

St Therese's Parish Essendon

17 & 18 October 2020

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
World Mission Month



First Reading Is 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.

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.'



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE 2020 This year our perpetual Book of Remembrance will be published online on our website. To submit new names to the book, please follow this link: <https://forms.gle/26pCK8E5ovgFbDpv9> The link will be active until 5pm on Wednesday 28 October.

If you would like to submit names via email then please send them to essendon@cam.org.au.

You can alternatively phone the parish office during business hours or drop a printed note into the office letterbox.

Entries in the book are sorted alphabetically by last name so any emails or handwritten notes should clearly show the first name and the last name.

The book will be up on our website from Sunday 1 November.

PLEASE NOTE: If you have submitted names in previous years there is no need to do it again as all names remain in the Book of Remembrance.

Brothers and sisters, God who is mighty has called each of us by name. With confidence let us bring our prayer before the Lord of all.

Let us pray for the Church, especially in places where it is young or in need of support: that World Mission Sunday may be a source of hope and encouragement.

Lord, hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the Pope: that he might effectively lead the world in building bridges of love and understanding between peoples.

Lord, hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

That Covid inspire all levels of government to provide housing for the vulnerable member of our community, including domestic abuse victims.

Lord, hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

Let us pray for people who suffer prejudice and are unable to freely practice their religious faith: that God will bless them and give them the strength and courage that they need.

Lord, hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

We continue to pray for the welfare of students preparing for their VCE and university exams, and for those finishing their time at secondary school, all of whom have had a challenging year.

Lord, hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for our own special intentions: **Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

We pray for those who are ill, especially Jorge Arenivar, Marty O'Donnell, Lolita Fajardo, Jane Phelan, Joan Kennedy, and Gerard O'Brien

For those who have died recently Betty Hannon and Sven Nilsson

And those we remember at this time especially Carmel Doran, Beatrice Grocott, Irene Marantelli and Owen (Frank) Egan

Lord, hear us - Lord hear our prayer

Loving God, your ways are truth and life. Hear our prayers and help us to keep our hearts set on your kingdom that is to come. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



Holy Spirit working among us
fill us with gratitude for education
and with appreciation of those in the teaching ministry
who empower our communities.
Calm us in this time of pandemic
to be supportive of children, young people and teachers
negotiating the new realities of this time.
Strengthen the commitment of governments, churches and
institutions
to the goal of universal education in our world.
Encourage us to take advantage of opportunities
for learning through all our lives.
And bless us with critical minds, grateful hearts and willing hands
to do our bit.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ
the way, the truth and the life.
Amen

Margaret O'Sullivan rsj

A LETTER FROM FR JOHN

16 October 2020

Dear friends at St Therese's Parish,

As time goes by, the days get longer in terms of light, and springtime colours bursting forth, here we are still in lockdown, hoping for some relief before too long now. The roses in the parish gardens, especially thanks to Bryan Guiney, our volunteer parish green thumb, are looking particularly bright.

Last week, our school students celebrated the Feast of our parish patron saint Therèsè also known as "The Little Flower", suitable for springtime too! I was pleased to be able to play a part in the paraliturgy by reading a story about flowers and bees brightening the world around us, as Therese did through her little good deeds and words. Then, when I was out for a long walk (within 5km!) with my friend Father Tony Feeney, parish priest at Moonee Ponds, we were surprised and pleased to come across some terrific chalk drawings and writing along the footpath and driveways, reflecting the thoughts and artistic skills of our students. A great job was done by those who contributed to brightening the neighbourhood and making others aware of the positive influence and goodness of St Therèsè, who was a great example of the saying: "From little things, big things grow"!

At last school is back and our friendly and enthusiastic young people can get together with their friends and share classroom activities and fun outside as we get into gear for the final term for 2020. When I walked through the playground this week. I sensed a real happiness and joy in being back together with friends and teachers face to face, even with masks for the seniors! Let's hope we can continue to gradually open up to the freedoms we have been familiar with before this unprecedented time of 2020.

I guess we'll always have plenty of stories to tell about how life changed for a time, and we just had to adapt and get used to it for the benefit of all, in terms of public health and the common good of all in our community.

We've all had opportunities to try to use our time well, finding things to do and activities to pursue, even if not with our friends as we have been accustomed. My piano playing has improved a bit, and I've managed a few challenging jigsaws, and there are always more books to read on my Kindle, as well as more time to reflect and think. And then there is ZOOM for virtual meetings, and dinner on Sunday evenings with a few priest friends on the iPad at the dinner table, continuing our normal conversation on-line. At least we can do that these days near and far.

It has been strange having the church closed to normal activities for over 6 months, and pastoral visits being very much restricted also, but we have had to accept that this has all been for the common good and health of all. This pervasive coronavirus knows no boundaries, and the numbers have slowly been improving in the right direction for resumption of some sort of normality.

Nothing is certain about when and how we can reopen for resumption of weekday and weekend Masses, with numbers likely to be restricted at least for some time. With Christmas coming, we can't really guess how and when and even where we might come together to celebrate. Then there are the deferred Baptisms, weddings and memorial Masses for those who have had bereavements with limited numbers for funerals in this recent time.

As for sacramental celebrations, particularly for our First Communion and Confirmation candidates, we may just have to wait until 2021, which is fast approaching anyway! I can only surmise that larger gatherings will not be permitted for some time yet, and we may have to look at new ways of gathering in smaller groups. At present, I can't say what we will do. I do appreciate the frustration and disappointment of those students and their families at not being able to do things as usual and missing the usual celebrations that we have for these important occasions.

We are learning to wait with patience and accepting the uncertainty at present. At the same time, we have learned to do things in new ways, with on-line learning, teachers and parents working from home, and being creative with communication and activities.

At the parish we have tried to provide a service and ongoing communication through the parish website, with Masses being videoed and uploaded for weekdays and weekends on the parish website at stthereses.org.au. And there is the weekly parish bulletin online as well, to keep you updated on current information and items of interest.

If you wish to receive the parish newsletter via weekly email you can [click here to subscribe](#) or send your request via email to essendon@cam.org.au.

I particularly thank our school community, with Michael Di Nuzzo as Principal, his leadership team and all involved, for the dedication they have shown and the great work they have done in this time of home schooling on-line. I also acknowledge and thank our parish team of Kathy, Jac, Irene and Leanne, who have continued to work from home during this period, trying to keep me organized and things ticking over in this quieter time.

I also understand that it has been a very difficult time for many who have suffered the effects of closure, particularly those of you who have had small business concerns, and those whose employment has been adversely affected, where it has not been possible to continue operating and making ends meet. As time goes by, this has no doubt created financial pressures and anxiety. If this is an issue, you need to talk about it. Our thoughts are with you and hope that things can resume sooner than later for all. We are here to listen and help in any way we can, so feel free to make contact if you wish to have a chat.

Finally, I offer a bit of wisdom from my favourite author, yes, Dr Seuss!

“Life is too short to wake up in the morning with regrets. So, love the people who treat you right, forgive the ones that don’t and believe that everything happens for a reason. If you get the chance, take it. If it changes your life, let it. Nobody said it would be easy; they just promised it would be worth it.”

On a sad note, my one and only aunt Betty died peacefully this morning, after happily celebrating her 97th birthday only two weeks ago. Over the past three years, she has enjoyed coming to St Therese’s and staying with me and appreciated the welcome, warmth and hospitality of the parish community, particularly the Senior Friendship Group.

Once again, I thank you all for your patience and understanding in this extended period of uncertainty and anxiety.

With warmest wishes to all.



John Hannon
Parish Priest
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PARISH LIFE ISO

On Monday our school children returned to onsite learning, bringing a whole lot of life back to our neighbourhood, school and church surrounds. It was wonderful to see families making their way to school on Monday morning and to hear the sounds of children at play during morning and lunch breaks.

School Principal Michael Di Nuzzo welcomed the return to onsite learning. 'It goes without saying that this week has been the best week so far! The sound of chatter and laughter in the corridors, children playing in the yard and students and teachers working and learning together in their natural learning space - What a joy! For me amongst the experience of seeing the school going back to some kind of normal, it was a great privilege to visit classrooms and hand out Spirit of Jesus awards to students who had earned them in Term 3. To congratulate them all face to face and see their pride when affirmed by their classmates is a truly positive experience.'

The school has shared some more images with us from last week's chalk garden activities.



Keeping with the tradition set last year the school were keen to express their love and appreciation for St Therèse using the children's creative and artistic qualities. Not being able to replicate the St Therèse chalk garden at school seemed like a disappointment until they realised the opportunity

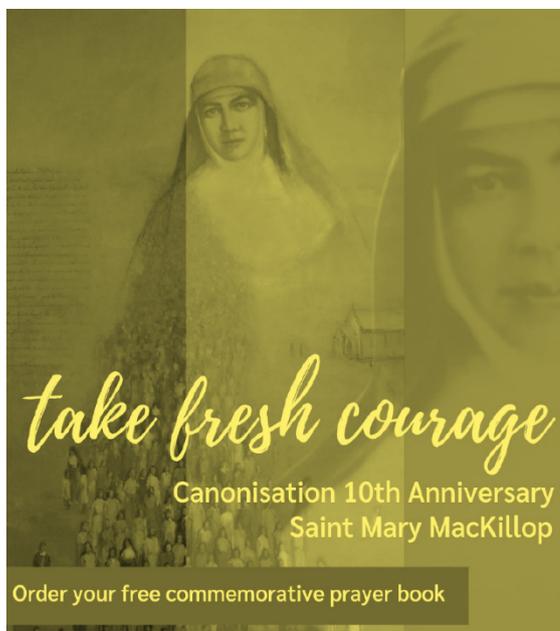
to connect with the wider community whilst uniting through their efforts.

It was fantastic to see of how our students were able to share the great story of St Therèse on the footpaths and driveways right across Essendon and the surrounding area.

'It was wonderful to hear from Fr John and Mrs Borrelli talk fondly of what they witnessed in their travels within our neighbourhood!' said Mr Di Nuzzo.



We'd love to hear what you've been up to in ISO. Email jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au to contribute to Parish Life in ISO



CELEBRATING MARY'S CANONISATION 17 October 2020 marks the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Saint. The Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate the inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross. The theme for this celebration is "Take Fresh Courage" a quote written by Mary MacKillop on 21 May 1877. Sr Mary Cresp rsj has written a reflection on the theme and life of Mary MacKillop [here](#).

ENCOUNTERING ST MARY MACKILLOP IN PRAYER To celebrate the anniversary, the Sisters have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire all to "take fresh courage" as Mary did so often. Prayers focus on ten significant moments in Saint Mary's life, sharing details of her personal journey, highlighting her values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world. The free booklet is available to view, use and download here: [Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer](#) Printed copies are also available free from the Sisters of St Joseph. To order your exclusive copy go to: <http://www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book> or call 02 8912 2777.



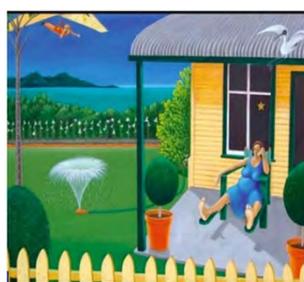
Click the image to watch #wearestill here

WE ARE STILL HERE Catholic Mission is part of a global network with missionaries around the world, dedicated to serving their communities. They are the people with a thousand faces, comforting the lives of some the most vulnerable communities. The "We Are Still Here" global video connects more than 30 missionaries and mission partners based in over 25 different countries, speaking their own languages and the languages of those they work with. Catholic Mission, recognises the many donors, friends and supporters from different backgrounds, whose generosity supports projects around the world. For more info visit <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/>

POPE FRANCIS' NEW ENCYCLICAL Pope Francis has written his third encyclical entitled *Fratelli tutti* (On Fraternity and Social Friendship), which he addresses to all people of goodwill and offers as a proposal for a way of life 'marked by the flavour of the Gospel'. Visit our website to read the [full encyclical](#) or a [summary](#). We also have some [interesting articles](#) relating to Fratelli tutti on the website.



COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR 2021 Our St Vincent De Paul Society conference will be selling Columban Art Calendars this year. If you would like to purchase a calendar please contact the office either by email essendon@cam.org.au or by phoning 9401 6330 during office hours. Details on how to collect the calendars will be finalised once more information about the Metropolitan Melbourne roadmap are released. Proceeds from sales support the works of our SVDP Essendon conference.



WOMEN, CHURCH, COMMUNITY IN A TIME OF COVID-19: YARRA THEOLOGICAL UNION, ZOOM EVENT

Wednesday 21 October 4.30pm - 6.30pm

The link to Zoom event will appear on the YTU website on 20 October: <https://ytu.edu.au/>

With Claire Renkin and guest artist, Jan Hynes about her cycle of paintings featuring Mary and Elizabeth. Facilitator: Rachel McLoughlin (ibvm YTU Chaplain) with Claire Renkin (Lecturer Art History and Spirituality YTU) and Eleanor Flynn (Lecturer YTU)

PARISH GIVING DURING COVID19 If you usually support the parish with envelopes at Masses and would like to continue your payments, you can deposit your PSP donations directly to the parish accounts. Note there are separate accounts for church and clergy.

Contributions to the church account:

Name: St Therese's Church, BSB: 083 347, Account number: 67640 1701

Contributions towards supporting the clergy:

Account Name: St Therese's Church, BSB: 083 347, A/C number: 67616 4988

Any deposit should be referenced with your FIRST INITIAL and SURNAME so that we know that the money is a PSP payment attributed to you.



MELBOURNE STEP 2 RESTRICTIONS AT ST THERESE'S

Our church remains closed except for permitted ceremonies.

RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS: permitted outdoors with a limit of five people, plus one faith leader. Must be adjacent to the place of worship with only one group permitted at a time.

FUNERALS: limited to 10 mourners (infants under 12 months of age not included in this number). A separate grouping of mourners may not come in to remove the coffin from the church. You can travel to a funeral outside of metropolitan Melbourne.

WEDDINGS: permitted in outdoor public spaces with a maximum of 5 attendees, including the couple and two witnesses, but not including the celebrant. Children under 12 months are exempted from the number. Do not need to occur proximate to a place of worship.

BAPTISMS: may be celebrated under the outdoor gathering limits. This allows for 5 people including the faith leader outdoors (a child under 12 months not included).

REQUESTS FOR OUTDOOR RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES WILL BE CONSIDERED ON A CASE-BY-CASE, PASTORAL BASIS.

VISITATIONS: Homes: Faith leaders may visit someone in their home on request to share spiritual ministry (or equivalent religious services) to provide care and support to a person who is at the end of their life. It is critical measures like face coverings and physical distancing are observed, and that the travel to the person's home and the visit are limited to what is reasonably required and necessary.

Hospitals or Care Facilities: Faith leaders may visit someone in a hospital or care facility to share spiritual ministry to those who are at the end of their life, or if it would support a patient or resident with their emotional or mental wellbeing, in line with other visiting restrictions and if this support cannot be provided remotely. It is important to note that strict limits on 3 visitors apply in these circumstances. It is critical measures like face coverings and physical distancing are observed and these visits are limited to what is reasonably required and necessary.

Mass online is celebrated Wednesday to Friday along with our weekend Mass.

PACE REMAINS CLOSED

PARISH OFFICE OPERATES REMOTELY You can call us weekdays 9am until 3pm or send us an email. For those needing to speak to Fr John, appointments can be made over the phone or via email. Onsite meetings are not permitted.

EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS contact number for Fr John: 0490 956 610

For the full details of Step 1 restrictions you should visit the [DHHS website](#).

THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE provides regular pastoral updates on the COVID-19 situation on the CAM website: www.cam.org.au

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: John Hannon john.hannon@cam.org.au

Baptism – Pastoral Outreach: Leanne Torr leanne.torr@cam.org.au

Business Manager: Kathy Gilmour kathy.gilmour@cam.org.au

Function Manager: Jac Radcliffe jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au

Bookkeeper: Irene Fritsche irene.fritsche@cam.org.au

Parish Leadership Team: essendon.plt@cam.org.au

Child Safety Officer: Olivia Metcalf essendon.safeguarding@cam.org.au

Office opening hours - Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.30pm

Office Telephone: 9401 6330 – after hours Fr John: 0490 956 610

Office email: essendon@cam.org.au Website: www.stthereses.org.au

School email: principal@stessendon.catholic.edu.au

St Vincent de Paul helpline: 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10am–3pm

Tiny T's Playgroup: stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com

St Therese's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country of the land on which our church stands and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to Elders past and present.

Give to God what belongs to God

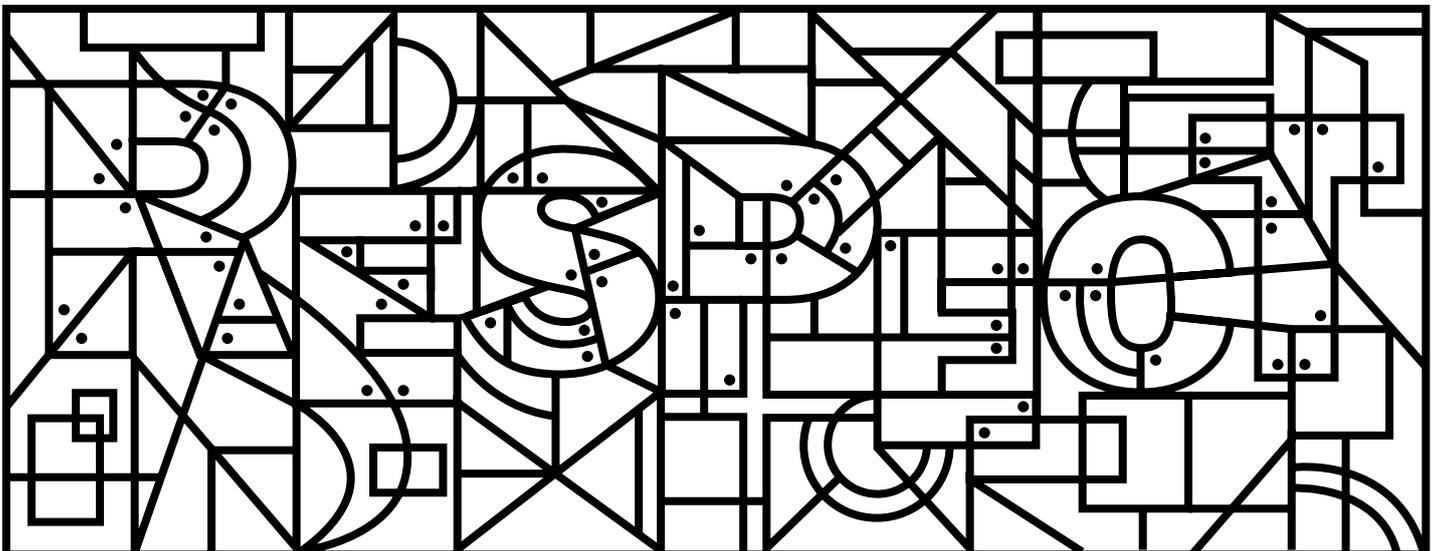


Give to God what belongs to God.

Jesus tells us that we belong to God. We can give ourselves to God by following Jesus' teachings and loving others as he did. Draw a picture of yourself doing something as Jesus would have done.



Colour in the shapes that contain dots to reveal something that Jesus wants us to show others.





Give to God what belongs to God

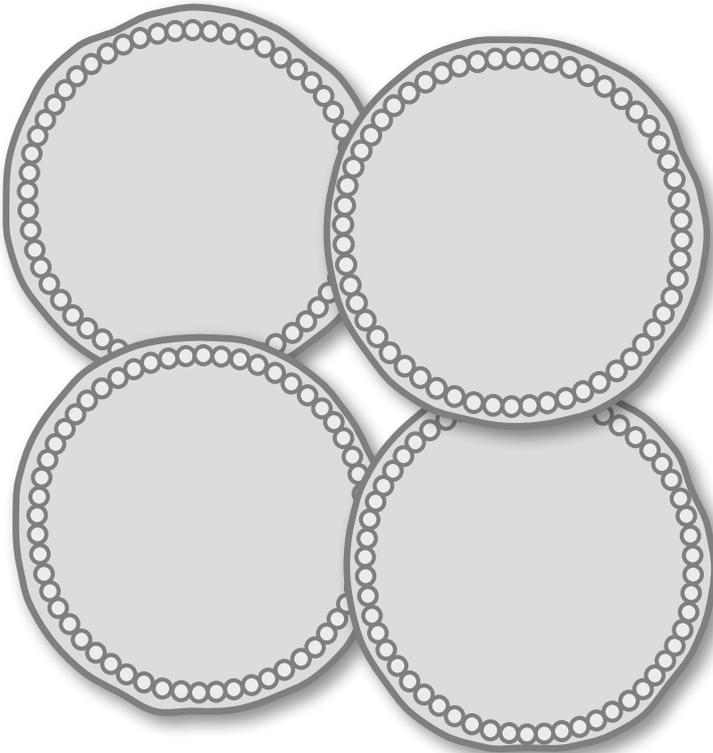


29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar...

Jesus believed that people should obey the law and pay their taxes to the Romans. What are some laws or rules that we must obey?



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.'

Colour in the shapes that contain dots to reveal something that Jesus wants us to show others.

