

MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

This weekend we celebrate Mission Sunday. The collections will be for the spread of the Gospel. The amount collected will be placed at the disposal of the Pontifical Mission Society (PMS) for the Propagation of the Faith. Please donate generously.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF SINGAPORE (CTIS) is inviting applications from Catholics for the Certificate in Theology Programme for Semester 1, 2021. The application forms are available on CTIS website and also from CTIS Office. Financial aid is available for students who require it. Information Night is on 5 November (Thursday) at 8.00pm. For more information and registration please email CTIS at admin@ctis.sg or call 6902-8700. Please submit your application by email by post, or in person before 5 December.

EMMANUEL SECOND CHANCE EDUCATION (ESCE) PROGRAMME

The ESCE program is seeking to support those who have encountered adversity through social issues, past failures, or mistakes in their lives and desire a second chance for a brighter future through further education, and are also in need of financial assistance. A mandatory personalised mentoring programme is included so that there is someone assigned to accompany them in their education journey and support them through their issues. Participants may pursue a course of his or her choice either at college, university, vocational, or technical school, on condition that the course of learning must lead to employable skills. The programme is available to all Singapore citizens and permanent residents regardless of race or religion. <https://www.catholicwelfare.org.sg/ESCE.html>.

food for thought *The Pharisees send their disciples to test Jesus with a question about taxes.*

Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of questions and challenges. At this point the disciples of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of taxes.

Matthew sets up an unusual partnership between the Pharisees and the Herodians. The Herodians were supporters of Herod Antipas, a Jewish political leader who collaborated with the Romans. Such collaboration would have required a compromised observance of the Mosaic Law. The Pharisees, on the other hand, taught scrupulous observance of the Mosaic Law and opposed Roman occupation. Herodians favoured the payment of taxes; the Pharisees opposed it. The Herodians and the Pharisees approach Jesus, asking that he take sides in their dispute. If Jesus answers with the Pharisees, he shows himself to be an enemy of Rome. If he answers with the Herodians, he offends popular Jewish religious sensibilities.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap him exposes the guile of his questioners. Jesus shows that he is very much aware of what they are trying to do. He asks to see a Roman coin, which is readily provided to him. It may have come from the hand of a Herodian, but the Pharisees show themselves to be quite willing to accept this compromise. Jesus has already exposed the Pharisees as hypocrites.

Jesus takes his response one step further. He asks that his questioners examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawfulness altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs to God.

Jesus' response to the Herodians and Pharisees suggests the ethic that Christians ought to adopt. It reminds us of the importance of keeping things in their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to worldly things at the expense of the love and honor that we owe to God?

Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

50 Ophir Road, Singapore 188690 Tel: 6294 0624
www.lourdes.sg

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Michael Sitaram
Email: frmichaelsitaram@gmail.com

Asst. Parish Priest: Rev Fr Nithiya Sagayaraj
Email: nithiya@catholic.org.sg

Asst. Parish Priest: Rev Fr Paul Yeo
Email: fryeopaul@gmail.com

Parish Secretariat: ololsec@gmail.com
and ololpastoral@gmail.com

18 OCT 2020

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A





Sunday Readings

First reading Isaiah 45:1,4-6
 Responsorial Psalm Psalm 95(96):1,3-5,7-10
 Second reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5
 Gospel Matthew 22:15-21

Mass Schedule @ Church of Our Lady of Lourdes

Weekdays 12:30pm (English) 7:00pm (Tamil)
 Saturday (Sunset - English) 5:00pm, 6:00pm and 7:30pm
 Sunday (English) 8:00am, 11:00am and 12.30pm
 Sunday (Tamil) 9:30am and 6:30pm
 Public Holiday 9:00am (English) 10:00am (Tamil)

Important Parish Information

Wedding Arrangements Church Wedding bookings must be made in advance. Please contact the Secretariat.

Infant Baptism Register at the Parish Office.
Please provide photocopy of church marriage certificate of parents, birth certificate of infant and confirmation certificate of Godparents.

Mass Intentions Please drop your Mass intention into the Box located outside the Parish Office **by 7pm on Friday** for the following week's intentions.

Lourdes Prayer Hall Anointing For bookings contact the Parish Office at 6294 0624
 Make an appointment with a priest before planned admission to hospital.

Holy Communion for the Homebound Register with the Parish Office.

Kindly be aware of people who profess to pray over others in the Parish Grounds, and/or in your homes for the purpose of soliciting funds without the approval of the Archdiocese and Priests of the Parish.

The restoration of Our Lady of Lourdes parish will begin soon. Cheque donations can be made in favour of 'Church of Our Lady of Lourdes' with 'Building Fund' written on the back. Please give generously!

To make a donation or contribution to Mass collection

As the parish will still need funds for the general operations and maintenance of the church, we seek your kind generosity and support to continue making a weekly donation to the Church by electronic bank transfer using PayNow at the current time.

Here is what you need to do:

- Step 1: Select bank transfer
- Step 2: Key in Parish UEN # **T08CC4026C**
- Step 3: Check Name – **Church of Our Lady of Lourdes**
- Step 4: Key in amount
- Step 5: Key in Ref - **Mass Collection**

Alternatively, you can issue a cheque and mail it to the Parish Office. If any parishioner chooses to give cash, please drop the cash in the existing donation box at the Parish.

Thank you for your generosity.

Church of Our Lady of Lourdes Online Masses

Please follow our Masses online at
 on the Church of Lourdes YouTube channel at <http://tiny.cc/ololsg>.
 Do remember to click **Subscribe** to receive notifications
 when we upload the videos.

CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES ACTIVITES FOR OCTOBER

You **MUST** be registered in the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes at myCatholic.sg. You will be required to show the registration to volunteers to participate in the following activities. Please follow the volunteers' instructions and cooperate with them fully. Please ensure that your

- ◆ mobile phones are equipped with the QR code scanner (you will need it to scan for SafeEntry as well as for the pew where you are seated)
- ◆ mobile phone has a data plan.
- ◆ mask is always worn.

Please bring along your NRIC or Work Pass for verification. Temperature taking will also be administered.

PRIVATE WORSHIP

- ◆ Opening hours are on weekdays from 2pm and 5pm
- ◆ Only 5 households will be permitted per time slot. A maximum of 5 members from each household can be praying together at any one time in the Church with safe distancing measures.

Link for booking: <https://calendly.com/ololsec/private-worship-at-church-of-our-lady-of-lourdes>

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) times are on Wednesdays and Fridays from 2pm to 5pm

Please click to register: <https://calendly.com/ololsec/confession-at-olol>

MASS

Church Mass times in October are:

Weekdays – 12.30 pm, 7pm (Tamil)

Weekends

Saturday – 5pm, 6pm and 7.30pm

Sunday – 8am, 9.30am (Tamil), 11am, 12.30pm, 6.30pm (Tamil)

(All masses are in English unless otherwise stated)

Weekend Mass

Link for *first* mass booking of the month: <https://mycatholic.sg/login>

Link for subsequent mass booking for the month: <https://calendly.com/ololsec/mass-at-olol>

Weekday Mass

Link for all weekday mass - <https://mycatholic.sg/login>

(Please note that calendly will no longer be available for booking for weekday masses)

Thank you for your understanding.

God Bless

Rev Fr Michael Sitaram

Parish Priest