

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your family enjoyed Thanksgiving weekend. It was very different not being able to be surrounded by those we love, but we have to look forward to brighter days ahead.

This weekend we are celebrating the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This week we are praying for:

- The Church and its leaders, called to be disciples in today's world
- For all those seeking God and the way they make our community better by their beliefs
- For all people who bring the light of Christ to others
- For us, who through our Baptism, have a responsibility to honor Jesus Christ in our actions

The lesson plan for the students this week is to complete the exercise in their duo tang and to cover the chapter in their work book.

The chapter to cover in their "Be My Disciples" book this week is:

- Level One – Chapter 12
- Level Two – Chapter 10
- Level Three – Level 22
- Level Four – Chapter 11
- Level Five – p. 277 - 280
- Level Six – Chapter 11

I encourage you to visit our website and spend time on the prayer service with your family.

There are also messages from Father Fred on the website. Our website is www.saintveronicasdorval.ca Go to the Family Faith Education page. I have also attached on the website the duo tang masters. Remember, the questions to be answered are those in the duo-tang you received at book pick-up, not the questions on the website version. I encourage you to use the questions on the website to open a dialogue with your child. Children in Pre-K and K will also enjoy the Interactive Bible Story of the week.

The prayer service this week can be found at <https://worship.pastoral.center/day/2020-10-18>

Feel free to email me if you have any questions.
Have a Blessed week!

Beverley Wiltsie
Director of Family Faith Education
St. Veronica's Parish



PETER *Chosen and Called*

Matthew 4:18-19; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11 ♦

RHYTHM STORY

On the shore of Lake Gennesaret
Jesus stood to preach God's word.
When the people crowded closer
His voice could not be heard.

A boat that belonged to Peter
was right within his reach.
He took it into the water
and he sat in it to teach.

When Jesus finished speaking
He told Peter what to do:
"Push out the boat; let down the nets.
There will be a catch for you."

Peter and the other partners
had fished throughout the night.
They hadn't caught a single thing.
There were no fish in sight.

Peter told Jesus how hard they'd labored.
Yet, he cast the nets in deep.
Soon they were filled to almost breaking;
There were so many fish to keep.

When Peter saw Jesus' power
he fell on his knees and cried:
"Lord, I am just a sinner,
I'm not worthy to be at your side."

Jesus had a surprising answer:
"Peter, come and follow me.
We'll be catching people instead of fish.
My disciple you will be."

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



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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