

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

FIRST READING – Isaiah 45: 4-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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.

■ The word of the Lord.

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

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 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 and 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 – Thessalonians 1: 1-5

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

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL – Matthew 22: 15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

Let's reflect...

"Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

- Matthew 22:21

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY

In Thanksgiving: Jason & Nathalia O'Connor, Treasure Clarke & Family, Lorna Brito

For the sick: Bernise Peters (4), Tyrone Paul (4), Steven Ward (4), Jenice Lopina (3)

For those who have died recently: Dorothy Abeydeera

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bernice Fernando,

ST. KEVIN'S PARISH HAMPTON PARK

TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)



17th & 18th October 2020

PARISH CENTRE
120 Hallam Road,
Hampton Park, Vic. 3976
Tel: 9799 2108
Email: HamptonPark@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Friday (9.30am – 4:00pm)

PARISH PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Desmond Moloney
ASSISTANT PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Dong Tran
DEACON : Rev. Dr. Graeme Pender
PARISH SECRETARIES: Mrs. Michelle Rimmelzwaan
Mrs. Indrani Guinan
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
ST. KEVIN'S : Jason Micallef – 9709 8600
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES : Christine White – 8773 6700

Parish Website
<https://stkevins.org.au/>
'Support us' page
<https://stkevins.org.au/support-us/>
YouTube Channel
<https://youtu.be/k-qBOvf-yI0>
(st kevins parish hampton park)
You can now follow us on Facebook too!

Sacrament of Penance/ Reconciliation
Until further notice the Saturday morning time for the Sacrament of Penance/ Reconciliation will be suspended. Arrangements can be made privately by contacting one of the priests.

Equality for Faith petition
An online petition has been created to address the inequality towards places of worship and people of faith in the Victorian government's 'Roadmap for Reopening'. The petition can be found on: <https://www.equalityforfaith.com.au/>
We are not asking for special treatment - just equal treatment. We ask you to please sign and distribute the petition to people you know and encourage them to do the same.
Thank you – Your support on this important issue is needed to make a change!

CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH APPEAL



You have heard about Chen's story – how his landmine accident has affected not only his life, but that of his family; and how the Arrupe Centre, led by Bishop Enrique Figaredo

Alvargonzalez, is providing many children and families affected by disability with the support they need to lead fulfilling lives.

Today you have the opportunity to support the Arrupe Centre as it continues this essential work. You may choose to become a monthly partner, or make a one-off gift, and these gifts will fund community and child focussed programs run by the Church in Cambodia. Please proceed to make your donation via:

Free call: 1800 257 296 or catholicmission.org.au/cambodia

Reflection

Jesus invites us to become more aware of the workings of God in all of our life and the events of our life. God is present in all. In the first reading today, the Prophet Isaiah speaks of the role of Cyrus as part of God's plan. Most of the people in Cyrus' time and Isaiah would not have been thinking that way. Isaiah is able to see the hand of God in Cyrus and proclaims that Cyrus is an instrument of God for the people.

The Gospel of Matthew speaks to us about the relationship of Jesus to secular laws. Clearly those questioning Jesus wanted Him to be against paying the temple tax because it was offensive to the Jewish people. Jesus makes a clear distinction about what pertains to religious belief and what is simply belonging to secular culture. This is always the challenge in every age. It is our challenge also.

The challenge of the readings today is to keep our eyes open to the presence of God, to be aware that we can make secular things into religious idols and that we are called to be free and loving, while we serve God in peace and happiness.

Fr. Dong Tran

Online safety for grandparents and carers

The eSafety Commissioner has recently published a free e-book resource 'Online safety for grandparents and carers' which provides advice about online safety issues that children and young people may experience. This resource provides "key advice about online safety issues" including practical tips to help grandparents and carers to talk about these issues with children and young people and manage them. A hard copy can be ordered or downloaded and viewed online:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/seniors/online-safety-grandparents-carers>