

Catholic Parish of Walsingham

ST PETER, BLAKENEY ✦ ST HENRY WALPOLE, SJ, BURNHAM MARKET ✦ OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION, WALSINGHAM ✦ OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA

(1836)

Parish Mass Book, Readings & Prayers 143-146 Prayer of the Church, 1

29th SUNDAY

YEAR OF ST MATTHEW

OCTOBER 18th, 2020

The Pharisees, we are told, went away to plot against Jesus, to devise ways of entrapping him by his own words which they might use against him. They team



up with the Herodians whom, ordinarily, they would despise and their questioning of Jesus is disingenuous: “Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar?” It is a controversial matter and a simple ‘yes’ or ‘no’ will not do. ‘Yes’ would offend those who, like the Pharisees, were opposed to cooperation with alien occupiers of the promised land; ‘No’ would aggravate collaborators, like the Herodians. Jesus side-steps, and asks to see one of the coins – Roman coins – used to pay the Roman taxes. These coins were stamped with the image of Caesar and, focussing on that fact, Jesus says, “Render to Caesar the things which are Caesar’s”. He sees through their duplicity and his reply is clever, but what did he mean? Many commentators take the view that there are two spheres of life: the things of God and

the things of Caesar. These, they say, are quite distinct and disciples of Jesus must respect both separately: religion and politics don't mix. Others think differently and point out that Jesus did not carry any of the Roman coins used for taxes; he had to ask for one to be shown to him. The Jewish commandments forbid ‘graven images’. (Exodus 20:4) Furthermore, the image graven on the coins was of a man who required people to treat him as a god. Many a faithful Jew would be hesitant about having such a thing in his possession. When Jesus says, “Render to Caesar...,” he might well be saying, “Get this filthy thing out of my sight. Have nothing to do with it.” Remember that, earlier in the gospel, he said to his disciples, “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other.” (Matt 6:24) Taxes in a modern democracy are not the same as taxes in first century Palestine. Rather than tribute to a foreign power they can be thought of as oil to lubricate the wheels of society; as something beneficial for all which might be included in ‘the things of God’. There should be no aspect of life, including civic duty, on which our faith does not impinge. If we reserve a separate sphere for ‘the things of Caesar’ our loyalty is divided between it and the ‘things of God.’ Something is wrong. “No house divided against itself can stand” (Matt 12:25) “We cannot serve both God and mammon.” (Matt 6:24)

from FRATELLI TUTTI

“For decades, it seemed that the world had learned a lesson from its many wars and disasters, and was slowly moving towards various forms of integration... Our own days, however, seem to be showing signs of a certain regression. Ancient conflicts thought long buried are breaking out anew, while instances of a myopic, extremist, resentful and aggressive nationalism are on the rise. In some countries, a concept of popular and national unity influenced by various ideologies is creating new forms of selfishness and a loss of the social sense under the guise of defending national interests. Once more we are being reminded that ‘each new generation must take up the struggles and attainments of past generations, while setting its sights even higher’. This is the path. Goodness, together with love, justice and solidarity, are not achieved once and for all; they have to be realized each day.”(10-11)

FINANCE

After six months of Coronavirus, our finances are beginning to suffer. The income from collections and fundraising for the first six months of last year was approximately £50,000; this year, it's approximately £30,000. Also there has been no income from the repository or candle sales, which amounts to around £3,000. Cash collections at Mass are considerably reduced. I would ask those who do not already do so to consider supporting the parish by setting up a standing order. Please contact Terry or Dilys for bank details.

“..to God the things that are God's”

THE YEAR OF THE WORD

Befriending the Scriptures cannot, of course, meet at present. We can, however, keep reading Matthew's gospel and the readings appointed for the Mass of the day even though we cannot meet.

Sunday:	Isaiah 45:1-6	Psalm 95	1 Thessalonians 1:1-5	Matthew 22:15-21
Monday:	Ephesians 2:1-10	Psalm 99		Luke 12:13-21
Tuesday:	Ephesians 2:12-22	Psalm 84		Luke 12:35-38
Wednesday:	Ephesians 3:2-12	Isaiah 12:2-16		Luke 12:39-48
Thursday:	Ephesians 3:14-21	Psalm 32		Luke 12:49-53
Friday:	Ephesians 4:1-6	Psalm 23		Luke 12:54-59
Saturday:	Ephesians 4:7-16	Psalm 121		Luke 13:1-9

CHURCH OPENING

Our Lady of the Annunciation, Walsingham: Sunday 10.30 Mass
Monday to Saturday 9.30 Mass
(followed by exposition on Monday. Confessions on Saturday)
Tuesday to Friday inclusive, 10 – 11.30 Private Prayer

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wells-next-the-Sea: Saturday 6.00 pm Mass
Thursday 9.30 Mass

St Peter's, Blakeney: Sunday 11.00 Mass
Wednesday 9.30 Mass

St Henry Walpole, Burnham Market: Friday 9.30 Mass
Sunday 9.30 Mass
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1030-1130 Private Prayer

Please hand on this information to people you know who are unable to receive this newsletter via the Web site.

Please listen to stewards. Who'd be a steward? Please do as they ask you without question.

Under the present circumstances be assured there is no obligation to attend Mass on Sundays. If you are isolating, sheltering or in any way nervous about public gatherings, just take your time.

NEWS & VIEWS

Fr Hari, the Vicar of Walsingham, has asked Fr Michael Rear to join the committee that produces News & Views, the magazine delivered to every house in Walsingham. He has done so in the hope of including more news and articles into it from the Catholic Parish and Shrine in Walsingham. Please let Fr Michael have any news items about forthcoming events, celebrations, etc, and any articles of interest. They may be given in writing or sent by email to him at: Walsingham@post.com.

RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Anthony Rossi, long time parishioner and architect of the Church of the Annunciation, Walsingham, who died on Friday.

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a collection at all masses this weekend for the **World Mission Pontifical Mission Societies**.

HOMELESS BOX

As the colder days approach let make a special effort to help the homeless and those in need : New socks, hats, gloves, scarves, toiletries please. Because of Covid 19 restrictions NO KNITTED ITEMS please. Thank you.

PARTICIPATION IN THE LITURGY

Now, once again, we are able to celebrate the Eucharist. This is a real cause for rejoicing but we must still be careful to take every precaution against Covid 19. We are not obliged to put ourselves at risk in order to take part in the Mass. There are many online liturgies.

You can take part in the liturgy via the internet at the Catholic Shrine webpage:

PAM'S JAM FACTORY

As is her custom Pam Tester has been making Jam. She kindly sells this to raise money for the building fund. Covid 19 restrictions mean that it cannot be displayed. You must ask for it at the church or call at her house. Wythe cottage, burnt street, Wells-next-the-Sea' Wxcitying new flavours available,

Parish Clergy: Revv. Keith Tulloch, SM, (Parish Priest), Thomas Goonan, SM,

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