

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER
ST. JOSEPH, PORT FELIX
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR 902-366-2927
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 902-358-2346**

**TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME,
OCTOBER 22, 2023**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Donna Jackson, Janet Delorey, Cynthia Creamer,
Calvin Harnish, Agnes Casey, Corrine Munroe,
Gerry Parker, Gelly Parker, Paul Horne,
Sr. Alma, Marie Parker, Fr. Jonathan

*The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at
www.cansoparishes.org*

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday, October 28 - 4:30 p.m. - St. Vincent de Paul - ♥*For the Faithful*
- 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph - †*Lorna & †Rod Cashin*

Sunday, October 29 - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*Louise Anne Harnish*
- 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea - †*Brenda Marie Bond*

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Thursday, October 26 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel - ♥*For the Faithful*

COMMUNION CALLS - If you know of someone who is unable to get out to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office to have their name added to the list.

COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED: (All Souls) will be celebrated at Star of the Sea Church, Thursday, November 2 at 6:30 p.m.
Please advise the parish who will be representing your family if you have received a letter

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS - LOYALTIES MUST BE BALANCED

In response to the question posed to him by the Pharisees, Jesus said, "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and God what belongs to God." This response of Jesus has been misinterpreted by many people in the past and even to date. The majority use it as a backup for living double lives but in truth, this injunction of Jesus is only a principle. In practice, it is difficult to make a distinction between the civil sphere and the religious sphere. Indeed, all thereof belongs to God, including Caesar himself (Ps. 24:1). However, what Jesus meant is that there should be no conflict between the demands of the state and God. The state has a role, but its power is limited and does not supplant God. As Christians, we have dual citizenship, citizens of state and heaven. Hence as responsible citizens of a country, we are under an obligation to respect its law and order, and we must

play our role in making the state a good place for all its citizens. As citizens of heaven, our deepest loyalty is to God alone.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Star of the Sea (25)	551.00
Nativity Scene	100.00
Winter Fuel (1)	400.00
Evangelization of Nations (3)	50.00
St. Agnes (16)	267.00
Loose	10.00
Evangelization of Nations (1)	10.00
<u>Thank you so very much for your ongoing support.</u>	

ST JOSEPH NEWS

Weekly Bingo - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

Card Plays - will resume Tuesday, October 17 at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome!

ST. AGNES NEWS

Bingo - continues Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Cemetery Clean up - Special thanks for your help! **Our cemetery looks great, special thanks to the caretaker, Russell Borden.**

Property/Finance Committee - will meet Tuesday, November 7 at 6:15 p.m. We welcome new members. Please help out!

Ministries Schedule, October 29

Lector - Buzz Lumsden

Cleaners - October 22 -28 - Irene & Juanita

Glebe Hill - There will be no public access through the glebe hill due to the condition of the road. **The church and Glebe can be accessed through Chapel Street.** Thank you for your cooperation. We are working on having the road repaired.

NOTES

Mass for Shut Ins - Mass for Shut Ins will soon begin its 61st season. Starting October 15, will air Sunday mornings on the CTV channel. Contact coordinator, Nick Vince, at nick@dioceseofantigonish.ca for

scheduling details or for donations.

STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH - NATIVITY SCENE

- requires a new Nativity Scene. The present one is in deplorable condition with some of the figurines taped together with duct tape. We are asking for donations to help with the cost of replacement. If each family could donate \$20.00, the bulk of the cost would be covered. Donations may be placed in Sunday Collection, E-transferred to support@cansoparishes.org, or dropped off at the parish office. Donations to date \$395.00, thank you.

EVENTS - STAR OF THE SEA

Prize Bingo - Will be held Sunday, October 22 at 2:00 p.m. in Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Thanking you in advance.

Trivia Night - Will be held Saturday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m. in Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Please pre-register with a committee member.

Memory Trees - will be announced next weekend as we are still getting it organized.

CURSILLO WEEKENDS - Men's:

Nov. 2-5

Women's: Nov. 9-12;. It will be held at Camp Bretondean with Rector Kevin McSween.

Women's Cursillo weekend will be held at Camp Bretondean with Rector Sharon MacNeil. Contacts Sean O'Leary 902-565-9323 or Karen MacSween 902-317-5425

Turning the Tables

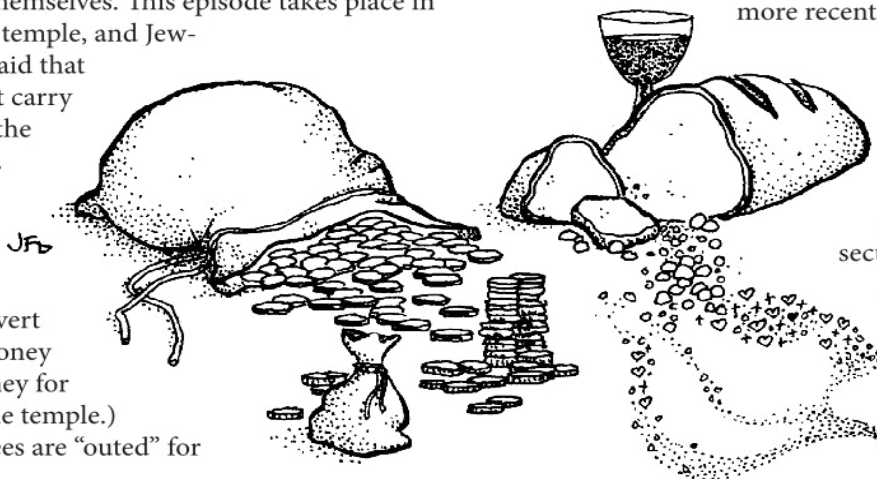
This Week's Readings at Mass

- Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 - Rewards to Cyrus, king of Persia ► 1
- Thessalonians 1:1-5 - A model for believers ► Matthew 22: 15-21 - Paying tax to the emperor

The Pharisees are getting more and more uncomfortable with Jesus' teachings, so they try to turn the tables and trap him. The irony is that usually the Pharisees dislike the Herodians who are supporters of King Herod, the Roman ruler of their land. However, in their desire to unite against a common enemy—Jesus—they enlist the Herodians' help.

The Jews were required to pay taxes to their hated occupiers, the Romans. Not only were the taxes oppressive to the majority of people who were poor, but they had to be paid with Roman coins engraved with Caesar's image. Jewish laws strictly forbid images or engravings of God, and the fact that Caesar billed himself as a god was especially offensive to Jews. Understandably, Jews were resentful about the entire situation because paying the tax gave the impression that they were participating in Caesar's worship. So if Jesus were to respond that it is lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, the Pharisees would find fault with him. On the other hand, the Herodians, as representatives of the Romans, will take issue with Jesus if he suggests they shouldn't pay the taxes.

Jesus responds brilliantly, refusing to give a yes or no answer. When the Pharisees hand him a Roman coin, they convict themselves. This episode takes place in the Jerusalem temple, and Jewish tradition said that they could not carry such coins in the sacred temple. (That is why there were money-changers on hand—to convert the Roman money to Jewish money for currency in the temple.) So the Pharisees are "outed" for



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"I have called you by your name...I am the Lord and there is no other."

Sheepish Question:
What am I missing in my prayer?

their cooperation with Rome, and Jesus moves the conversation to a different level. The coin with the emperor's image belongs to the emperor to begin with—so give it back to him, he says. Then, he lays out the real challenge for those trying to trap him—discern what is of God and give that your attention and respect.

Questions of the Week

- 1 History is full of examples of repressive rulers requiring the oppressed people to do demeaning things. Can you give a more recent example?
- 2 When have you experienced a conflict between your religious beliefs and the laws of a secular government?

Word of the Week •
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