

## OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sandy Watkins: 0409 492 508 Fr Marcello Colasante: 0416 194 825  
Contact: St Columbas Ballarat North: 5331 1012 Email: [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Special Parish Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals) Phone: Bernadette Franc 0427678830

Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*

Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830

**SUNDAY – October 22nd, 2023**  
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

John Dridan, Andrew Agterhuis, Shane Ferrari,  
Nancy Morcombe, Gerard Collins, John Gustus,  
Sr Rosa Gustus, Lawrence McNamara, Ethel Glenister,  
Harold Beer

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Pat Byrne, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy,  
Fr Adrian McInerney, Graeme Trethowan,  
Tony Collins, Frank Meehan, Wilma Tiley  
and all those in need of prayer.

### **ROSTER:**

#### ***Introduction & Reading***

Today: John Jess  
Oct 15th: Bernadette Franc

#### ***Prayers of the Faithful***

Today: Clarita Clancy  
Oct 29th: Clarita Clancy

#### ***Assembly Leaders***

Oct 29th: Angela Gerrard & Carita Clancy  
Nov 5th: Genevieve & Clarry Johnson

#### ***Special Minister***

Oct 29th: Gail Hall  
Nov 5th: Therese Jess

#### ***Music***

Sue Mahony

#### ***Church Cleaning, Linen, Flowers***

29th Oct & 5th Nov: Genevieve Johnston  
12th Nov -19th: Bernadette Franc & Therese Jess

#### ***Church Grounds:***

29th Oct & 5th Nov: Clarrie Johnston  
12th Nov -19th: Bill Franc & John Jess

#### ***Newsletter:***

October: Angela Gerrard 0439 565 468

### **MASS TIMES**

Oct 29th: **LLA 10.00am**

### **Thank you:**

Thank you to everyone who helped to have the church clean and sparkling before the wedding of Simon Gabb and Jacqui Hestor yesterday.

### **ADVENT BOOKLETS**

Advent booklets ('With Expectant Hearts') are available for \$10 each  
To purchase see Bernadette after Mass

### **OCTOBER IS WORLD MISSION MONTH**



Catholic Mission has launched the World Mission Month 2023 Appeal, highlighting the Work of Salesian Sisters in Timor-Leste. You can contribute today by scanning the QR code

### **CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S EMERGENCY APPEALS**



Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya.

Scan the QR Code to donate.

### **PRAYER FOR MISSIONARIES**

Lord, fill the hearts of your missionaries with the Holy Spirit. Guide their steps with your mighty arm and with the power of your grace. Strengthen them in spirit so that they will not falter though weariness. Look kindly on your servants, who you have sent forth as messengers of salvation and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **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 to pursue it.  
We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.  
Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life  
and not stray from the way of truth and 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.*

### **PRAYER FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE IN UKRAINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

God of peace and justice,  
who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust the people of Ukraine and the Middle East to you.  
Protect them in this time of peril; let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom. You are Father of all; we are brothers and sisters. Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace not war. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

22 OCTOBER 2023

## FAITH IN ACTION

Jesus was certainly caught on the horns of a dilemma as he faced the hostile demands of his opponents in Jerusalem. The Pharisees as religious authorities had combined with the Herodians (those who supported the Roman-backed Herod) to trap him on the question of payment of taxes. Jesus' response not only unmasks their hypocrisy but demonstrates his adroitness in dealing with a particularly pointed question: 'Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.' Stated like this it all seems clear; the problem arises when we must determine what belongs to Caesar and what belongs to God. What is the proper response for a Christian?

Today's readings warn us that false dichotomies are to be avoided between faith and the world. Isaiah reflects on the way Cyrus, the great ruler of Persia, is an unwitting instrument of God's will. In other words, God is at work in the world in ways that are unseen and often unnoticed. Consequently, if God is at work in the world the person of faith is called not to withdraw from the work but to transform it.

As far as Paul is concerned, the community of Thessalonica is a living example of what it means to be Christian in the world. Their faith has been expressed in actions seen in their working together in love, and persevering through hope. Living in the Roman empire they are praised for their ability to give both to Caesar and to God.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## 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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