SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE TWENTY-NINTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Our commitment to daily prayer using the weekday Mass readings as our guide

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<td>Romans 4:20-25</td>
<td>Second Timothy 4:9-17</td>
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<th>FRIDAY 10/21</th>
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<td>Romans 6:19-23</td>
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Feasts, Solemnities, and Memorials This Week:
- Monday, Ignatius of Antioch; Tuesday, Luke; Wednesday, Isaac Jogues and John de Brébeuf; Thursday, Paul of the Cross

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY
Whenever we discover something wonderful in our lives, whether it is a thought, an experience, somebody new, or even something we picked up at the store, we want to share it with somebody else. There just seems to be something within us to do so. The same is true with the Good News, the gospel of Jesus Christ. The proclamation of God's invitation to the fullness of life, through words and actions, has been the missionary activity of the Church since the beginning when Jesus commanded, "Go out to all the world and tell the good news." (Mark 16:15) Next Sunday, October 23, is World Mission Sunday. Money will be collected in every church in America to support the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in its missionary activity. In solidarity with all the churches, we will take a second collection after Holy Communion next Sunday so that everyone will have the opportunity to assist in the Church's mission. Please make your checks payable to St. Joseph Church. Our bank in town is very fussy about that.

PRAYERS
Our prayers are requested for Bonnie Zwart, Mark & Mary Anne Bewsher, Tina Quan, James Zvetina, Barbara Head, Mark Kirkner, Pat Glynn, Bobbie Engstrom, Ed Power, Diane Evans, Raquel Rodriguez, John Gracey, Bob Tomko, Jr., Virginia Reyes, Elizabeth Cauzza, Kay Reilly, Mary Jo Ferreira, Julie Rogers, and Josefina Flores.

DAILY MASS
Weekday Mass is celebrated Monday through Saturday in St. Joseph's Rectory in Mammoth Lakes beginning at 7 AM. The door is open; just come in; don't ring the bell. Everyone is welcome to stay after for coffee and fellowship.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS
Mass is celebrated followed by Eucharistic adoration and benediction every First Friday of the month beginning at 7:00 PM at St. Joseph Church in Mammoth Lakes.

CONFESSIONS
The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated at St. Joseph Church from 5:30 to 5:45 PM on Saturdays, 7:30 to 7:45 on Sunday mornings, y en español a las tardes del domingo de 5:00 a 5:15; and upon request before mass at Our Savior of the Mountains and Infant of Prague missions.

THE MONO COUNTY CATHOLIC
Before the mountains were born, the earth and the world brought forth, from eternity to eternity you are God.  
Psalm 90:2

October 16, 2011
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Show me the coin that pays the census tax. "Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Matthew 22:19–21

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH, MONO COUNTY
P.O. Box 372, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Phone: 760-934-6276
Rev. Paul Boudreau, Pastor

Mammoth Lakes: St. Joseph Church – Mass: Sat 6:00 PM, Sun 8:00 AM
La Misa en Español: Dom 5:30 PM
Lee Vining: Our Savior of the Mountains Mission - Mass: Sun 10 AM
Bridgeport: Infant of Prague Mission - Mass: Sun 12 Noon
FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1, 4–6

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus, whose right hand I grasp, subduing nations before him, and making kings run in his service. Opening doors before him and leaving the gates unbarred: For the sake of Jacob, my servant, of Israel my chosen one, I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1–5b

Our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.

ALLELUIA

A ll too often, the practice of religion is just “words, words, words,” to steal a line from Shakespeare’s Hamlet. Our liturgies, proclamations, and catechisms can become so top-heavy with words that it puts the vitality of faith to sleep—sometimes literally! When Paul writes to the Thessalonians about their evangelization, he notes that they were clearly chosen by God for the gospel they received. Their election is proved not by the fact that Paul, Silvanus and Timothy wandered in their direction, but by the sheer display of divine presence in their midst upon hearing the gospel proclaimed. Paul’s triple use of images—power, Spirit, and conviction (literally, "force")—all point to the one reality of the Holy Spirit unleashed in the community. The Spirit of God embraced the community even as the fledgling church came into consciousness.

How does that measure with our expression of church? Do we believe in and experience the vitality of God’s power at work among us? Do we embrace the full force of conviction that God has chosen us for the mission of being the signs or “sacraments” of God’s presence in the world? Are we aware of the movement of the Holy Spirit in our individual lives and in the life of our parish, our diocese, our whole Catholic Church? If the answer to any of these questions is no, then we have to ask whether the problem is that the Spirit of God does not dwell in us, or simply that we do not bring ourselves to conscious and deliberate involvement with that presence of God we celebrate in the Eucharist. It’s possible that we are frightened of the possibility of acknowledging and welcoming the true and dynamic force of God within us, for to do so would open the way for the power of God to radically transform us and redirect our lives in every conceivable way.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15–21

"Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone’s opinion, for you do not regard a person’s status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?"

It was, as we might call it today, a maneuver of entrapment. The Pharisees were obviously not looking to Jesus for legal advice. They want him to inadvertently reveal his loyalty: for the despised state or against it? Either way, Jesus would place himself in grave danger with s

MEMORIAL

hadness of abortion.

The "Render unto Caesar" line has sometimes been used to justify unquestioned obedience and compliance with the actions of our government. While Catholics do have a moral obligation to live in peace with one another through solidarity with society, it is also true that Catholics have an obligation to protest when the government takes a wrong turn, even if that turn is dictated by the democratic will of the people.

Such is the case with the attempt by the legislature of Georgia and Alabama to pass immigration laws that would impose unjust burdens on the neediest of people and prevent the Church from fulfilling its mission among the poor. In response the Catholic bishops of these states have registered strong protests and have pledge non-compliance if these statutes are upheld.

Our own state of California still executes criminals found guilty of capital crimes, a clear violation of Catholic teaching regarding the sacred dignity of human life, as is the practice of abortion. The highest moral authority in the life of a Catholic is the dictates of his or her conscience informed by Scripture and Church teaching. When the action of any other authority violates a person’s informed conscience, it is time to act.