



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 Greg Sunter

The gospel writer presents this episode as a deliberate attempt by the Pharisees to trap Jesus and turn the people against him. Their plan was a good one, with no apparent 'safe' answer: is it permissible (within Jewish tradition) to pay taxes to Caesar or not? If Jesus were to answer that it is not permissible to pay taxes then he would be identified as a rebel and a threat to Roman authority – leaving himself open to severe punishment. If he were to answer that it was permissible to pay the taxes he would have alienated a lot of his audience who resented the taxes imposed by Rome.

Instead of falling into the trap set by the Pharisees, Jesus approaches the question in a completely different way. He asks them to show him the money with which they pay the tax. Immediately, he has turned the tables on them. He doesn't appear to carry any of the coin in question and yet the Pharisees' disciples carry them as a matter of habit. They are asking if it is permissible to pay the tax and yet freely carry the coin with which the tax is paid. Jesus shows up the hypocrisy of their question by forcing them to reveal their own position in the simple action of producing one of the Roman coins. Jesus then closes the dispute by instructing them to render (give) to Caesar what belongs to Caesar but, more importantly, render to God what belongs to God. In a very simple way Jesus has shown up the Pharisees' disciples as being collaborators with the Roman authority and placing that authority above the authority of God. He reminds the listeners that regardless of earthly authority, the first duty is owed to God.

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The Living Word

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.

- 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.)*
- 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.)*

- 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.)*
- 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!



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Rev. Peter Krigovsky
Secretary: Mrs. Zenna Azar (Tuesday 9.30am—5.30pm)

Address: 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall NSW 2198
Website: <http://www.smgh.org.au>
Facebook: [fb.me/smgh2](https://www.facebook.com/smgh2)
Telephone: 9727 3759
Email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Streaming: <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall
God and us Together

Principal: Mrs Monica Palmer
School Tel: 9727 0000
Website: www.stmgeorghall.syd.catholic.edu.au
School email: info@stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES (English):
Vigil Mass 5 pm (Saturday)
Sunday 8.00 am & 10.00 am
Weekdays: Wednesday 6 pm
Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9.00 am

VIETNAMESE MASS
Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday)
Sunday 5.30pm

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm
or anytime on request

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Wednesday 5.00pm—6.00pm
Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
Offered to those in need on
1st Tuesday at 9.00am Mass

Baptisms: Sunday 11.00am
Bookings are necessary

Children first Sacraments:
Please contact Elaine Nehme email:
nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

Parish site maintenance:
John Impala Phone TBA
Ivan Leskur Phone TBA

Parish Pastoral Council:
Bernie Freeburn, Veronica Dening,
Elaine Nehme, Zenna Azar,
Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz,
Monica Palmer, Linh Bui,
Jannette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

Finance Committee:
Bernie Freeburn, Michael Anderson,
Ted Goetz, Veronica Dening, Eileen
Stevenson

Golden oldies:
Lorraine Impala

St Vincent de Paul:
Mary Scott

Scripture:
Lorraine Corkeron

Music Ministry: TBA

Youth Ministry: TBA

COVID-19 is still around, Please use sanitiser when you enter the church.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES If you are interested in any diocesan events, please collect a copy of additional bulletin at the back of the church.

OCTOBER - MONTH OF MARY
During October a decade of the Rosary will be recited before every Mass and one Hail Mary after the Mass.

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL
This weekend we will hold our annual Catholic Mission Appeal which will provide assistance to the community of Venilale in Timor-Leste. Tuberculosis, malnutrition and maternal mortality are a few of the many conditions present in this community. With fragile infrastructure, reliance on local health practices and limited access to adequate care, many conditions worsen and sadly, result in death. Can you assist?
Envelopes are available on the seats or donations can be made via <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/see-our-work-in-action/carolina#donate>

FAMILY MASS 10am this Sunday 22nd
October - we welcome Year 2 students, their families and teachers to Mass this weekend. Hospitality will be served after this Mass - *this will be the final Family Mass for 2023.*

2023 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
Lessons began on 16th and 17th October and are running weekly. Please send all enquiries via email:
nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

NEW GUIDELINES for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMOHC) published by Sydney Archdiocese are available from the Sacristy. Could all the Ministers of Holy Communion (helping at Mass or taking to the sick and elderly) collect a copy and refresh your knowledge. Please note that EMOHC should approach the altar only after the Communion of the celebrant and should not take/place anything from/on the altar. Wait for the assistance from the celebrant or the acolyte. Thank you.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN

NUMBER (WWCN) At recent safeguarding seminar it was clarified that it is compulsory for any person involved in any visible ministry in the church to have an active WWCN, as such people could be perceived by children as trustworthy people. Heavy penalties (\$5000 to individuals and \$11000 to parish) were already given in some parishes in our Archdiocese if people involved in visible ministries did not have a current WWCN. This includes also money collectors and money handlers (in the church). We appeal to any persons involved in a visible ministry and not possessing current WWCN to refrain from such ministry until they obtain WWCN, which is a simple and free process. Please contact the parish office if you need assistance. Thank you.

MILK FOR MATES For the next 4 weeks, we are asking parishioners to help out the House of Welcome Food Bank by donating 1 litre long life milks. These will be shared amongst the many needy refugee families that visit the H.O.W. Please place your milk in the crates at the back of the church near the side door. Thank you for your kind donations.

BIBLE STUDY All young adults are invited to join us in the Church for Bible study! Next session on Thursday 26th October at 6:30pm. If you have any questions or for more information, please contact Grace at gracemokdassi@gmail.com

PARISH CENTRE At the meeting of our Building Committee last Monday, few changes to the spatial design were proposed and submitted to our Architect. We are awaiting his response to the proposed changes.

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS Wednesday 1st November. Mass at 9am and 6pm.

COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (All Souls' Day) Thursday 2nd November. Mass at 9am and 6pm.

VISITING A CHURCH ON ALL SOULS DAY A plenary indulgence which is applicable only to the souls in purgatory is granted the Christian faithful who devoutly visit a church or an oratory on All

Souls Day.

VISITING A CEMETERY An indulgence is granted to the Christian faithful who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, if only mentally, for the dead. This indulgence is applicable only to the souls in purgatory. This indulgence is a plenary one from November 1 through November 8 and can be gained on each one of these days. On the other days of the year this indulgence is a partial one.

WHAT IS AN INDULGENCE "An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints." "An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin." The faithful can gain indulgences for themselves or apply them to the dead.

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF PRAYER FOR THE DEAD
The Holy Mother Church, like a good mother, consecrates the whole month of November to the memory of the dead. This pious practice of praying through an entire month for the dead takes rise from the earliest ages of the Church and was preached with zeal by all the great Church Fathers and Doctors. Praying for the dead is clearly shown in Scripture. The custom of mourning thirty days existed among the Jews. People mourned for Moses for thirty days. Pope St. Gregory the Great established the practice of saying thirty Masses on thirty consecutive days, and they are called Gregorian Masses.

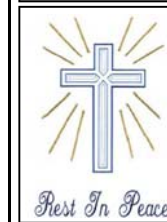
PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS Try to pray for the holy souls often. Perhaps include the prayer for the holy souls in your daily prayers: Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.
• Remember deceased family members on their anniversary by requesting a Mass to be said for them.
• Include all your deceased friends and relatives in the altar list of the dead in your parish church during November.

| Date/Mass | Greeters | Commentator | Proclaimers | Extraordinary Ministers | Acolytes | Altar Servers | Altar Servers |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| October 21/22 - 29th Sunday A | | | | | | | |
| 5.00 pm Sat | Chris Lockart | Zenna Azar | Brian Kurrle | Pauline Tonkli Eileen Stevenson | Chaben Azar | Gabriel Azar Charlie Delfino | Anthony Torbay |
| 8.00 am Sun | | Carmen Heredia | Coorey Family | Jenny Freeburn Karen Worley | Bernie Freeburn | Lucas Ross Harry Ross | Nicholas Coorey |
| 10.00 am Sun | | Alex Driessen | Cramp Family | Alex Driessen Maurice Gili | Andrew Driessen | James Ghanem | |
| October 28/29 - 30th Sunday A | | | | | | | |
| 5.00 pm Sat | Lorraine Impala | Elaine Nehme | Yvette Nehme | Barbara Kains Zenna Azar | Chaben Azar | Gabriel Azar Charlie Delfino | Anthony Torbay |
| 8.00 am Sun | | Goetz Family | Jenny Freeburn | Veronica Dening Carmen Heredia | Bernie Freeburn | Lucas Ross Harry Ross | Nicholas Coorey |
| 10.00 am Sun | | Rosemary Lim | Maurice Gili | Gill Cramp Alex Driessen | Andrew Driessen | James Ghanem | |



Please Remember in Your Prayers Our Sick

Lucia Zenere, Joseph Akkary, Paul Tonkli, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Paul Evans, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Barbara Kains, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Cornelius Van Baardwyk



Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died

Concetta Denaro, Heather Dening, Joanna Sestito, Ivy Christina Hurworth, Peter Hurworth, Trevor Newton, George Smith, Eddie Counihan, Nina Gattoni, Mary Chapman, Franco Basso, George, Angela, Kayrouz, Ezma

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

- Make little sacrifices for the holy souls during the month of November. Perhaps encourage your children to eat a meal or food they do not particularly like without complaining.
- If it is possible, visit the grave of a friend or relative on their anniversary or during the month of November. If not, perhaps light a candle or say a decade of the Rosary for them.
- If you hear of a tragic accident, pray for the souls of those who have died.
- Pray often to go straight to heaven when you die.

NOVEMBER BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE - will be located at the back of the church. Please write the names of your deceased loved ones in this book. In each Mass during the month of November we will pray in the Prayers of the Faithful for all those listed in this book.

NOVEMBER MASS ENVELOPES If you'd like to have a Mass offered for the deceased members of your family, please fill in the November Mass Offering envelope located either in the pews or at the back of the church. It is sufficient to write "Deceased members of Smith's family" instead of listing names of individuals. The Masses will be offered on first come first serve basis. You can request a Mass by placing Mass offering envelope on any of the collection plates. Once recorded in the parish bulletin, the envelopes will be placed on the altar during the month of November.

SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 02 9390 5810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.
Our parish has a folder with Safeguarding information in the church for parishioners to view. Check out the latest safeguarding newsletter. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com