

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Luciano & Tina Leopardi
10:00AM Anthony Frato, Jr.
12:00PM Maria Hroncich
Antonio Piccinich

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

STS. JOHN DE BREBEUF & ISAAC JOGUES

11:00AM Mark & Flavio Zen
Anna Maria Bruzzesi

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

11:00AM Judy Mignone
Romolo Lechich

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

11:00AM Domenick Maio
Angela Garritano

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

ST. JOHN PAUL, II

11:00AM Antonia Picinich
Matea Morin

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

ST. JOHN CAPISTRANO

11:00AM Carmella Firrincielli
Carmella Bussanich

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

ST. ANTHONY MARY CLARET

11:00AM Trista & Nicole Santos
Vivian I. Punla & Leonarda Zafra
Linda Clark
5:00PM Joseph Ferrara, Richard Linton,
Gerald Ross & Adrienne Webster

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00AM Nicholas Busanic
12:00PM Senko Skific
Soccimarro & Cifarelli
Families

ALTAR BREAD & WINE

*In Memory of
David Mihalinec*

SANCTUARY LAMP

*In Memory of
Joseph Ferrara &
Adrienne Pellegrino Webster*

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for this Sunday are:

Is. 45:1, 4-6

Cyrus, King of Prussia, becomes the Lord's anointed one.

Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10

Give the Lord glory and honor.

1 Thess 1:1-5b

The Thessalonians display remarkable constancy in their new-found faith.

Matt 22:15-21

"Is it lawful to pay tax to the emperor or not?"

REFLECTION

Today, we have a fascinating message about giving to Caesar and giving to God. Giving is one of the three attributes we share with God; the others are forgiving and loving. To give is to let go of what should instead be ours. There are many things that we could give apart from money and other material things. A prevalent instruction challenges us to share our three "Ts," treasure, time, and talent. Beyond these, our giving should be unconditional, which means it should be motivated by love because love is God's greatest gift to us (John 3:16; 1Cor 13:13).

The Gospel Reading today (Matt.22:15-21) tells us about the joint conspiracy against our Lord Jesus Christ by two extreme groups: the Pharisees (a religious group) and the Herodians (a secular organization). The collaborative team came to our Lord with a closed-ended question: "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" If our Lord says yes, he would be pleasing the Herodians and offend the Pharisees, and the reverse would be the case if he says no.

Cognizant of the plot, our Lord requests for a coin, and looking at it, he asked them whose inscription was there, and they said that of Caesar, and he says to them: "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." We need to pay attention to our Lord's response here; he says, "repay," that means giving back after receiving. Next, we need to ask: "What are the things that belong to Caesar, and what are the things that belong to God?"

Like we briefly described above, to repay means to give back what one has received either as a loan or by the obligation of reciprocity. If we could ask, "what did God give to the people, and what did Caesar give to them that would warrant a repayment?". God created them in His image and likeness (Gen. 1:26-27). He is the giver of life (Psalm 36:9). Protection comes from God (Psalm 91:1-2), and He provides all our needs (Phil. 4:19).

What about Caesar? He was Caesar Tiberius (c.42 B.C.- A.D. 37), who ruled from Rome through governors appointed at various regions. He had no personal relevance to the life of the people. He was leading them with an iron hand and was imposing taxes on them.

The only reason to "repay" Caesar was his despotic rule that provided Roman soldiers to punish the people. Moreover, history tells us that Caesar Tiberius died sometime in A.D. 37, which shows that he lost everything that seemed to his possession, even the tax monies.

Needless to ask, what belongs to God in their particularities. St. Paul's letter to the Colossians (1: 16) gives us the following summary: *For in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him.*

Beyond our analysis of what belongs to Caesar, our Lord told them to perform their civic duties but not neglect their religious obligations. We can see that his answer was a perfect one for the two extreme groups. One imagines that our Lord was telling the Herodians, "Be civil but be holy!" And to the Pharisees, "Be holy but be civil!"

In our day and age, most people have allowed the politics of the time to erode their religious consciences. For most people, what matters is "Caesar," and God cannot be found anywhere among them. Let us not become too civil that we forget our faith and Christian obligations and not become too religious to neglect our civic duties and responsibilities.

God bless you and have a beautiful weekend and a glorious week ahead.

Fr. Bonnie Anusiem Ph.D.

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here.

October 18, 2020

Sunday Collection

\$3,313.00

Assessment Collection

\$ 887.00

"Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." – Matthew 22:21

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.



SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday Masses will be at 5:00PM on Saturday and on Sunday at 10:00AM and 12 Noon. We can now accommodate up to 150 persons at each mass. When you attend mass, you must wear a mask before you enter the Church and leave it on for the whole mass. Also, please sanitize your hands when entering the Church with the hand sanitizers found at the elevator entrance. Please do not take off or lower your mask when you approach the priest for Holy Communion. Take the Communion in your hand and step aside and lift your mask as you return to your seat.

Once again, please consider whether you are "at risk" and make a good choice about whether or not to attend mass. I remind you that the Archbishop has indefinitely dispensed all Catholics from their "Sunday obligation" so do NOT feel compelled to attend mass out of fear. If any of you is feeling "under the weather" or running a fever, we ask you please DO NOT come to the church. You may be jeopardizing the life and health of others.

SANCTUARY LAMPS, ALTAR CANDLES & ALTAR FLOWERS

Sanctuary Lamps, Altar Candles and Altar Flowers are available for the year 2020. Please come into the rectory to book any of these items in memory of or in honor of a loved one.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

What men want: In addition to physical intimacy, most husbands want respect. (A man likes his wife to have confidence in what he does,) husbands also want affirmation – to know that his wife thinks he is the greatest. And finally he needs to know that his wife desires him intimately. (Shaunti Feldhahn)

PARENTING POINTERS

Sometimes children try to trick their parents to get what they want. It's like when the Pharisees said to Jesus, "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar?" (Mt. 22:17) Help your child see beyond the letter of the law to the underlying values of love, forgiveness, healing.

BERGEN CATHOLIC TOURS

Bergen Catholic High School, Oradell, will hold special one-on-one tours for interested families from Monday-Friday. Registration is required on the website, and a maximum of 10 families will be permitted per day. For more information contact Matt Rosa at mrosa@bergenatholic.org, Director of Admissions or call 201-634-2205.

CORONA VIRUS PRAYER

St. Vincent de Paul, our father and model, throughout your life you wished to imitate Jesus, the missionary and servant. In your time you confronted the plague, the illness of the people. Intercede now with the Holy Trinity on behalf of all the nations on earth visited by this modern scourge. Help the bodies and hearts of all victims. Strengthen caregivers, be close to all neighbors, and enlighten researchers. Walk with those approaching the portals of death.

As you gave strong and ardent advice to struggle against evil, so now come to our aid! Teach us how to expose our lives for the weakest among us and strengthen us to help them better with fearless perseverance. With the sole desire of aiding them in their needs, open our spirits to God's infinite providence.

Let us endow it with his total will for action. Inspire in us, also, obedience to our leaders, as we now place ourselves in your hands, confident and fortified with genuine feelings of dedication and zeal for our sisters and brothers. Amen.

ADVENT OF GIVING

Due to the Covid-19 Virus Pandemic, we have decided not to have the traditional Christmas Give-Away for needy families. Instead, we would appreciate Gift Cards to Walmart or Target, Visa, Master Card or American Express.

FOOD PANTRY

We are in need of food for our Community Food Pantry. Please bring food to the church from 10:00AM-12:00PM or bring it to the rectory vestibule. We are also available on Friday mornings from 10:00AM-12 Noon. **We especially need all non-perishable foods. Our supplies are low. We could use cereals, peanut butter and jelly, tuna fish, rice, sauces, Chef Boyardee, canned vegetables and fruits, cake mixes, cake icing, coffee. Please do not bring any pasta at this time.** We appreciate all your help to feed our clients. May God bless you for your generosity.

OPEN HOUSE

Immaculate Heart Academy's Fall Open Houses are Sunday, October 25th from 11:AM-2:00PM and Thursday, October 29th from 6:30-8:30PM. For more information, contact Ms. Alexis Fatigati '07, director of admissions, at 201-445-6800, ext. 112. You can also email afatgati@ihanj.com

ORGAN RECITAL

The Cathedral Basilica will sponsor an Organ Recital with Cathedral Organist, John J. Miller, on Sunday, October 18th at 4:00PM. Masks are to be worn by everyone and socially-distant seating will be offered. Suggested donation is \$15.00.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Caroline Craven, Felicia Martello, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Cora Shaffer, Baby Michael, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Doris Portillo, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate Tatiana Flores, Christopher Nash, Pat Romano, Donna Carrajat, Tony Martello, Little Gabriel, Rachel Rocks, Sean O'Connor, Vladimir Drobikov, Louanne Mitchell, Colleen Meyers, Domenick Deodino, Rosemarie Liversidge, Christine Caruso, Patrick Bove, Camille Moglia, John Keegan, Kay O'Connor, Anthony Martini, Pantaleon Domingo, Conrado Trinidad, Joanne Kaiser, Patricia Warren, Ramon Villavicencio, Danilo Bonifacio, Daniel Johnson, Ryan Cariddi, Laura Cipullo, Richard Allen, Anthony Martello, Jr., Miguel Madera, Joe Villani, Lisa Mutchler, Elizabeth Chan, Benjamin Yap, Henry Yap, Rose & Anthony McCluskey, Jane Kim Estantino, Mike Hromin, Nancy Manto, Roy Regaspi, Gloria Marquez, David Barmore, Drew Johnson, Kunaim Emelyanesko, Kathy Santiago, Vinny Franco, Baby Grayson DiNatale, Kathie Gumb, Michael O'Connor, Patrick Shanley, Perry Bonaguaro, Rev. John Renard, Louise O'Connor, Cathleen McLaughlin, Fran Barbato, Maria Mancini, Jared Lanzaloto, Joel Rivera.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

**“STOP JUDGING OTHERS. A
REMINDER FOR US ALL -
FOR WHAT GOOD DOES IT
BRING TO ANYONE?”**

