself at your feet in spite of my infidelities and ingratitude. Do not reject my prayer, O merciful Virgin, but intercede for my conversion, obtain for me the grace to love Jesus above all things, and to console you by a holy life, that I may one day see you in heaven. Amen.
 Our Lady of La Salette reconciler of Sinners
 Pray without ceasing for us who have recourse to thee.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

JOSEPHITE CALENDARS Order your 2021 Josephite Calendar containing inspirational quotes from Mary Mackillop and Fr Tenison Woods. A great gift to family and friends. Cost is \$8.00. Please write your name on the sheet attached and leave your money in the box. Many thanks.
Planned Giving \$321.00 + \$30.00 = \$351.00

First Collection \$358.75