



*Please pray for:* Frank & Alice May Purcell (deceased)

### Mass Times in St Benedict's Church:

#### Sunday 18th October 2020 – Twenty-Ninth Sunday, Ord Time (A)

|                   |                 |  |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| Sunday, 18 Oct    | <b>10.30 am</b> | Solemn Mass                              |
| Sunday, 18 Oct    | <b>6.00 pm</b>  | Young Adults Mass                        |
| Monday, 19 Oct    | <b>12.35 pm</b> | St Paul of the Cross (Optional)          |
| Tuesday, 20 Oct   | <b>12.35 pm</b> | Tuesday – Week 29, Ordinary Time         |
| Wednesday, 21 Oct | <b>12.35 pm</b> | Wednesday – Week 29, Ordinary Time       |
| Thursday, 22 Oct  | <b>12.35 pm</b> | St John Paul II, pope (Optional)         |
| Friday, 23 Oct    | <b>12.35 pm</b> | St John of Capistrano, priest (Optional) |
| Saturday, 24 Oct  | <b>No Mass</b>  | St Anthony Claret, bishop (Optional)     |

### Regular Confession Times in St Benedict's Church:

Monday to Friday: 11.45 am – 12.30 pm (before 12.35 pm Mass)  
Sunday: 5.30 pm (before 6.00 pm Mass)

### Mass at St James' Church, Forest Lodge:

Saturday Vigil: 5.00 pm  
Sunday: 8 am, 9.30 am & 11 am  
Wednesday & Friday: 9.00am  
Saturday (morning): 8.30am

### The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.



A VOCATION VIEW: 'The future starts today, not tomorrow.' Pope Saint John Paul II

[Streaming of Sunday Mass – from St Benedict's Church – 6pm](#) – Here is the link to this Sunday's Mass – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (18th October 2020) – <https://youtu.be/XPcVk90MW9Y>

**Fr John Neill, op – Celebrating 60 years of Priesthood – Sunday 25th October – 10.30am Mass – Booking for this Mass is essential! Please call Julie in the parish office – 8204 4378 or email – [enquiries@stbenedicts.org.au](mailto:enquiries@stbenedicts.org.au) by Wed 21st October – thank you!** This coming Thursday, Fr John will have been a priest for 60 years! 10.30am Mass is being offered next Sunday (25th October) in celebration, followed by morning tea. There will be cake ☺ & cold drink refreshments. Please note that we will not be serving tea & coffee, in the interests of everyone's safety. Thanks so much for your understanding and we will all mark a wonderful occasion for Fr John.

**More on Sunday 25th October...** In light of the current restrictions on Mass attendance and the challenge it presents on special days like this one, we would be truly grateful if anyone who is not familiar with Fr John would consider an alternative Mass to the 10.30am Mass here on this day (perhaps the 6pm Mass instead) to give those who have known Fr John over many years the opportunity to celebrate with him. Thanks very much for your help.

**One Million Children Praying the Rosary** – Aid to the Church in Need, Australia invites you to join in and pray the rosary this Sunday 18th October at 9am. For further details, please visit – [www.aidtothechurch.org](http://www.aidtothechurch.org)

**\*QR Code – trouble-shooting for Smartphones – this Sunday 18th October – at Mass!**

### Entrance Antiphon:

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me, hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings, protect me.

### Communion Antiphon:

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

**World Mission Day – Sunday 18th October** – World Mission Day, or Mission Sunday, reminds Catholics about their commitment and support for the Missionary work of the Church, through prayer and sacrifice. On Pentecost Sunday, Pope Francis released his message for this year's celebrations and said the COVID-19 pandemic is an opportunity for mission and service to others. For anyone who would like to read of the work Catholic Mission is currently doing in Cambodia at the Arrupe Centre, for children and young adults with disabilities – or would like to support Catholic Mission, please go to [www.catholicmission.org.au](http://www.catholicmission.org.au)

**Saint Paul of the Cross** – born in Italy in 1694, Paul Francis Danei labored in commerce and military service, then dedicated his life to meditating on the mystery of Christ's cross and to evangelising the countryside. In 1720, he became a hermit and later a priest. He founded the Passionist's and adopted the name, Paul of the Cross. The Passionist's developed steadily and in 1771, an order of women was begun. Paul died in 1775.

**Saint John de Brebeuf & Saint Isaac Jogues and Companions** – the North American soil is hallowed by the blood of these French martyrs – six Jesuit priests: John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, Noel Chabanel, Anthony Daniel, Charles Garnier, and Gabriel Lalemant; and two lay assistants: Rene Goupil, and Jean de la Lande. Amid great difficulties, they evangelised the native peoples and were martyred between 1624 & 1649 – five of them in present Canada and three near Auriesville, New York, where a beautiful shrine recalls their martyrdom.

**Saint John Paul II** – born in Wadowice, Poland, in 1920, Karol Wojtyla was elected pope on 16th October 1978. His exceptional apostolic zeal led him to undertake numerous pastoral visits throughout the world. He has left a rich heritage of teaching, as well as the example of fortitude and faith in the midst of suffering and illness. John Paul II died in Vatican City in April 2005 and was canonised by Pope Francis in April 2014.

**Saint John of Capistrano** – had a remarkable life. Born in Capistrano, Italy in 1386, he was a lawyer and judge before becoming a Franciscan priest. Trained by Saint Bernadine of Siena, John preached effectively throughout Italy, France, Germany, Austria and Poland. He reformed monasteries and opposed errors. Worn out by his tremendous efforts in serving Christ, he died in Croatia in 1456 and was canonised in 1690.

**Saint Anthony Claret** – born in Spain in 1807, Anthony worked as a weaver before his ordination in 1835. He preached in Spain and in the Canary Isles and founded the Missionary Institute of Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (the Claretians). He became Archbishop of Santiago in Cuba (1850-1857) and the Confessor to the Queen of Spain. Archbishop Anthony Claret was deeply interested in the Catholic press and the First Vatican Council. After many trials and revolutions, including exile in France, he died peacefully in 1870 and was canonised in 1950.

### Men's and Women's Recollection Days – Maternal Heart of Mary, Lewisham – next 2 Saturdays

The Priestly Fraternity of St Peter will be holding separate men's and women's recollection days over the upcoming two weekends. Firstly, a men's day on true devotion to St Joseph on Saturday 24th October, followed by a Women's Day on true devotion to Our Lady, on Saturday 31st. The program runs from 10.30am–4pm and includes Mass, Adoration, Benediction and opportunities for Confession. Suggested donation – \$25. To register – [www.maternalheartchurch.as.me/schedule.php](http://www.maternalheartchurch.as.me/schedule.php)

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.

*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.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-NINETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

18 OCTOBER 2020

## 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**

## FIRST READING

Isa 45:1, 4-6

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 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. 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 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.**

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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