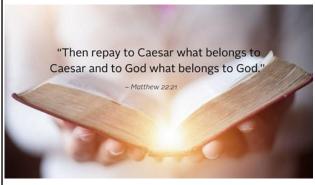


22nd October 2023 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 45:1, 4-6:1 1 Thess 1:1-5 Mt 22:15-21

The only things we can keep are the things we freely give to God - C.S. Lewis

One day a mother was in panic. Her little boy swallowed a coin. She called on her husband to 'Call the doctor immediately. But the husband calmly replied, "We do not need a doctor. Let us call a priest instead." The mother was shocked to hear this: "Why? Is our boy going to die?" she asked. "No," he replied, 'But our parish priest has his way of getting money out of anybody."

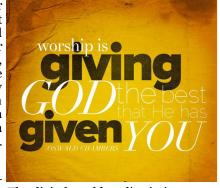


The Gospel this Sunday is talking about a coin. Jesus said to his critics, the Herodians and the Pharisees: "Show me a coin." The coin was a Roman coin used to pay taxes to the emperor. Jesus made this request because He was asked the question: "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" (Mt 22:17). Jesus was quick to notice the malice behind this simple question. That is why he retorted: "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites?"

He called them hypocrites because they were trying to trap him. If he answers "yes", they will tell the people that Jesus is a supporter of the Roman Empire. If he answers "no", they will accuse him of sedition and report him to the Roman authorities so that he would be imprisoned. He called them hypocrites also because it is not proper for Jews, especially the Pharisees, to have in their possession a Roman coin, for such would be

an acknowledgement of Roman power over the Jewish people. Added to that, the coin has the blasphemous words inscribed on it: "Tiberius Caesar, Son of the Divine Augustus." Yet when he asked for a coin, the Pharisees readily gave him one. In fact, it is publicly known that they are already paying taxes to the emperor.

They laid a trap for Jesus, but he eluded it masterfully by saying: "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God" (Mt 22:22). Give to God what belongs to God- It flows from the realisation that we are created in the image and likeness of God. God's image is stamped on our very being. This may have little effect for many people. It seems the image most of us live by today is money, power etc rather than what is stamped on our very being. It is sad to see some young people risk their lives due to anorexia or bulimia because the image presented is that of being very slim. Others will follow pop stars, some of whom have died because of an overdose. With billions being spent yearly on advertising, we can be seduced into living according to an image created by outside agencies. It is in carrying the image of God, we belong to each other with duties of love. To give to others what belongs to others: respect, dignity... material blessing... justice in every sense of the term.



"The Caesars' Roman empire operated not so differently from today's neoliberal order – power was sought through military force for the purpose of acquiring more wealth and land. The digital world we live in is an age of misinformation. It is difficult to discern right from wrong. The allure of consumerism and materialism competes with our belonging to God. We were created to be relational people who thrive when we collaborate with one another".

What belongs to God is at the heart of the synodal journey of faith we are on. On each of our faces is the image and likeness of God, with which we were created. How do I reflect the face of God in my environment? A story is told of a tourist in Mexico: he offered a street child a dollar if he could say where God is. "I could give you two dollars if you could tell me where God is not," responded the child. - Sr. Geraldine Brake, MM

October 22 is when we celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis exhorts us to create a culture of welcoming, offering hospitality and generosity to all people who need it. As a priest, I have been privileged to receive hospitality and generosity from the people wherever I have been, which indeed has challenged my faith and at the same time helped my faith grow impacting my ministry to God and to people. Thanks to everyone who has shown me the true face of God.

The face of God should shine forth through our actions grounded in love and justice whereby we give what belongs to God!

God's blessings

Fr. Vince

Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.

*

MOHAMMED ALI

PARISH NEWS





PRAYER AT ST MADS	
The Sunday Gospel reflections	Tuesday at 10.30 am via Zoom. Contact Careyanne 0438 791 813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com
Prayer Group	Wednesday after morning Mass at 10am in the St Madeleine centre: Explanation of Sunday Mass Gospel, Pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
St Mad's Book Club	To register contact Careyanne on careyannemoylan@hotmail.com
RCIA	For enquires contact Fr Vincent or Parish Office
St Mads Rosary	Thursday after morning Mass Monday Rosary Via Zoom Contact Kay Brooks & Lydia Ceccato 0400 372 561
Baptism Preparation	First Saturday of the month in the St Madeleine centre: Ring/email Parish office for booking 9654 2260 (Tues-Fri 10am-4 pm or stmads@yahoo.com.au)





ST MADS' DISCUSSIONS

Join us this Sunday night 22 October 2023 6.30pm St Madeleine Centre For a chat: What happened at the Parramatta Synod? More info and RSVP: Careyanne Moylan 0438791813 Bring a plate to share.



Next month Sue Martin will talk: St Mads to Rome.19 Nov 2023



INVITATION: ALL VOLUNTEERS

It would be wonderful for everyone to come together to celebrate our God-given talents and skills for the growth of His Kingdom

> Friday, 10 November 2023 At 6.30pm In the St Madeleine Centre

RSVP Maureen Jones 0419 512 252

Please ensure your details are kept up to date PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you so much for your ongoing support, which has been very vital to keep our Parish going strong. You can drop off the envelopes at the weekend Masses or the parish office or you can do it electronically to:

Account Name : Kenthurst Catholic

Church BSB : 067950 Account Number : 00000388

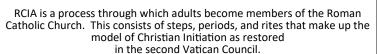
Parishioners wishing to donate or pledge their giving via direct debit, please pick up the form at the church and submit to Fr Vincent after completion.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1,258.90 2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$976.40 Loose = \$1,223.30

Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,864.38

RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)



Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church as your church home? Have you been sitting in the pew next to your Catholic spouse for years wondering what you have to do to become Catholic? Take this as a personal invitation to you and attend the Information session on **26**th **October 6.30 pm** in

SOCIAL JUSTICE & ST MAD'S

This Sunday is the Picnic for Nature and Annangrove Park is hosting the event. Drop in and say hello to Elaine. Picnic for Nature is a chance to bring nature lovers together to connect over the natural beauty and biodiversity in the local area. There is an opportunity to do some tree planting at Holy Family Emerton next Saturday morning, visit Creating Canopies for more information. Have you had a chance to read Laudate Deum the follow up to Laudato Si'? Here is the synopsis The main goal of "Laudate Deum" is to call once again on all people of good will to care for the poor and for the Earth — our common home, in order to counteract, among others, social exclusion and environmental degradation. Catholic Outlook did a story this past week on a beautiful photographic exhibition Changes launched at the Synod of Rome, which uses the words of St Francis Canticle of the Sun with photos. The exhibition will be presented on 4 October 2023 in the Holy See Press Office and will be on show for the whole duration of the Synod. An in-depth journey towards COP in Dubai will follow. "I ask everyone to accompany this pilgrimage of reconciliation with the world that is our home" LD69

the St Madeleine Centre. For further queries, get in touch with the parish office.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



Recently deceased: Ann Flynn

For the dearly departed: Frederick Salmon, Vincenzo Luca, Domenica & Francesco Barbaro, Anthony, Rose Lawrence Apap, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Daniel Doyle, Michael Esposito, Leslie Waters, Rosina Mezzogosto, Vincenzo Giorgio Fuda, Norman & Chahida Hajje, George, Sheaddy & Chahide Hajje, Betty & Mary Merhi, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Abraham Family, Maria Kuipers, Roberta Alumios

Please pray for the sick: Mathias Kintu
Bamusibule, Cherry Luezzi, Yvonne Bolland, Brenda
Riley, Henry Field, Aura Krakowszky, Hoani
Alexander Barker, Sofia Viizzo, Antonia Desanti, and
Jennifer Burgess

If you would like someone to be included among these requests, please use the Mass offering envelopes found at the entrance to the Church or email the office kenthurst@parracatholic.org

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Selina Calleia, Joan Sattler & Alexandra Mifsud
Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil
Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Pauline Chaccal
Baptism Preparation: Angelique Easton
RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry
Playgroup Coordinator:

SRE Coordinator: Maureen Jones Friendship Group: Jenny Puleo Ministry to the Nursing Homes Coordinator: Suzanne Kingston-Hunt Adult Faith Formation: Careyanne Moylan Property Maintenance Manager: Rick Jones

Piety Shop: Sandra Tabone

Altar Linen Coordinator: Catherine Diekman
Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle
Finance Committee Chair: Carl Mathias
Welcomers Coordinator:
Safeguarding Champion: Brendan Ford

PARISH TEAM Parish Priest

Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

Assistant Priest Rev Adam Carlow **Parish Secretaries**

Sandra De Nardi Susie Lee

Sacramental Coordinator Sandra De Nardi

St Madeleine's Primary School

Phone: 9654 6751 Principal: Mrs Barbara Young

Marian College Phone: 9654 6700 Principal: Dr Gavin Hays

PARISH SERVICES

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 5.30pm Sunday 8:00am, 10:00 am, 5.30pm

Children's Liturgy during school term Weekday Masses

9:15am Tuesdays to Fridays

9:45am - 10:15am Fridays - Adoration Prayer Group: Wednesdays after the

9.15 am Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00pm Baptisms: Every 2nd and 4th Sunday

at 11:20am (Must make a booking) Weddings: By appointment

St Anthony Mary Claret



The "spiritual father of Cuba" was a missionary, religious founder, social reformer, queen's chaplain, writer and publisher, archbishop, and refugee. He was a Spaniard whose work took him to the Canary Islands, Cuba, Madrid, Paris, and to the First Vatican Council. In his spare time as weaver and designer in the textile mills of Barcelona, Anthony learned Latin and printing: The future priest and publisher was preparing. Ordained at 28, he was prevented by ill health from entering religious life as a Carthusian or as a Jesuit, but went on to become one of Spain's most popular preachers. Anthony spent 10 years giving popular missions and retreats, always placing great emphasis on the Eucharist and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It was said that his rosary was never out of his hand. At age 42, he founded a religious institute of missionaries beginning with five young priests, known today as the Claretians. Anthony was appointed to head the much-neglected archdiocese of Santiago in Cuba. He began its reform by almost ceaseless preaching and hearing of confessions, and suffered bitter opposition mainly for opposing concubinage and giving instruction to black slaves. He founded the Religious Publishing House, a major Catholic publishing venture in Spain, and wrote or published 200 books and pamphlets. At Vatican I, where he was a staunch defender of the doctrine of infallibility, Anthony won the admiration of his fellow bishops, Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore remarked of him, "There goes a true saint." At the age of 63, he died in exile near the border of Spain.

https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are God's beloved children: may our journey together be marked by humble listening, courageous speech, and lively hope. Let us find in You our unity as we seek to do what is right. All this we ask of You,

who are at work in every place and time,

in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. **AMEN**



Stay in touch through our parish Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleine-Sophie-Barat-Parish

PIETY SHOP

2024 Columban **Calendars** now available \$10



The Sign Advent Booklet now available \$5



Contact Sandra Tabone on 0413272400 for any special requests.



This week Catholic Mission will offer the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to address gaps in medical care, and provide families with essential health care and knowledge, equipping them with the confidence to act and autonomy over their health and well-being.

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 families in need, like Petrolina's, whose daughter Vitoria was found to have tuberculosis. 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, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.







SACRAMENTAL **PROGRAM FIRST EUCHARIST**

We welcome all children who recently made their First Communion to the 10am Mass on

> Sunday, 29 October 2023 and Sunday, 5 November 2023

to receive their Certificates, followed by morning tea.

stmads.sacraments@gmail.com





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