

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 2:15-16

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.



A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Email: sales@stpauls.com.au Scripture readings taken from The Jerusalem Bible, © 1966 Hodder & Stoughton Ltd. All rights reserved. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2026. No 2165. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

18 OCTOBER 2026

WHO IS OUR GOD?

Homilists today may be tempted to use this Gospel as an encouragement to honour taxation: every citizen contributes to the common good, and perhaps parishioners might even be urged to contribute a little more to the parish coffers. After all, Jesus does say, 'Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar!' While we certainly have a responsibility to support those social structures that advance the common good, and to assist those who struggle, something more troubling is at work in this Gospel.

The setting is the Temple Mount, where Matthew presents Jesus undergoing a theological trial before religious leaders and guardians of orthodoxy. It is a scene repeated in every generation of Jesus' followers: the attempt by theological rigorists to indict those whom they regard as out of step with orthodox teaching. Jesus refuses the premise of their question. Instead, he asks them to produce the coin used to pay the tax and to identify the figure and inscription upon it. 'Caesar's,' they reply.

Here lies the real issue. These religious leaders publicly champion the Torah's fundamental confession that there is only one God. Yet, in Israel's most sacred place, the Temple, they carry an image of the god-king Caesar. Their actions contradict the faith they claim to defend. Thus, today's Gospel is not primarily about the lawfulness of taxation. It is about fidelity to the Divine One. Beneath the question of what belongs to Caesar lies the more searching question: Who is our God, the One to whom our ultimate love, allegiance and obedience belong?

Fr Michael Trainor

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.



29th Sunday of the Year 18th October 2026
St Joseph's Catholic Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street
St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street

In the Pastoral Care of the **AUGUSTINIANS**

- Fr Luca Park OSA (Parish Priest)
- Fr Francis Park OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- Fr Brian Buckley OSA (Prior)
- Fr Barry Clifford OSA (Retired)

ADMINISTRATION

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE
Tel: Church & Office 9826 9677
secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au
www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au
Postal: Box 21 South Yarra 3141



OUR PARISH AND THE AUGUSTINIANS

Commit to creating an environment where the safety of children and the vulnerable is paramount. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

Pastoral and Administrative Support

- Stephy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant) ► Joel Sanchez (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- Safeguarding: Stephy Coosnapa ► Sarah Thyssen (St Joseph's Outreach Services: Mon, Tues, Thurs)
- Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)

Liturgical Calendar for the week commencing 18th October 2026

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 17 th October	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 18 th October 29 th Sunday of the Year	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 19 th October 29 th Week in Ordinary Time		
Tuesday 20 th October St Magdalene of Nagasaki	10am Mass	No Mass
Wednesday 21 st October 29 th Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass	No Mass
Thursday 22 nd October 29 th Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass	No Mass
Friday 23 rd October St William the Hermit & Bl John the Good	10am Mass	No Mass
Saturday 24 th October 29 th Week in Ordinary Time	9am Mass 6.00pm Vigil Mass	



PARISH COUNCIL REPORT - OCTOBER

During the Parish Council meeting last Wednesday there was discussion on the success of the 2026 National Lay congress and a vote of thanks for all involved. Preparations for the annual Parish BBQ & raffle are under way, an Advent Reflection Day to be led by Fr John Sullivan 13th Dec and Farewell morning tea for Stephy 25 Oct were also discussed.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- **Meditation:** Fridays 10.45am
- **Liturgy Meeting:** Thurs 22 Oct 6pm
- **Save the Date:** Parish BBQ Sun 22 Nov
- **Advent Reflection Day:** 13th Dec
- **RCIA:** Thursdays 7pm

Pope Leo XIV – For the 100th World Mission Day 2026



"For World Mission Day 2026, which marks the centenary of a celebration established by Pius XI that is very dear to the Church, I have chosen the theme "One in Christ, united in mission." Following the Jubilee

Year, I wish to encourage the whole Church to continue its missionary journey with joy and zeal in the Holy Spirit. This requires hearts united in Christ, reconciled communities and, in everyone, a willingness to cooperate with generosity and trust. As we reflect on being *one in Christ* and *united in mission*, let us allow ourselves to be guided and inspired by divine grace, "to renew in ourselves the fire of our missionary vocation" and advance together in the commitment to evangelization, in this "new missionary age" in the history of the Church" (From the Vatican, 25 January 2026),

NO WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST THOMAS

There will be NO WEEKDAY masses at St Thomas Aquinas this week. Mass as usual at 9am Sunday. Sorry for the inconvenience.

COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS 2027

Are available for purchase from the parish office. \$10 each. Be sure to receive your copy by contacting us.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK - Pope Leo, Margaret Wallin, Anne Rigg, Mitos Gloudemans, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Paul Chong, Isabella Chong, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Cecil D'Cruz, Joanna Howe, Janine Forster, Christie De Silva, Anita Zaid, Maurice & Pauline Sheehan, Rosie Gucciardo, Nichole Garnaut, Enid Netto, David Mills, Charles, Tom Greene, Anna Slawek, Maurice White

IN LOVING MEMORY



Recently Deceased

- * Cedric Netto
- * Sr John Mary Vianney

Anniversaries

- * Francis Meagher
- * Rose Ignace
- * Jessie Theresa Daniels
- * Marlene Martin
- * Margarita Aravena
- * Nelson Jorquera
- * Phanxico Xavier Phuc Pham.
- * Maria Tesoriero
- * Maria George
- * Margaret Greene
- * Giuseppe "Joe" Giofre
- * Guillermo Jorquera
- * Lucia de Venere

MORNING TEA AND FAREWELL FOR STEPHY - SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to Stephy Coosnapa, our Pastoral Worker for the past seven years, as she concludes her time with us next week. We wish Stephy God's blessings for the next chapter in her life. Please join us for morning tea after 10.30am Mass next Sunday to bid Stephy farewell.

COFFEE AFTER ST THOMAS' 9.00AM MASS NEXT SUNDAY

After mass at St Thomas Aquinas next Sunday 25th October join us for coffee at Velvet Bean Café, 35 Albert Road. Refreshments to farewell Stephy to follow in the Parish Centre.



BECOMING A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN

If you know someone who would like to know more about the Catholic faith, or if you have questions about taking the next step, the Parish of South Yarra is here to accompany you. Please contact the Parish office for more details. 98269677



MASS COLLECTION 11/10/2026

Clergy (Augustinian Community)
1st Collection, CDF & bank deposits... \$ 924.90
Church (Parish Ministries)
2nd Collection \$ 574.90
Envelopes..... \$ 60.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards...\$ 675.00
Tap Point Terminals..... \$ 600.00
Thank you for your generosity