



**Sunday 22nd October 2023**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Martin Tanti & Fr Ananda Maddineni MSFS

**Parish Pastoral Associates:** Sandy Starbuck & Sr. Margaret Sapsford

**The Partnered Parishes of:**

**St. Mary's**

204 Grimshaw St.,  
Greensborough, 3088

**Parish:** 9435 1543 **Presbytery:** 7036 9329

**Email:** [Greensborough@cam.org.au](mailto:Greensborough@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.cam1.org.au/greensborough](http://www.cam1.org.au/greensborough)

**Secretaries:** Tanya O'Meara & Lisa Leahy

**Mass Times**

**Tuesday to Friday:** Mass 9.15am

**Saturday:** Vigil Mass 6.30pm

**Sunday:** Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm

**Reconciliation Times**

**Saturday:** 5.45pm-6.15pm before evening  
Mass

**Parish School Principal**

Mrs. Marisa Matthys **Ph:** 9433 4000 **or Email**  
[principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au)

**Sacred Heart & St Peter's**

25 Gipson Street,  
Diamond Creek 3089

**Parish:** 9401 6361

**Email:** [DiamondCreek@cam.org.au](mailto:DiamondCreek@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek](http://www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek)

**Secretary:** Pat Guatta

**Mass Times**

**Wednesday & Friday:** Mass 9.15am

**St Peter's: 1st & 3rd Saturday** 7.15pm

**Sunday:** Mass 9.00am

**Reconciliation Times**

**Friday:** 9.45am to 10.15am

**Parish School Principal**

Mr. Jim O'Sullivan **Ph:** 9438 1590 **or Email**  
[principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au)

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

251 Diamond Creek Road,  
Greensborough Nth 3088

**Parish:** 9434 7373

**Email:** [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth](http://www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth)

**Secretary:** Lisa Leahy

**Mass Times**

**Tuesday & Thursday:** Mass 9.15am

**Saturday:** Vigil Mass 6.00pm

**Sunday:** Mass 10.30am

**Reconciliation Times**

**Saturday:** 9.30am to 10.00am

**Parish School Principal**

Mr David Delaney **Ph:** 9434 4565 **or Email**  
[principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au)

**Please send any bulletin contributions to [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au) by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend bulletin. Thank you**

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION**



Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A,  
22nd October 2023.

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/scripture-29-sun-year-a>

**Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne**

[www.cam.org.au](http://www.cam.org.au)

**St Mary's Facebook page**

[facebook.com/stmarysgreensborough/](https://facebook.com/stmarysgreensborough/)



**Our Partnered Parishes respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.**

## PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS



### **THE SIGN ADVENT PROGRAM 2023**

Discover the profound spiritual journey of Advent and Christmas with The Sign: Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections 2023, a captivating 80-page book containing spiritually rich, yet accessible, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent (3 December 2023) through to the Baptism of the Lord (8 January 2024).

Immerse yourself in the timeless words of Scripture, expertly curated to illuminate the true essence of these holy seasons heralding the birth of Christ. Whether you seek to deepen your faith, foster a sense of contemplation, or simply embrace the beauty of everything that Advent and Christmas brings, The Sign serves as a guiding light leading you through these sacred stories that continue to resonate throughout the ages.

**COPIES ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN OUR PARISHES. A DONATION OF \$5.00 WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

### **ARCHDIOCESE TRAINING MODULE**

For those of you who have been unable to complete your safeguarding training module, the error has now been fixed, you need to login with your WWCC or VIT card to begin.

To access the training follow the link: <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/safeguarding-training-modules/>

### **OBTAINING COMPLETION CERTIFICATE FOR ESSENTIAL SAFEGUARDING TRAINING**

- ◆ Login to training link using WWCC number [www.safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org](http://www.safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org)
- ◆ They send a 6 digit code by email.
- ◆ Enter code and verify.
- ◆ You are asked if you are clergy – click 'Next'.
- ◆ The screen below comes up.
- ◆ Click the green 'Acquired' icon.



### **REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR PROCLAIM 2023!**

16th-18th November 2023 Catholic Leadership Centre, 576 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne.

Over three days, the Catholic Leadership Centre will become a vibrant sojourn to inspire, engage and equip ourselves to go out and proclaim the joy of the Gospel into our local communities.

**Thursday 16th November** - Encounter Christ Proclaim will begin in prayer as the young Church of Melbourne – whether young in age or young at heart – gather for Holy Hour. World-renowned Fr Rob Galea will lead music during this time of worship and adoration. Gather together for dinner where Most Rev Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne will give a keynote address.

**Friday 17th November - Engage Leaders** This day is especially tailored to parish clergy and lay leadership and those employed in the Catholic sector eg. staff, and faith and mission leaders from Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools, social services, health care.

**Saturday 18 November - Embark** This day is for all Catholics, lay and clergy, especially those who are seeking more for themselves and their community. Hear inspiring speakers including international leadership coach Ron Huntley. Be formed in workshops and discover ways for ourselves and our communities to be bearers of the light of Christ to each other.

***More details including additional speakers and workshop presenters to be released in the coming days!***

**Registration** You are invited to book for all three days or each separate day you can attend.

Thursday - Free but ticketed, Friday - \$100, Saturday - \$100.

[Proclaim 2023 Tickets, Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne | TryBooking Australia](#)





### WORLD MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION.

#### Envelopes available in our Parishes for this week's special collection



This week Catholic Mission will offer the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program – The Maria Auxiliadora Clinic.

**The Maria Auxiliadora Clinic is a vital project for the Salesian Sisters and the Church in Venilale. Since its establishment, the clinic has provided life-saving treatment for many in need, like Jose\*, who became severely malnourished at 8 months old. But, with an increase in the demand for treatment, the Sisters resources can only carry them so far.**

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/timor](http://catholicmission.org.au/timor), or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

*\*Name altered to protect identity*

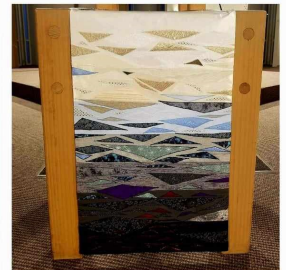
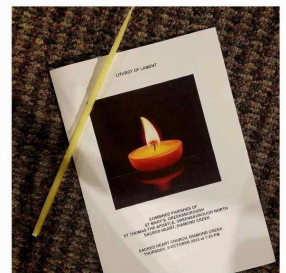
### LITURGY OF LAMENT 5th October 2023

#### Sacred Heart Parish, St Mary's Parish, St Thomas the Apostle Parish

A Liturgy of Lament was held at Sacred Heart Church on Thursday 5 October for the parishioners of our three partnered parishes. The purpose of the Liturgy was to give parishioners the opportunity to openly acknowledge and to express sorrow about the abuse of young and vulnerable people by some of our trusted clergy and others in the Church and the lack of pastoral care and protection of them. In the peaceful surrounds of the church, with rain falling and the light dimming, participants entered into a prayerful, respectful space. Through readings, prayer and music we joined together in sadness, in solidarity with those who have suffered, turning to God with hope for the future. As a healing action we each placed a lighted taper in a bowl of sand – “*When truth becomes known, the light begins to dispel the darkness*”.

This was our final prayer:

*Lord, bring peace to broken lives  
and show the way out of darkness  
and into the light of your Word,  
and may we as the people of God be more fully  
human,  
more fully Christ-like and more fully your people,  
that we may see the errors of the past  
and go forward with renewed hope  
and faith in Christ and in our Church.  
We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen.*



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART & ST PETER'S



**BAPTISMS:** we pray for Mabel and Asher who will be welcomed into Sacred Heart community in October.

**DIAMOND CREEK ST VINNIES CONFERENCE:** The Diamond Creek St Vinnies conference president's role, has come to its end of the four year term. We are asking if anyone is interested in the role. The service that St Vinnies provide for our area is so rewarding and helps those who are experiencing such difficult times, as we all understand. Should you require more information, please contact me. The conference meets every second Tuesday of the month in the Parish office. Ray Belli 0413185722

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING:** Some items discussed at 12<sup>th</sup> October meeting

Successful Liturgy of Lament and Hope was a moving service at Sacred Heart with our three parishes working well together. Good attendance.

Cards for Sacramental Candidates designed and ordered.

We aim to resurrect the Annual Ladies Dinner, possible date 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 and to organise a Men's Evening possibly mid year 2024.

PPC Elections and Sitting Members changeover. Nominations close 29<sup>th</sup> October.

Sacred Heart school: Parishioners invited to bake for school fundraiser cake stall on Referendum Day, participate at school working bee Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October and assist at Fete 28<sup>th</sup> October.

Maintenance Report: Water damage in Sacred Heart church. Leak above Mary chapel has been repaired and repainted. Water also in music room. Church doors and porch steel girders painted. New key safe installed near hall entrance.

Parish Finance Report: to be tabled at next meeting.

PPC Christmas Get-Together: Alison has kindly offered to host at her home on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Next meeting 9<sup>th</sup> November.

Nominations are now being called for upcoming elections. Forms are available at the back of the church, or speak with a current PPC member for further information. Nominations close 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023. YOUR VOICE, MY VOICE, OUR VOICE! Suggestion box in church or email:

**HALL HIRE:** Sacred Heart Hall is for hire. For all enquiries regarding cost and terms and conditions contact Alison Pieper on 0417571535 or [alisonpieper52@gmail.com](mailto:alisonpieper52@gmail.com)

**SENIOR MOMENTS:** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November Lunch 12pm at Bridges Restaurant Hurstbridge.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November Lunch & Scrabble 12pm in the Parish Centre.

### **ROSTERS:**

**Cleaning: Week 17<sup>th</sup> October** M. Cusack, W. McEvoy

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October St Peter's 7.15pm**

**Reader:** B. Flynn

**Commentator:** M. Frisby

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Amindha

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October Sacred Heart 9am**

**Reader:** A. Pieper

**Commentator:** Y. O'Brien

**Eucharistic Ministers:** C. Garzia, P. Keenan

***Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners and friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:***

*Antonietta Nesci, Grace Wein, Chris Padget, Pam Collins, Katie Pittle, Catherine Leonard, Peter Mejak, Joan Moran, Bridie Burke, Thomas Keenan, Mervyn Bourke, Jacob Draper, Kath Rickard,*

***We pray for those who have died and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of October that they may enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:***

*Felicia Ongarello, Fr Leo Pascoe, Colin Elliott, Emma Goodge, Patrick Finlayson, Maurie Roadley, Wade Robinson, Dianne Galea, Mario Molinaro.*

## **CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GAZA CRISIS APPEAL**

An estimated 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs.

*'This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict.'*

Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia

With your support, we will be able to help our partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict.

**Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal.**

You can donate online [www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza)



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS



**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday & Friday: 8.00am-4.00pm Wednesdays 12.30pm-4.00pm  
Thursdays 8.00am-12.00pm (**Wednesday 8.00am-12.00pm & Thursday 12.30-3.00pm St Mary's**)  
Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you

**BAPTISMS:** We pray for Florence, Shiva, Arian, Gia and Christian who are being Baptised later this month.

**BUILDING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP:** Come join us for a coffee & chat on Thursday 26th October 1.30pm at Phoenix 285 Diamond Creek Rd Plenty. So I can book a table if coming email me [stewmarg@bigpond.net.au](mailto:stewmarg@bigpond.net.au)

**THE WAY PRAYER GROUP:** You are most welcome in joining The Way Prayer Group on Zoom in entering into the Mysteries of Christ and rediscovering the Power of the Rosary. Introducing the latest FREE online series from Paradisus Dei, "The Joyful Mysteries" filmed on location in the Holy Land. 7 weekly sessions, commencing Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> October 8-9.30pm. For Zoom link and further information, please contact Emilia 0418 120 902

**WE NEED YOUR HELP:** Many of you may not know that our handyman has been off on sick leave. Andrew had surgery last week and may not be back until next year. If anyone is available to do some weeding or pruning in the garden beds near and around the Church it would be greatly appreciated. With the spring weather everything is starting to flourish. You do need to have a current WWCC and have completed the Cam Safeguarding training to be on the school/church property.



Please let me know if you assist in any way. Thank you. **Lisa**

### Roster for Weekend 28th & 29th October

#### Saturday 6.00pm

**Reader:** K. Salm

**Commentator:** T. Holland

**Eucharistic Ministers:** K. Salm, C. Leahy, J. Bohan

**Set Up:** M. McKenzie

#### Sunday 10.30am

**Reader:** T. Williamson

**Commentator:** L. Hobson

**Eucharistic Ministers:** A. Kerr, C. O'Brien, R. Piccolo

**Set Up:** M. Bates

**St Thomas prayers are asked for the following Parishioners:**

**Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners and friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:**

*Miran Kasalo, Peter Kernjak, John Geretschlager*

**We pray for those who have died recently including Mirjana Filpovic and Valentino Iacobucci and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of October that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:**

Guido Pariocco, Mary Moran, Helen Paul, Shirley Fraser, Katherine Biskup, Marianna Sacchetta, Reg Carr, Francis Bohan, Bill Watson, Pat Pelly, Frank Green, Grace Money, Betty Hannah, Rocco Di Pierro, Alfonso Ruggieri, Nediljka Paleka, Sofija Zilic



Catholic Theological College

**Online Information Session for 2024**

Monday 30 October at 7.30pm (AEDT)

Register via our website: [ctc.edu.au/information-session](https://ctc.edu.au/information-session)

For more information contact:

Dr Maureen Saclot [ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/](https://ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/)



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

*Vision Statement "To be a vibrant Christian community engaging with the world"*



**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesdays 10am-4pm, Wednesdays 8am-12noon, Thursdays 10am-4pm.

Please send any bulletin contributions directly to [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au) or [greensborough@cam.org.au](mailto:greensborough@cam.org.au) by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin. Thank you

**DOM LA FERLITA** will be selling 2024 calendars after Saturday evening mass. All photos have been taken by him around our beautiful state of Victoria. Calendars are \$20 each or 3 for \$50. They are perfectly local and make for great gifts!

**LADIES AUXILIARY:** Car raffle tickets will be available after Masses unless sold out, please return any raffle books you have taken home Enquiries Maureen 9435 5906, Lucy 9435 6990

**MELBOURNE COMHALTAS:** You are invited to a night of Irish music on Friday 27th. October, 7.00pm. in St Margaret's Hall, Pitt St. Eltham. Enquiries. Mary 9435 1135 Tickets \$20 at the door or via trybooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/4446359>

**LAMP :** A Coffee Support Morning for All CARERS, will be held on Wednesday October 25th, 10-12 midday. All welcome.

**CHURCH SECURITY :** Group members and parishioners are reminded to check that ALL doors of the church and gathering space are securely locked and all lights are off when you leave after evening Masses and meetings. Thank you.

**HOLY ROSARY** is recited every Thursday morning after 9.15am Mass.

**THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** The prayer shawl ministry meets in the Gathering Space 10am - 12pm on Mondays. Enquiries: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326 .

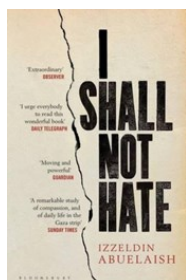
**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** First Friday of month, after 9.15am Mass to 3pm. Spend whatever time you can. All Welcome.



### TIME & TALENT INVITATION!

St Mary's PPC are inviting our Community to hear our call to you – help us serve God in our service to others. Let us ask God's Holy Spirit to speak loudly in our hearts opening our eyes to see how is entering into a time where we are being called to hear God's Spirit within us as invitation to serve Him. OUR PARISH NEEDS YOU! OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOUR GIFTS! Dedicating your time, your talent to actively live out the gifts loving bestowed upon you – enables our Parish to continue to be true to our Vision – *"To be a vibrant Christian community engaging with the world."* Let us begin here, within our community, to discover the ways in which God can truly move us to serve Him and spread the Good News. Information forms are in the Gathering Space!

*Be informed, inspired and entertained*



### Book of the Week

**'I Shall Not Hate: a Gaza Doctor's Journey on the Road to Peace and Human Dignity'** by Izzeldin Abuelaish

In light of the present crisis in the Middle East, this book tells the story of a Gaza based doctor who treated patients on both sides of the conflict in 2009. Three of his daughters were killed by Israeli shells. His account is an honest and courageous story not of hatred and revenge but a powerful plea for reconciliation.

Access to the catalogue is available at: [cloud.collectorz.com/247780](http://cloud.collectorz.com/247780)



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S continued

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

#### **September Baptisms:**

***Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners & friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:***

Peter Mejak, Barbara Fernandez, Christos Pittas, Jocelyn Tibayan, Margaret Schreenan , Olivia MacDonald, Helen Quigley, Lorraine Alexander, Harley McAleer, Pat Milczakowsky, Rosie Bray, Lois Jones, Peter Miles, Leon Gray

#### **Recently Deceased:**

***We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur this week, may they enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:***

Norrie Schulze, Fred McDonald, Eva Rutherford, Frank Smith, Hilda Jahne, Joe Rayeroux, Sr Bernadette Howard, Martin McNally, Alexander Weston, Virginia Espinosa, Vonda Tillig, Elsie Gan Ong, Marianna Sacchetta, Michael Keegan Jnr., Jack O'Sullivan, Daniel Condron, Peg Murphy, John Gleeson, Carmel Juliff, Elaine Kilkenny, Daphne Turner, Ellen Ruiz, Sonia Lee Taylor, Andrew Terrace Donoghue, Mark Williamson, Mary Kissane, Gwenda Nye, Robyn Daly, Sonia Taylor, Raymond Davern, Teresa Casarotto, Christine McIntosh, Aquilino P Mentel, Katherine Hudson, Margaret Rae, Norma Newcombe, Anita Decarli, Marino Casamento, Heather Juliff, Glenn David, Emily Malicse Escanilla, Joseph Browne, Lena Lasvado, Frank Imperatrice, Herb Jeffery, Adrian Neydora, Anne O'Connor, Robyn Caspersz, Mary Heaton, Cecila Noronha, Amparo Vallejo, John Fleming, Marino Casamento, Michael Thorley, Moira Collum, Kevin Toohey, Mrs Jacob

### ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

**OCTOBER 31st - ALL HALLOWS EVE:** Commonly celebrated as an evening of ghosts and ghouls, scary looking costumes and trick or treating but what are we celebrating? All things Dark?

As Christians we have a choice, we can either celebrate this night as a night of darkness or stand with Jesus as the light of the world, and celebrate October 31st as All Hallows Eve, as a night of light.

All hallows eve can be part of a special three-day holy celebration in which we can contemplate, pray, attend mass and create new and meaningful catholic traditions in our parishes and families. We can honour God by Worshipping Jesus as the light of the World, by recognising his light in the lives of the Saints who reflected him to all of those around them, and by acknowledging and praying for all souls who have died in the faith, that they may receive his mercy, be reunited into his loving arms and live eternally in his light. There are some great resources online with lots of ideas for families and kids, as well as further information about these days.

**OCTOBER 31st** All Hallows Eve

**NOVEMBER 1st** All Saints Day

**NOVEMBER 2nd** All Souls Day

#### **VERSES TO CONTEMPLATE**

John 1: 1-9, 3:19-21     John 12: 27-36, 12: 44-46

1 John 1:5-7     Matthew 5: 14-16     1 Peter 2: 9-10

1 Thessalonians 5: 3 -5     2 Corinthians 4: 3-6, 6:14-18

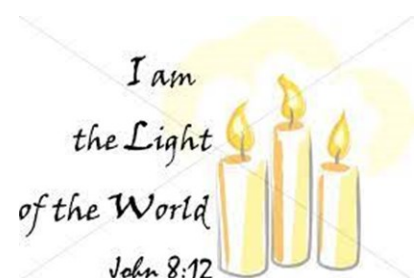
#### **WEBSITES FOR FURTHER IDEAS AND RESEARCH**

<http://www.nightoflight.org/>

<https://www.effortlessfoodie.com/easy-soul-cakes/>

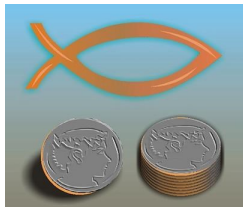
<https://www.littlewaychapel.com/blog/tag/all-hallows%27eve>

<https://www.catholicicing.com/how-to-celebrate-all-saints-day-at-home/>



### **OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup>**

**PLACE A LAMP OR LIGHT IN YOUR WINDOW IF YOU STAND  
FOR CHRIST AND HE IS THE LIGHT OF YOUR WORLD.**



**Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny** Close In the parables of the last few weeks Jesus has been critical of the established order, but the establishment tries to get its own back in this week's gospel: some Pharisees try to entrap Jesus in dangerous word play about money and power. Jesus turns the tables on them by taking the argument from the hypothetical to the practical. He uses a real coin to make a concrete and sensible point about relative values. He is both wise and street-smart in his rebuttal, which serves to unmask the hypocrisy of a corrupt hierarchy.

## Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

22 October 2023

### First Reading Is 45:1-4-6

*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 loins 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 arm you  
that men may know from the rising to  
the setting of the sun  
that, apart from me, all is nothing.

### 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.  
Bring 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 Thes 1:1-5

*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.

### Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:15. 16

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

### Gospel Mt 22:15-21

*Give 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.'



### Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Jesus first cleverly throws his  
questioners on the defensive. *They*  
are the ones carrying the coinage,  
not him. Then he poses the crucial  
question, 'Whose image is it and  
whose inscription?' They said to  
him, 'Caesar's'. Then he said to  
them: 'Render to Caesar what is  
Caesar's and to God what is  
God's.'

The coin bore the image and  
inscription of Caesar. Genesis  
teaches us that human beings are  
made in the image and likeness of  
God. Our Lord is saying, 'Let the  
political and financial authorities  
have their coinage. It is their legal  
tender. But they cannot have  
human beings. Human beings  
belong to Another. They belong to  
God.'

We are fortunate to live in a  
wonderful democracy. But even a  
democracy can violate the dignity  
of a human being created in the  
image and likeness of God. As  
Pope John Paul II said: 'Authentic  
democracy is possible only in a  
state ruled by law, *and on the  
basis of a correct conception of the  
human person.*' (Italics added)

We could pause for a moment to  
thank God for the inscription, 'Child  
of God', effectively engraved on our  
hearts by baptism.

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