

Gospel from Matthew 22: 15-21 - Some questions genuinely want to get to the bottom of things. Other questions are disingenuous traps — we call them “gotcha questions.” Jesus responds to one of those with a profound truth: “Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s; and give to God what is God’s.”

And in that moment, Jesus opens up a problem that so many of us have. We know so easily how to give the government its due — our taxes, our service — how is it that we do not know to give to God our sacrifice and our service? Or how is that when we do know, we so often fail to do it anyway? Why do we make choices that we know God does not want us to make? Why do we not choose those things that we know deep down that God wants us to do? And if we know how to call on the government, how is it we do not know to call upon God in trust at every moment of our lives. After all, which is the more reliable? Which is the more powerful and dependable? Which passes and which remains? Or do we really believe what Scripture tells us the answers to those questions are?

Today, God tells Cyrus the conqueror, who did not know God, that God had called him by name and would use him for God’s own purposes and glory. Well, if God calls Cyrus by name — how much more does He call His own people who bear His name, Christian, — and if He equips Cyrus for his task, how much more will He equip us for our vocation? The psalmist tells us exactly what that vocation is. We are to *Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength, sing a new song, Declare his glory among the nations His marvelous works among all the peoples.* This is our calling, our purpose, given to us at our Baptism and Confirmation. We are to declare in front of the world thanksgiving and praise to God, and He has even given us the words to do it. It means that by our example of life — turning everything over to prayer, by putting God and His Ways first in our lives, by living as best we can the way He has called us to live — in this way, we fulfill our vocation of witnessing and glorifying God. We become, says the Gospel acclamation, “stars in the world, holding fast to the word of life.” You and I become stars of Bethlehem pointing to Christ. That is why Father prayed for us at the beginning of this Mass, that God would grant that we conform our will to His in sincerity of heart. But as soon as we hear that, we know, in our heart of hearts, that can’t do that very well. It can be hard sometimes in this confusing world, and with our weaknesses to hold fast to the word of life.

But the Antiphon of this Mass asks God to help us, hear us, and protect us in the shadow of His wings. The Communion Antiphon today answers that prayer. God’s grace helps now, at this moment, fulfilling God’s promise to help us in the present age to live out our vocation, and to enter our eternal destiny. Father declares at the altar that he is offering “my sacrifice and yours.” Your sacrifice is your “yes,” making yourself available to God as His instrument in the world that so desperately needs a witness that there is a God of mercy — a God who invites all of us to shelter under His wings.

OUR PARISH BULLETIN

OCTOBER 18, 2020

TWENTY – NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

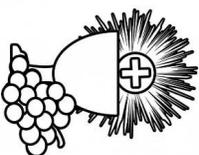


**“Shine like stars in the world,
holding fast to the word of life.”**

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October 18, 2020

First Reading: Isaiah 45.1, 4-6
 Psalm 23: Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
 Second Reading: Thessalonians 1.1-5ab
 Gospel: Matthew 22.15-21



MASS INTENTIONS

SAT Oct 17 04:00 pm (N) For the health of Duane Lukan – Sylvia & Methody Lozinski
 SUN Oct 18 09:00 am (S) For + Ron Neiting – Marge Neiting
 11:00 am (RA) For + Richard Pasloski- St. Anthony's Parish
 12:15 pm (B) For all parishioners in all parishes
 TUE Oct 20 09:00 am (S) For + Nellie Long – Norma Appel
 WED Oct 21 06:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 07:00 pm Mass For + Fr. Jerry TalarSKI – Anita Desroches
 THU Oct 22 01:00 pm (N) For the grace of faith for Dorothy
 FRI Oct 23 09:00 am (S) For the souls in Purgatory – Arlene Lingl
 LORD'S DAY CELEBRATIONS: THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
 SAT Oct 24 04:00 pm (N) For all parishioners in all parishes
 SUN Oct 25 09:00 am (S) For + Fr. Jerry TalarSKI – Jerry & Jeannette Budnick
 11:00 am (B) For + Kassie Kwasny – The Kwasny Family
 12:15 pm (RA) For the health of Elsie Genoway – St. Anthony's Parish



THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.

"Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources — from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church — it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven.

"If we consider the power of the Rosary as seen in its effects, we find a great abundance of proofs of its wonderful value. Many are the favors granted to private individuals through its devout recitation: there are few devoted users of the Rosary who cannot testify to experiencing its power in their own lives. If we turn to history, we see many great triumphs of the Rosary. Early tradition attributes the defeat of the Albigensians at the Battle of Muret in 1213 to the Rosary. But even those who do not accept this tradition will admit that St. Pius V attributed the great defeat of the Turkish Fleet on the first Sunday of October, 1571, to the fact that at the same time the Rosary confraternities at Rome and elsewhere were holding their processions. Accordingly, he ordered a commemoration of the Rosary to be made on that day. Two years later, Gregory XIII allowed the celebration of a feast of the Rosary in churches having an altar dedicated to the Rosary. In 1671, Clement X extended the feast to all Spain. A second great victory over the Turks, who once, like the Russians, threatened the ruin of Christian civilization, occurred on August 5, 1716, when Prince Eugene defeated them at Peterwardain in Hungary. Thereupon Clement XI extended the feast of the Rosary to the whole Church.

The 21st Archbishop's Appeal is underway. Please spend time offering thanks to our God and Father, and prayerfully a donation that you could for the future of our church.

Parish CWL Executive are asked to retain their current positions for one more year. Provincial CWL has purchased a subscription to GoToMeeting – an online meeting platform, that we can use.

Deadline for CWL Memberships collection is January 1, 2021.

This year is the 100th Anniversary of the CWL. Councils are asked to plant a tree by July, 2021 to commemorate this milestone. Pope Francis has proclaimed October is Missionary Month. CWL councils are asked to make a donations to Catholic Missions of Canada, or the World Union of Catholic Women .

** St. Patrick's Annual meeting will be on Saturday, November 7 at 10 am in the Church Lower Hall.

