



SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER, 2026 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. YEAR A Reflection on the Gospel (Matthew 22:15-21)

The emergence of a common enemy is often the catalyst for sworn enemies to unite. In first century Palestine, Pharisees were the respected religious teachers of the law and Herodians represented secular Jewish power and wealth. Herodians and Pharisees despised each other on both religious and political grounds. When faced with a perceived threat to their authority, however, they united in opposition.

Jesus of Nazareth becomes the threat that unites them. His teaching and healing draw the crowds and threaten their authority. They come together and try to set a trap for him. In attempting to set him up, they ironically pay him the greatest of tributes: addressing him as “teacher”, they acknowledge his sincerity and admit that he teaches the way of God in accordance with the truth. They witness to his lack of concern with status and hierarchical division.

The question of these traditional enemies is intended to put Jesus in a “no win” position: “Is it lawful to pay tribute to the emperor or not?” Jesus turns the question back upon the questioners. He lets them know that he is aware of their malicious intent and asks them to produce the coin used for the tax. He thus makes the issue one of images, a sensitive issue for all Jews, rather than of tribute. The Roman denarius that they produce bears the bust of the Roman emperor and the Latin inscription, “Tiberius Caesar, son of the divine Augustus, High Priest”.

Jesus’ response, “Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God”, can be interpreted in several ways. Is Jesus simply exposing their hypocrisy as bearers of images? From a Jewish perspective, everything belongs to God, the earth and all its riches. The disciples of the Pharisees and the Herodians are Jews, even if the sympathies of the Herodians lean towards the Roman occupiers.

Is he telling them to pay the tax while still recognising God’s prior claim? Is he telling them not to pay the tax precisely because the emperor has no claim on what belongs to God?

Is he critiquing the Roman occupation or legitimizing it? Or is he saying something else? They are left to interpret his response as they wish.

One thing is clear: Jesus’ words have nothing to do with the modern distinction between Church and secular state. There are good reasons for paying taxes in a secular state and for contributing financially to the life of the Church, something we may need to revisit in the light of decreased regular ecclesial participation in the Western world.

It is quite anachronistic, however, to invoke this text in support of paying state taxes or of supporting the Church financially. The story is more about sincerity and truth in our relationships with each other and with the God of all truth. Sincerity and truth are the key criteria for any personal or global alliance.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for **Daniel Cauchi** who died recently and for **Joseph Attard, Rochelle Fraser, Berta Marroquin, Gloria Saunders and Joseph Dinh Nguyen** whose anniversaries occur at this time.
May they rest in peace.



SYNODALITY AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people long to be heard and taken seriously. Synodality invites the Church to listen attentively to their questions and hopes.

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1.4-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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. (R.) Thanks be to God.

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 Thessalonians 1:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Thessalonians

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. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Philippians 2:15, 16

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

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.

(R.) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven, *(All bow)*
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Communion Antiphon: Ps 32:18-19

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 SUNDAY OCTOBER 18, 2026

Theme: **"One in Christ, United in Mission"**

This year marks a century of prayer, solidarity, and financial support for Catholic missions, run through the Pontifical Mission Societies. It marks the 100th anniversary (centenary) of the global celebration established in 1926 by Pope Pius XI.

When we hear the word 'mission' it is easy to think of distant places or extraordinary acts. Yet mission begins much closer to home.

Mission is present in the parent who teaches a child to pray. It is found in the neighbour who offers companionship to someone who is lonely.

It is lived by the volunteer who serves their community, the teacher who encourages a struggling student and the person who chooses kindness, compassion and love when the world offers reasons to do otherwise. Through your prayers, your witness, your generosity, and the countless ways you live your faith, you have helped spread Christ's love to the world.

World Mission Day reminds us that mission is not reserved for a few missionaries in distant places but belongs to every person and connects us as one global Church.

SACRIFICIAL ENVELOPES

New sets of envelopes are available for **Annunciation and Corpus Christi this weekend** and **St. Augustine's next weekend**.

HOSPITALITY THIS WEEKEND

All parishioners are invited to stay awhile after the **5pm and 9.30am Masses this weekend**.

Stay to enjoy a Cuppa, catch up with friends, get to know and welcome more parishioners, offer to help serve tea/coffee, clear up.

PALMS INFORMATION SESSION

Monday 19 October 2026: 5.30pm – 7.00pm

An online webinar for parishioners to discern assisting our global family through mission. This session highlights volunteers who have taken up the mission during "retirement" or later in life. While all ages are called, we often find those with long experience are best placed to impart their skills in the field.

Meet past volunteers who will share their adventures of life and laughter in PNG and Timor Leste.

palms@palms.org.au 02 9560 5333.

See palms.org.au/events to register

TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL UPDATE

Archbishop Comensoli has written to me and the Parish and issued the Decree of merging the Parishes of St Augustine's Yarraville and Corpus Christi, Kingsville and at the same time establishing,

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH, YARRAVILLE-KINGSVILLE.

This will come into effect on Sunday 29th November 2026.

My hope is that we will celebrate a new beginning of our faith journey as the People of God in Yarraville, Kingsville and Brooklyn over that weekend. Our 3 individual Churches and Schools will still retain their names and identities as St Augustine's, Corpus Christi and Annunciation but we will be known as Holy Spirit Parish.

My thanks goes to all those who participated in the discernment process over the last nearly 12 months as we have walked together to come to this point. A Special word of thanks needs to mention the Transition Team, and Carmel Crawford and Suzette Diaz from the Archdiocese who helped guide our process.

I look forward with great anticipation and excitement as we take the next step forward as a new Parish community. Fr Werner

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

ENGAGING YOUR FAITH ONLINE SERIES: Session 9:

AI, Transhumanism and Magnifica Humanitas

Presented by Rev Dr Christopher Mulherin.

Thursday 29 October 2026, 7.00pm–8.30pm

'Young people today can expect to live forever, but AI will run the world.' At least that is the view of some techno-enthusiasts. This session will consider artificial intelligence and transhumanism, and it will reflect on how Christians might think about future developments. As we do so, we will dip into Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*, which takes up these issues. **Registrations (essential) close at 5pm**

two business days before each session.

Engaging Your Faith is a series of short, online presentations that invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world. Experienced academics from Catholic Theological College present on a variety of topics. Cost: \$25 per session.

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION FOR

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

MONDAY 26 OCTOBER AT 7PM

In this session, participants meet course advisors and learn about study options including a wide range online and face-to-face. Register via Google Forms. Registration essential.

PARISH PRIEST:

Rev. Fr. Werner Utri

PARISH SECRETARY: Emilia Balkan

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ST. AUGUSTINE'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays

9.30am till 2.30pm

PARISH WEBSITE:

www.melbocatholic.org/yarraville

SAFEGUARDING: Pat Mc Laughlin

patmac766@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCHES

ST AUGUSTINE'S

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

For email copy of Bulletin



Click QR Code

LITURGY TIMES

TUESDAY MASS

St Augustine's....6.00 pm

Exposition: 5.30 –6.00pm

WEDNESDAY MASS

Corpus Christi.....9.15 am

THURSDAY MASS

St Augustine's...9.15 am

FRIDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.15 am

SATURDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.30 am

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Augustine's...5.00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

Annunciation.....8.00 am

St Augustine's....9.30 am

Corpus Christi..11.00 am

St Augustine's..11.30 am

(Polish)

RECONCILIATION:

SATURDAYS after 9.30am

Mass at Corpus Christi

St. Augustine's...4.15pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

BEYOND BOTANY BAY Presented by
Excelsis (a Catholic Choir) on **Friday 30
October 7.30pm -10.00pm** at Melbourne
Recital Centre 31 Sturt St, Southbank.
Call (03) 9699 3333 business hours.

'THE MISSION WE SHARE:

CO-RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CHURCH'

With Cardinal Mario Grech. Wednesday
4 November 9am-12.00pm at Catholic
Leadership Centre, 576 Victoria Pde East
Melbourne. Email: gccl@nd.edu.au

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

Ordinations 10.00am – 1.00pm

Saturday 14th November 2026

COMMUNITY FAIR at CORPUS CHRISTI

Annunciation, Corpus Christi

& St. Augustine's

Saturday 14th November 2026

10.00am to 4.00pm

FEAST DAYS DURING THE WEEK

- **Monday 19 October** -
Sts John de Brebeuf &
Isaac Jogues & Companions.
St. Paul of the Cross
- **Thursday 22 October**
St. John Paul 11, Pope
- **Friday 23 October** –
St. John of Capistrano
- **Saturday 24 October**
St. Anthony Mary Claret

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Thank you to parishioners at
Annunciation, Corpus Christi and St.
Augustine's for your regular
donation of food items placed in the
churches each week.

In addition to **non-perishable food**,
(cereal, long life milk, tea, coffee,
milo, soup, pasta, pasta sauce, baked
beans, spaghetti, tins of tuna, tinned
fruit, rice, jam, biscuits), items such
as **shampoo, soap, deodorant,**
washing powder/liquid, toothpaste
and brushes are also needed.

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEK

17th & 18th October 2026

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm Kath Baker

9.30am Tere Tutai

Sam Polzella

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11am Val Taylor

Rachael Nguyen

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Joseph De Bono

9.30am..... Pat McLaughlin

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am..... Julianna Barr

COUNTING: John Ryan

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

24th & 25th October 2026

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm John Ryan

9.30am Pina Guzzardi

Sam Polzella

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11am Joe Fusca

Mary Huynh

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Greg Buhagiar

9.30am..... Gerald Bain-King

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am..... Imelda Gibson

COUNTING: John Ryan

**SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL
VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

At Yarraville, Kingsville and
Brooklyn, we hold the care, safety
and well-being of children and all
vulnerable people as a central and
fundamental responsibility of our
communities. The Parish Statement
of Commitment and Reporting
Process are on display at the
entrance of all the Churches and all
Diocesan Policies are available on
the website or at the parish office.
[www.cam.org.au/Professional-
Standards/Statements](http://www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY - We acknowledge the Traditional
Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We
acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing
journey of reconciliation.