



The Parish of

St Anne & St Bede

**Parish Office:** 1 Severn St, Balwyn North

**Office Hours:** Closed during Stage 4 Restrictions.

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**Website:** [parishofstanneandstbede.org.au](http://parishofstanneandstbede.org.au)

**For those wishing to contribute to Stewardship or Priests' collection, the Parish account details are listed below for electronic funds transfer.**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection

**Account name: St Bede's Presbytery Account  
Presbytery Account BSB: 083 347 Account no.  
666017079**

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection

**Account name: St Bede's Church Account Church  
Account BSB: 083 347 Account no. 458706734**

**Please click on the link below from 5pm on Saturday, 17 October, to watch Mass Online, celebrated by our priests:**

<https://youtu.be/IDLLrIKrvR0>

### **First Reading - Isaiah 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.'

*The word of the Lord.*

### **Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 95(96):1,3-5,7-10**

**R. Give the Lord glory and honour.**

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.**

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.**

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.**

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**

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.*



### **Gospel – Matthew 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.'

*The Gospel of the Lord*

## *REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL*

A young lady was on a beach when a little boy came up to her and asked her, "Do you believe in God?" She was surprised by the question but she replied, "Why yes I do." Then he asked her, "Do you go to church every Sunday?" Again her answer was yes. He then asked, "Do you read the Bible and pray every day?" Again she said yes but her curiosity was very much aroused. The little boy looked up at her and sighed mightily in relief and said, "Will you hold my quarter while I go swimming?"

The little boy was straightforward and honest in his questions because he wanted to entrust to the lady something valuable to him. In the gospel reading today the Pharisees are not being honest. They have no intent in entrusting Jesus with anything. They are not looking for the answer to a question. They don't want someone to hold their quarter. They are looking for a way to get rid of this trouble making Nazarene named Jesus. And Jesus knows their dishonesty. The most interesting part of Jesus' clever avoiding of the trap was that it stands for all time as another one of those issues that will always come up in the lives of us humans who live in a world of relationships that needs government. Taxes and government are part and parcel of human life.

Also, as human beings who cannot live and develop without being in relationship with other human beings, we can really pose the questions for ourselves: to whom do we belong, to whom are we faithful, from whom do we expect support, whom do we support, who provides for us our identity, who do we allow to have authority over us, to whom are we accountable? The way we answer these questions determines in a large part who we are.

Brothers and sisters, Jesus, in the Gospel, comes to challenge us to make decisions about our life, not to provide a ready list of solutions to every question that we raise or problem that we encounter. He challenges us to speak our word and act on it.

Jesus' word is a challenge, an invitation to his questioners, to look at themselves from another angle, not as subjects who willingly or unwillingly use the Roman system, but who they really are despite their shortcomings, the image and likeness of God. If only they could see that the pure image and likeness of God is the one speaking to them, then they might be able to look at themselves from his perspective. Since our humanity comes from God, we have a responsibility to never lose sight of its sanctity.

Fr Toan Nguyen

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

**Celebrant:** Like St. Paul, we give thanks to God, unceasingly calling to mind the power and the promise of the Spirit.

We pray for Pope Francis and the Bishops of the Church. May the Spirit continue to lead the Church in every country to be a strong witness to the unity of God's plan for the world.

*Lord hear us*

We pray for civic leaders at all levels. May they use wisely and justly the power entrusted to them and then be given the respect and support they deserve.

*Lord hear us*

On this World Mission Sunday, we pray for all in special ministry both here and overseas. May they be strengthened and sustained in their selfless efforts to minister to those most in need, especially those people suffering as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

*Lord hear us*

We pray for our community of faith. May we strive to be more Christ-like in faith and action and help share your presence with those most in need.

*Lord hear us*

We pray for the sick of our parish, especially **Cath Hudson** and **Pam Cameron** and all those people in nursing homes. May their carers be blessed and appreciated for the work they do.

*Lord hear us*

We pray for those who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Vito Cicoria**, **Joseph Bevilacqua**, **Olga Steedman**, **Colin Thornton-Smith**. May God welcome them into the Eternal Kingdom.

*Lord hear us*

**Celebrant:** Gracious God, steadfast in your kindness to us, hear our prayers. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

### AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;

never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

## PARISH NEWS

### WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - 18 OCTOBER 2020

Today is World Mission Sunday. With the COVID-19 pandemic headlining the news each day, and as we see Australia start to ease restrictions, it can be easy to forget that there are many countries around the world where the full extent of the impact has not yet been discovered. Priests, sisters and missionaries around the world are doing all that they can to ensure that those in need are given the best practical and pastoral support, however these Church-run programs often rely on generous donations from people like you. Will you join with us today to be there for those in need during this crisis?

Donations can be made by EFT:

Account Name: Catholic Mission Donation Account

BSB: 062 784

Account Number: 00715 6500

Parish Reference (for BNKE): MELB/392367.

For more information, please visit the following web page:

<https://www.catholicmission.org.au/our-work/prop20-covid-19-appeal>

### NEW CHILD SAFEGUARDING RESOURCE FOR GRANDPARENTS AND 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>

#### SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display in all churches and all Parish Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.