

## ST. TIMOTHY'S PARISH NEWS

17-23 Stevens Road, Vermont, VIC 3133

Phone: (03) 9412 8499

Email: [foresthill@cam.org.au](mailto:foresthill@cam.org.au)

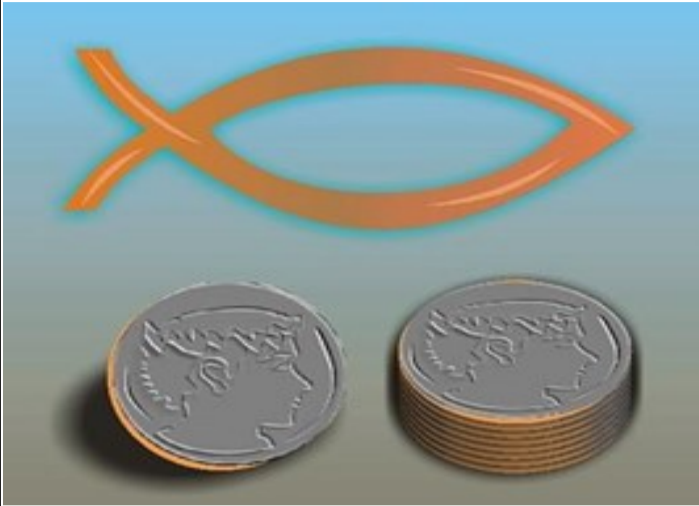
Website: [www.sttimothys.org.au](http://www.sttimothys.org.au)

## 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

17-18 OCTOBER 2020

Parish Priest / Administrator: Fr. Tony Kerin EV  
Secretaries: Millicent (Tues: 9am-4pm, Fri: 1pm-5pm)  
Corrie (Wed-Thurs, 9am - 3pm)

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT



After the linguistic foreplay on Jesus' strength, comes the straightforward question: "Is it against our Law to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" A simple question on a red-hot issue. Palestine was an unwilling and troublesome Roman colony. The Jews hated the Romans, hated their brutality, loose morals and above all their godlessness. The nationalistic Pharisees felt that the taxes should not be paid to the oppressor. For the Herodians, collaboration with the Romans was seen as beneficial.

Jesus, of course, is perfectly aware of the dangers in giving a straight answer. He accuses them of gross hypocrisy in setting this trap. Jesus then gives his famous answer, "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God."

We all depend to a large extent on our civil government. In modern times very few people can supply their own water, electricity, telephone system. There are many other services which only a civil authority can provide, such as education, hospitals, roads, welfare services for the unemployed, the handicapped, the elderly. It is obvious that if these services are to continue and improved they require the cooperation and support of the community.

There are many other ways, too, in which we can give our support to raising the quality of life in the community. All of this can be seen as "giving to Caesar what belongs to Caesar". One, unfortunately, does meet people whose only interest is in seeing what they can get out of the community for themselves and their immediate family with no intention of ever giving anything back. And we need to realise that when we really love our country and its people, we may have to stand in strong opposition to the authorities on these issues.

Is it right to pay taxes to a foreign power? If Jesus says yes, he is against them, his own people. If he says no, they will report him to the Romans and have him arrested. Jesus remains free and firm in face of the plots against him. You can see in the text the wisdom of his answer.

We are all citizens of two dominions - the spiritual and the temporal. We have duties to each. Generally, these loyalties are not in conflict. However, there are nonetheless occasions when we need to speak - out of love - against neglect or inequitable behaviour by our Government, especially in regard to social injustice.

When conflict arises between spiritual and temporal powers, it is wise to keep in mind St Thomas More's famous maxim, "The King's good servant, but God's first".

To be a good citizen and to serve God are not in contradiction, since God works through all human systems and institutions to build the final community of love. God needs us to help build good relationships wherever we find ourselves.

A coin has two sides: one identifies the issuing authority; one refers to history or culture. I am made in the image of God, indelibly stamped with God's character; I bring value to the people among whom I live as I witness to God's presence and life. Let us ask for Jesus' courage to stand up for what is true and just.

LivingSpace is part of Sacred Space - [www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie)



### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Holy Eucharist. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You are already here and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

*Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Most Divine,  
All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine (3x)*



## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION CORNER

**“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.



**JOIN FR TONY'S SUNDAY MASS AT 10:15 AM AND WEEKDAY MASSES AT 12:00 NOON**

**LIVE STREAMING AND REPLAY AT**

**CATHOLIC-PARISH-OF GREATER-BOX HILL**

**(<https://www.facebook.com/GBHparish>)**

**ON YOUTUBE:**

*Fr Tony continues to be present for chats, updates, counselling, queries and prayer requests. You can contact him at [tony.querin@cam.org.au](mailto:tony.querin@cam.org.au) or call 9401 6371.*

**VIETNAMESE SUNDAY MASS AT 5:00 PM**

**<https://www.facebook.com/sttimvn>**

**ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL SUNDAY MASS**

**Live streamed at St Patrick's YouTube:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb>**

**Mon-Fri: 1pm, Sat: 8am, Sun: 11am**



LET US CONTINUE TO REACH OUT TO OUR HOUSEBOUND NEIGHBOURS, FRIENDS & RELATIVES. YOU CAN ALSO DONATE GOODS TO OUR ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY. CALL SVDP (1800 305 330) TO MAKE DONATION ARRANGEMENTS OR THE PARISH OFFICE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE.



Thank you for using St Timothy's Parish Thanksgiving Online Payment Portal and for your continuing support to our parish. Our site link is **Parish Pay Portal**

**<https://secure.artezpacific.com/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=116521&langPref=en-CA>**

**You may also opt to use the direct/debit facility, kindly email or call us for the Parish bank details.**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

John Williams, Emilio Moleta, Gina Gangi, Margarita Mendes, Kurt Ludescher, Magencia Arciaga, Joseph Sheales, Daisy Louise Searle, Aldo Pinzone, Marcel Hickman, Louis Rodrigues, Kathleen McLoney, Luigina Isola, Carmella Zuccarello, Alleluia Mendes, James Mascarinas,.

## NEXT WEEK: 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- ♦ *First Reading: Ex 22: 20-26*
- ♦ *Second Reading: 1Thess 1: 5-10*
- ♦ *Gospel: Matthew : 22: 34-40*



## WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

**18 OCTOBER**

*The celebration of World Mission Day is an occasion for reaffirming how prayer, reflection and the material help of your offerings are so many opportunities to participate actively in the mission of Jesus in his Church.*

*~ Pope Francis*

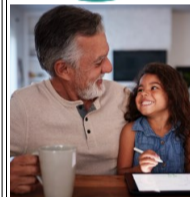
Please support Catholic Mission appeal for Cambodia. Your donation can make a difference for young people with disability by providing them with critical care and support to help them reach their goals.

You can choose to give a tax-deductible gift online via this link: <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/donate/your-donation?id=wmm20-cambodia-appeal>

The other option to make a donation to Catholic Mission is by using your mobile phone. The process is simple: one only needs to send the word “GIVE” to the number: **0488 854 436**. This prompts an immediate reply which provides a link to a platform to make a donation.



## ONLINE SAFETY FOR GRANDPARENTS & 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 that can affect children and young people” including practical tips to help grandparents and carers to talk about these issues with children and young people and manage them. Helpful topics include: setting up devices safely; managing time online; preventing unsafe contact from strangers as well as a guide to some of the most popular sites and apps.

Grandparents and carers can order a hard copy or download and view the resource online:

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

## VERMONT CHILDREN'S CENTRE

**AT ST TIMOTHY'S SCHOOL GROUND**

- 6 weeks to 5 years old includes
- 3 and 4 Year Old Kinder

**A FUNDED KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM AVAILABLE**

**Expressions of interest are being taken.**

**Please call: Celine on (03) 98075208 or email at [info@vermontchildcare.com.au](mailto:info@vermontchildcare.com.au)**



## PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

St Joseph, You were receptive to God working in your life. Help us by your prayers at this time of trial. You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care: may your prayers assist our local Church to respond to those in need. You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers: help us to follow his example of love. You were part of God's plan for all humanity: assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day. You spent your life in service: may we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these difficult days. You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us to grow in faith and pray to the Father, Thy will be done. Amen.





## CHURCHES 'SAFER THAN RESTAURANTS'

More than 10,000 people have signed a petition calling for the Victorian Government to amend its Roadmap for Reopening so that places of worship are treated equitably and be placed on an equal footing with restaurants.

The Equality for Faith petition has gained traction since it was launched two weeks ago and has been supported by religious groups. It was sent to Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews, the Equality for Faith website confirms.

Restaurants outside Melbourne's lockdown zone can operate with 20 people indoors and 50 outdoors — something Fr Marcus Goulding, assistant priest at Bacchus Marsh parish, believes should also apply for churches and places of worship.

Regional churches can hold outdoor services for 10 people or indoor services for one household only.

"We know that we can do this safely," Fr Goulding told the ABC, adding the issue could be relevant for Melbourne worshippers if lockdown restrictions are eased soon. He said churches were "safer than being in a restaurant" because services only ran for about an hour, and those inside wore masks.

## BEATIFIED TEEN SHOWS HEAVEN IS 'ATTAINABLE GOAL'

An Italian teenager beatified on Sunday showed heaven was an "attainable goal", according to the cardinal who read the papal letter proclaiming him "blessed".

Carlo Acutis was born in London on May 3, 1991, to Italian parents and was baptised at Our Lady of Dolours in Fulham on May 18, 1991, by Fr Nicholas Martin OSM. Soon afterwards, the family moved to Milan. He died of leukaemia in 2006. Skilled on computers, among other achievements during his short life, he created a website listing Eucharistic miracles.

During the beatification Mass at the Basilica of St Francis in Assisi, Italian Cardinal Agostino Vallini read Pope Francis' apostolic letter proclaiming Carlo "blessed", the step before canonisation.

After the reading of the apostolic letter, the newly beatified teen's parents, Andrea Acutis and Antonia Salzano, processed toward the altar carrying a reliquary containing their son's heart.

The reliquary was engraved with one of the teen's well-known quotes: "The Eucharist is my highway to heaven."

Reflecting on the teen's life, Cardinal Vallini said that like most young people his age, Carlo was a "normal, simple, spontaneous, friendly" teenager who used modern forms of communication to transmit the "values and beauty of the Gospel".

For him, "the internet was not just a means of escape, but a space for dialogue, knowledge, sharing and mutual respect that was to be used responsibly, without becoming slaves to it and rejecting digital bullying," the cardinal said.

## GOOD TO SEE YOU, POPE TELLS CARDINAL PELL

Pope Francis welcomed Cardinal George Pell to the Vatican for a private audience in the Apostolic Palace.

Cardinal Pell returned to Rome on September 30 for the first time since 2017 to find a swirling financial corruption scandal implicating half a dozen Holy See employees, including one of his Vatican nemeses, Cardinal Angelo Becciu

The Vatican released a brief video clip of the meeting. In it, Francis is heard saying, "Good to see you" and "more than a year" — an apparent reference to the time Pell spent in prison. The pope added: "Thank you for your testimony", the National Catholic Register reports.

"It went very well," Cardinal Pell told reporters in front of his residence just outside the Vatican walls.

## GRATEFUL MORRISON 'DREW STRENGTH' FROM PRAYERS

Prime Minister Scott Morrison has thanked Australians for praying for him and his family in an address to the National Prayer Breakfast streamed from Parliament House last Monday

In a pre-recorded address, Mr Morrison said he was grateful for messages from the public that have caused him to "pause and draw strength". He said the COVID-19 pandemic had shown Australians "how much we draw strength from each other".

Opposition Leader Anthony Albanese also gave a brief address, reminding participants that prayer was a chance to step back from politics and "reach deep within ourselves while reaching up to a higher power".

The National Prayer Breakfast is organised by the Parliamentary Christian Fellowship, led by senator Amanda Stoker and MP Luke Gosling. For the first time in its 31-year history, the event was held online, for free.

A number of Catholic representatives were among many Christians who sang the closing song, The Blessing Australia, with lyrics from the psalm May The Lord Bless You And Keep You. These included Wollongong Bishop Brian Mascord, The Sisters of the Immaculata, Fr Rob Galea, Genevieve Bryant and the Missionaries of God's Love Sisters.

## CATHOLIC ORGANISATION WON'T PARTICIPATE IN EUTHANASIA

A Catholic aged care organisation has affirmed that it will not participate in euthanasia if legislation allowing it passes in Tasmania.

Southern Cross Care chief executive Robyn Boyd yesterday confirmed the organisation opposed the proposed legislation. She said as Catholic organisation, Southern Cross Care is aligned with "the Catholic ethos" and believed in the sanctity of life. She said the bill was "fundamentally flawed".

However, Ms Boyd said the organisation would not be able to go so far as to prevent residents from accessing euthanasia if it does become legal in Tasmania, but it would not participate or provide it in their aged care facilities.

**INTRODUCTION:**

We should give to Caesar all that Caesar is justly entitled to have for the sake of the common good. A higher allegiance, however, goes to God, who will call all Caesars to account for what they have done and what they failed to do. And we might be asked to explain how we let them get away with it in the first place. (*Richard Leonard SJ*)

**PENITENTIAL RITE:**

Lord Jesus, you are the king of glory.

Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you call each of us by name.

Christ, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, without you we are nothing.

Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

**FIRST READING:** *Is 45: 1, 4-6*

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***Response: 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*

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:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. **Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL :** *Mt 22: 15-21*

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.'