

Churches reopened

www.stmelscampsie.org.au

Even though mass attendance is now unlimited we are still required to comply with the social distancing rule which is 4sqm per person. This means with the area available in our Church we can only accommodate 100 people per mass. In line with this requirement on every pew you will find a sticker indicating where you are to sit during masses. We realize that families have indicated that they would like to be seated together however if we allow families to sit as groups we would need to separate people further apart and that would restrict our numbers in the area we have. So out of respect of others we kindly ask if you could adhere to the social distancing rules in place.

If you would like to attend mass or know somebody who would like to attend, we ask you first to register at our parish website at:

www.stmelscampsie.org.au

(This website is a work in progress so again we appreciate your patience.)

If you do not have access to a computer or internet call or email the parish office and we will be able to assist you to register for your preferred mass.

We do understand the frustration of not being able to attend mass as usual, however, we ask you to be patient and abide by the current restrictions.

Please note that on weekends you will need to enter the Church via the front entrance, and during the weekday you will need to use the side door only, (presbytery side).

On entering and leaving the Church you must sanitise your hands using the sanitiser dispensers available.

If a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in a parish, every person who has registered as an attendee of the parish will be contacted with further instructions.

All Saints and All Souls Day

1st and 2nd November, 2020

All Saints Day is on Sunday 1st November mass times are at 8.30am, 10am and 5pm.

All Souls Day is on Monday 2nd November mass times are at 9am and 7pm.

Please remember to register for these masses online.

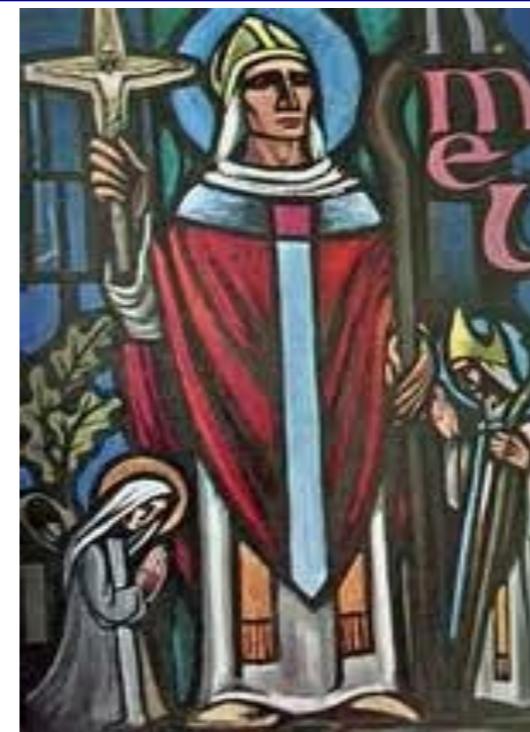
November is a special time to pray for the dead. A plenary indulgence may be gained for the dead, once only, by visiting a church on the 2nd November and praying the Lord's Prayer and the Creed. Three conditions are required for gaining the indulgence: Sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion, and prayer for the pope's intentions.

Month of November Mass Intentions

(Book Of Remembrance)

November is a special time when we pray for all our deceased family, friends, relatives and all souls in Purgatory.

In preparation for masses during November, we will have our 'Book of Remembrance' which will include all the names of our deceased loved ones whom you would like to pray and offer masses for. In order for us to prepare the Book of Remembrance we invite you to place a November Mass envelope with the names of your deceased loved ones whom you would like mass offered for in the basket that will be placed beside the Altar during the whole month of October. (Envelopes can be found at the back of the Church and at each side entrance of the Church). This will give us enough time to print the names and have the book ready for the **1st November**. The Book of Remembrance will be part of each mass during November and part of the Offertory Procession at weekend masses. **Please note that during the month of November, no separate mass intentions will be mentioned; every mass will be offered for all intentions that are written in the Book Of Remembrance.** It is good to offer mass for all our deceased loved ones, yet it is even more rewarding to attend mass and pray for them yourself.



St Mel's Parish

Est 1915

7 Evaline Street Campsie NSW 2194

Ph. 9787 1582

Email: stmelscampsie@bigpond.com

Website: www.stmelscampsie.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Mifsud

Parish Secretary: Diane Daher

Parish Office Opening hours: 9.30am-3pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
Monday & Wednesday office is closed.

St Mel's Catholic Primary School:
9789 3800

PARISH MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil:

5pm

Sunday:

8.30am, 10am and (5pm mass during COVID-19 restrictions)

Weekdays:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,

Wednesday:

7pm followed by adoration.

SACRAMENTS:

Reconciliation:

Saturday 10am to 10.30am & 4pm to 4.30pm.

Baptismal Preparation:

First Tuesday of The Month. Call Parish Office to register.

Baptisms:

11am Sundays

Weddings:

By arrangement with six months notice

Care for the Sick:

Please call the presbytery.

DEVOTIONS:

Rosary:

After weekday masses

Adoration:

9.30am Saturday & first Friday of the month (*cancelled until further notice*)

Italian Prayer Group:

Tuesday. 10am - Lower Parish Hall. (*currently cancelled until further restrictions ease*)

SAINTS and FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

THURSDAY 1st October:

St Therese of The Child Jesus (virgin, doctor)

FRIDAY 2nd October:

The Holy Guardian Angels

WEDNESDAY 7th October:

Our Lady of The Rosary

THURSDAY 15th October:

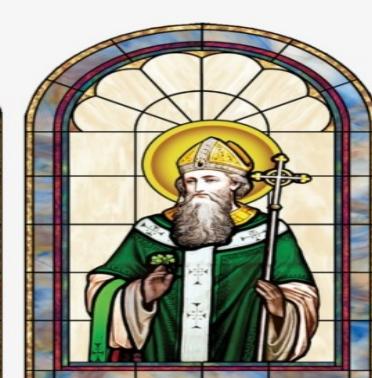
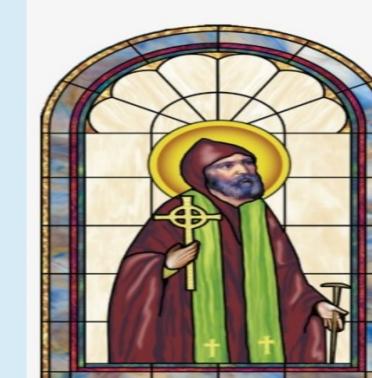
St Therese of Jesus (virgin, doctor)

SATURDAY 17th October:

St Ignatius of Antioch (bishop, martyr)

WEDNESDAY 28th October:

Sts Simon and Jude (apostles)



18th October, 2020

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

FIRST READING Is 45:1.4-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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.

WORD OF THE LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 22. R. v.6

Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7

(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 Thes 1:1-5

A reading from the first letter of the St Paul to the Thessalonians

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.

WORD OF THE LORD.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Phil 2:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 22:15-21

A reading from the Holy Gospel according

Matthew

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.'

GOSPEL OF THE LORD

We remember in our Masses

Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish: Y.P Ching, Therese Shmely, Iris Eagleson, Dyan Rivai, Jerome Evan Carrillo, Joan Karam, Violet El-Kazzi, Elena Lorenzo, George Mattar, Nicholas Galvez Sr, Jeanette Lahood, Michelle & Toufic El-Dib, Leila Machaalany, John Duigan, Helena Knox, Cong Hen Khong, Peter Xu, Flordeliza Gonzales, Joshua & Francesco Frascella, Lisa Santo, Cindy Williams, John Heirlehy, Mary Maney, Chahid Hanna, Joseph Romain, Maura Turija, Betty Williams, Ampy Bollman, Mark & Merle Batterson, Ramon Alonzo, Rosalie Ferraren, David Sheumack, Claude & Jeanette Chidiac, Madeline Abouzeid,

Lord, we pray for our recently deceased especially: Alejandro Henriquez, Elizabeth Khoury, Celine Haykal, Mervyn Baldwin, Joyce Yip, Antonios Khoury Boulos Constantine, Eileen McCarthy, Clara Baet, Wiyano Hindarto, Habib Safi, Youmana Farhart, Rolly Madrona, John James Lee, Maria Di Noia, Antoinette Pace, Marie Varini, Clara Baet, Avelina Jimenez, **We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed:** Martinez Salazar families, Safi, Sabbagh, George, Allison, Coorey & McKenzie families, Sr. Fertuna Meskel, Meskel, Letai & Juhannes, Concordia Daco, members of the Martinez Salazar families, Flovina Malubag, Rose Giampietro, Leodegario Enting Chan, Francesco Viterale, Maria & Jose Da Silva, Aaron Vidal, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, Shirley Gorrie, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Therese Nader, Anthony George, Carmel Moses, Joseph George, Celine Haykal, Sam & Hesna Moses, Reda & Chafic Khoury-Boulos, Lewis Francois Bhuruth, Elie Adoni, George & Marian Ibrahim, **Lord Hear Us.**

GOSPEL REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

The gospel writer presents this episode as a deliberate attempt by the Pharisees to trap Jesus and turn the people against him. Their plan was a good one, with no apparent 'safe' answer: is it permissible (within Jewish tradition) to pay taxes to Caesar or not? If Jesus were to answer that it is not permissible to pay taxes then he would be identified as a rebel and a threat to Roman authority – leaving himself open to severe punishment. If he were to answer that it was permissible to pay the taxes he would have alienated a lot of his audience who resented the taxes imposed by Rome.

Instead of falling into the trap set by the Pharisees, Jesus approaches the question in a completely different way. He asks them to show him the money with which they pay the tax. Immediately, he has turned the tables on them. He doesn't appear to carry any of the coin in question and yet the Pharisees' disciples carry them as a matter of habit. They are asking if it is permissible to pay the tax and yet freely carry the coin with which the tax is paid. Jesus shows up the hypocrisy of their question by forcing them to reveal their own position in the simple action of producing one of the Roman coins. Jesus then closes the dispute by instructing them to render (give) to Caesar what belongs to Caesar but, more importantly, render to God what belongs to God. In a very simple way Jesus has shown up the Pharisees' disciples as being collaborators with the Roman authority and placing that authority above the authority of God. He reminds the listeners that regardless of earthly authority, the first duty is owed to God.

Historical Context – What's in a face?

The question of coinage was a problematic one for first century Jews. The tradition – grounded in the commandments given to Moses on Mt Sinai – forbade the use of 'graven' or carved images. The people of Israel took this prohibition very seriously and did not portray the human face in artwork of any kind. Roman coins were minted with the face of the emperor on them and it was compulsory that taxes be paid with Roman coin. This helps to explain the role of the Temple money-changers who converted the Roman coin into Temple coin that could be used for religious purposes.

Scriptural context – Jesus and the Pharisees

The gospel of Matthew tends to treat the Pharisees rather harshly. In fact they had more in common with Jesus' style of teaching than other religious groups of the time and some have suggested that Jesus may even have been quite closely associated with the Pharisees. The role of the Pharisees was to interpret the Torah – the Law – for everyday people. They were teachers and preachers who often had a group of disciples who were their followers. The community in which the gospel of Matthew was written regarded the Pharisees harshly because they saw Jesus – not the Pharisees – as the rightful interpreter of the Law.