

Mary Immaculate Parish Eagle Vale

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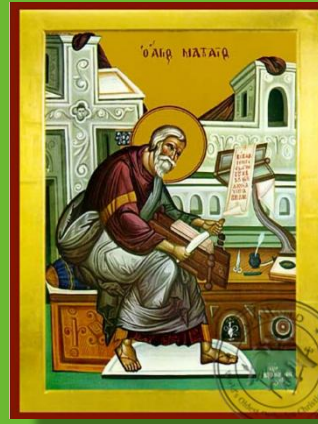
Under the care of the
Oblate of Mary Immaculate



Constitutions & Rules 1826 -2026

29th Sunday in Year A

18th October 2026



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/united

100th World Mission Sunday

This World Mission Month, you are invited to share in this mission, standing with families as they rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children

A collection for the Missions will be taken at all the Masses this weekend.

A note from the Parish Priest. 

WEEK 12

Theme: Give to God what belongs to God. (Matthew 22:15-21)

The first reading comes from the prophet Isaiah, who prophesies the release of Israel from its captivity after Cyrus, King of Persia conquered Babylon. This captivity turned out to be a defining period in Israel's history. Some commentators have noticed that it was during this time of captivity that Israel went from henotheism (worship of a single deity while believing in the existence of other gods) to monotheism (a belief that there is only one God). This would also explain how King Cyrus and not a Hebrew king, was accepted as one whom God has chosen to lead Israel to freedom.

The event confirms that God is the Lord of history. It is He who summons the nations to chastise Israel for her infidelity just as it is He who calls King Cyrus of Persia and makes him the chosen instrument to deliver her from her exile. It is also suggested that God used the Persian Zoroastrian religion to help shape Israel's understanding of God as the one who would redeem his people. We should keep this in mind as we explore the Gospel.

In the Gospel (Matt 22:15-21) Jesus' opponents set a trap for him. This was unlike any other argument he has had with them. This was not an argument to test his knowledge about the Torah. This time two parties, who normally hated each other had made an agreement to combine and strike Jesus with a deadly blow. The two parties were the Pharisees, the ultra-religious Jews who hated anyone who transgressed the Torah and the Herodians, supporters of King Herod who had made an allegiance with the Romans to gain power while promising to keep the peace. The two parties approached Jesus in the temple courtyard, just before Passover, a time when tensions are running high.

The question was quite simple. 'Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not? The use of the word 'permissible' sets it as a religious question, but with legal consequences. This tax had nothing to do with goods or harvest, it was a 'census' tax. It was a tax which every person had to pay for simply living under Roman rule. When it was introduced, a group of Jews rebelled because it was seen as a submission to the emperor who claimed to be their lord in place of God. This rebellion was met with bloodshed and defeated but the resentment was always evident. They were certain that there was no way for Jesus to answer the question without trapping himself. If he said, 'yes', the people would reject him for having betrayed the teaching of the Torah and the memory of those who were martyred, if he said 'no' publicly, the soldier would have to arrest him for open rebellion.

Jesus does not engage them but call them out as hypocrites trying to 'snare' him. Rather than answer them directly, Jesus invites them to show a coin, which they readily produce from their robes. The coin that was produced in the temple courtyard incurred 3 blasphemies; (1) a graven image of a man [which is forbidden by the Torah] (2) the claim to be the son of God (Augustus Ceasar) (3) and a claim that he was the highest Priest. Jesus made no mention of it because the people would already have noted this. He asked them who's image is on it. The Greek word for 'image' used here and in other places in scriptures in the gospel is the equivalent to our word 'icon', which directly relates to Genesis (1:27)

When they tell him that the image is of Ceasar, Jesus replies that in that case it belongs to him so it can be given back, however Jesus also adds, 'give to God what belongs to God', drawing a clear distinction between what belongs to Ceasar, this coin that bears his image and the power that goes with it, and what belongs to God. While Jesus never explicitly spells out the second half of the comparison,

the underlying theological reference points straight back to Genesis 1:26–27: humanity is created in the image of God.

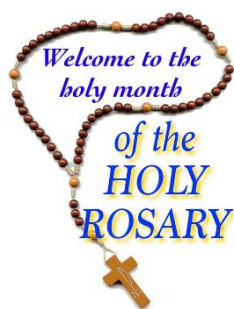
While acknowledging Ceasar's political authority Jesus reaffirms God sovereignty over all humanity. This is the knowledge that has been the very bases of Israel's self-identity, since God first called Israel to be a "kingdom of priests and a holy nation" at Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:5–6) after rescuing them from slavery in Egypt. It also means that no matter who has earthly power over his people, God is still Lord of the nations and everything that happens has God's mark on it.

REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

Our daily activities may often 'bear the image of Ceasar' as we try to fulfill the demands of living, but it is well to remember that 'we bear God's image' and that our fulfillment is not found in gaining dominance over life but in offering our lives to God, who will complete our destiny. Our parish renewal does not begin or end with 'activities' but in the recognition that Mary Immaculate Parish belongs to God. And he has a mission for us. Together we discern and discover our mission. We call, empower each other and celebrate each person's unique contribution in this mission.

In our Sunday Liturgy we discover our identity i.e., the Body of Christ, and as the Body of Christ we work together. This is where all our activities originate and where all our activities find their purpose. In the words of St Paul to the Romans: Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. (Romans 12:1)

Fr. Leo Mifsud OMI



October - The Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of the Holy Rosary is **October**, a special time in the Catholic Church dedicated to honouring the Blessed Virgin Mary and meditating on the life of Jesus Christ.

Catholics worldwide are encouraged to pray the Holy Rosary daily during this month.

How to Pray the Rosary click on the QR



31 October

Vocaris Youth October 2026

Do you have a high school-aged young person who you would love to see grow in their faith, discover the beauty of the Catholic faith and make like-minded friends? Then they won't want to miss **VOCARIS Youth** - a free, fun and faith-filled day for students in Years 7-12 on **Saturday, 31 October, 10:00am-3:00pm at Wilton Community Centre**, featuring a Cookie Station, Sausage Sizzle Lunch and Ice Cream Topping Bar! **For more information or to register, visit <https://dow.sh/VocarisYouth>.**

World Youth Day Seoul 2027 – Diocesan Pilgrimage

Applications are now open for the Diocese of Wollongong's pilgrimage to World Youth Day Seoul 2027!

If you're interested in joining thousands of young Catholics from around the world for this once-in-a-lifetime experience of faith, community and pilgrimage, visit dow.org.au/wyd27 for information on the itinerary, costs, travel arrangements and FAQs. Not ready to apply just yet? Join our mailing list at dow.sh/wyd27 to receive the latest updates and announcements.

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2027 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia. **Applications close October 31st, 2026.** Send us an enquiry - www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au.

National Oblate Youth Encounter 2027 – Mission Is Possible!

Registrations are now open for the National Oblate Youth Encounter (NOYE), Bringing together young people from across Australia for five days of faith, friendship and community, talks, workshops, prayer and liturgy, music, exploring the Charism of St Eugene de Mazenod and plenty of time to connect with others. This year's theme is "**MISSION IS POSSIBLE**",

Young people from Year 12 through to 30 years of age are invited to come along.

WHEN: 4–8 January 2027 **WHERE:** St Eugene's Retreat Centre, Newborough VIC

COST: \$350 per person, including accommodation and meals

Use QR for information and Registration via the Oblate Youth Australia website.



Websites & Apps
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Please note

the Parish Office will be closed on Thursday 22nd October.

22 – 25th October 2026

De Mazenod Family Gathering
One Heart, One Family, One Charism.

The De Mazenod Family from across Australia will gather for a weekend of prayer, formation, community and celebration while reflecting on the bicentenary of the Constitutions and Rules.

Members of Oblate Parishes are welcomed as part of the De Mazenod Family and are warmly invited to join in person or to support us by your prayers.

Where: St Eugene's Retreat Centre, Newborough, Victoria

Visit: <https://omi.com.au/dmf-gathering> or QR



Youth Events

Sunday 25th October

Celebrating

the Feast day of St Carlos Acutis

10:00am Youth Mass - Followed by Adoration from 11:30 – 12:30

For primary schoolers up to 35 years old



Friday 30th October

Fr Josh Nash OMI – Oblate Youth Chaplain

**Meeting with the
Youth of the Parish in the Hall**

6:30pm – 8:30pm For ages: 18 – 35

Scan to register for catering Purposes.



NOYE- January 2027

**National Oblate
Youth Encounter**



WYD – Seoul 2027
World Youth Day

31st October

Rosary Procession



**ROSARY
Procession**

**Come join us as we pray the Rosary together
Saturday 31st October Starting at 3:00pm**



Keep this date FREE

18th December at 6:30pm

**CHRISTMAS
Carols**

- Christmas Nativity Performance by our Youth
- Food Trucks with delicious food
- Vendors with unique gifts and crafts.



Bring your Family and Friends and capture the Meaning of Christmas

A note from the Parish Priest.



Over the past few years, I have been running the RCIA program. What is its purpose?

When a person asks to become Catholic, ultimately, it is my responsibility to see to it that they are helped to know what it means to become a member of the Catholic Church, and that they understand the teachings which are unique to the Catholic Tradition,

This program is not meant to be run by one person, no matter how competent. Introducing someone to the Catholic Church and helping them to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is a Community work. This is our common mission.

There are many challenges due to time restraints and availability of participants, and I am not capable of keeping up with all the demands. To this end I would like to see a group formed specifically for the Formation of Catholic Instruction to help me.

I will be holding a meeting for anyone willing to be part of the program to outline the program and discuss with you how to accommodate those who are unable to attend the course.

The Meeting will take place on 29th October at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall

It would be helpful to get an idea of the number intending to come or if you are unable to let me know that you are interested. Please ring the Parish Office. 4626 3055

Please pray for-

THE SICK: Please pray especially for: **Pope Leo XIV**, **Leo Bennett (9 month old)**, **Francine Jugroo**, **Marie France Laida**, **Joseph Simone**, **Germano De Campo**, **Patricia Ramos**, **Sandra Baynie**, **Bing Herradurra**, **Bill Webb**, **Maryse Purvis**, **Elias Busuttil**, **Rana Afram**, **Elaine Freeman**, **David Maxwell**, **Luca Thistleton**, **Fr Ross Naylor**, **Felisa Orca**, **Jennifer Doran**, **Fr Brian Egan**, **Lourdes Collaco**, **Phillip Whitehouse**, **Willow Morrison**, **Lisa Farnhill**, **Adrian Banks**, **Christine Debski**, **Ana Villagonzalo**, **Pinky and Evelyn Arenas**, **Lachlan Abood**, **Charbel Aziz**, **Margaret Roberts**, **Georgette Ganvert**.

THE DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Aurea Santos**, **Wilfredo Consunji**, **Lynne Tabone** recently deceased, and for **Mara Srebrenovic**, **Joseph Hoyek**, **Aunty Eva**, **Alan Ooi**, **Michael Camilleri**, **Sylvester Rutkowski**, **Luba Czerkesow**, & **Gerry Czerdesow**, whose anniversaries occur at this time and all Holy Souls. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

Feast Days for the coming week:

Pope Leo XIV’s INTENTION of OCTOBER - For mental health ministry.

Pray that mental health ministry spreads across the Church to help end illnesses' stigma.

MASS INTENTIONS 17 th – 24 th October.	
Sat Vigil 5:30pm	For the anniversaries of death of Joseph Hoyek and Aunty Eva
SUN 8.30am	For the birthday anniversary of Alan Ooi deceased
10.00am	For the past, present and future members of the Legion of Mary
5:30pm	For the People of the Parish
Mon. 9.00am	Strength and healing for Francine Jugroo and Marie France Laida
Tues. 9.00am	For the souls of Aurea Santos and Wilfredo Consunji recently deceased
Wed. 7:30pm	For the soul of Lynne Tabone recently deceased
Thur. 9:00am	For the anniversary of death of Michael Camilleri
Fri. 9:00am	For the anniversary of death of Sylvester Rutkowski
Sat. 9:30am	For the anniversaries of death of Luba Czerkesow and Gerrie Czerdesow

Ministers for weekend 24 th – 25 th Oct.	
Saturday 5.30pm	
Acolyte:	Julian Rookes
E. Minister:	Emillie Racca
Readers:	1. Veronica Roson 2. Anne Sheldrick
Sunday 8.30am	
Acolyte:	Robert Squires
E. Minister:	Bernedette Peiris Kirsty Simpson
Readers	1. Jacqueline Luis 2. Lynne Duffield
Sunday 10.00am	
Acolyte:	Jacqueline Kho
E. Minister:	Emili Taeiloa Ann Webb
Readers:	1. Youth Group 2. Youth Group
Sunday 5.30pm	
Acolyte:	Thomas Philippe
E. Minister:	Orpha Rivero
Readers:	1. Alyssa Fernandez 2. Seira Fernandez

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MARY IMMACULATE PARISH
EAGLE VALE

LEGION OF MARY
Holy Rosary
AND
STATUE HOME VISITS



TO BOOK A VISIT,
CONTACT

MILA 0449 934 596
HABIB 0405 712 935

WEEKEND MASSES
Saturday Vigil 5:30pm
Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am
5:30pm.

WEEKDAY MASSES
Mon & Tue: 9:00am
Wednesday: 7:30 pm
Thurs. & Fri 9:00am
Saturday: 9:30am

FILIPINO MASS
– 2nd Sunday- 4:00pm.
RECONCILIATIONS
Saturdays 10:00am to 11:00am
(with exposition))
DEVOTIONAL TIMES

ROSARY:
before weekday Masse

DIVINE MERCY Chaplet-
Fridays after 9am Mass with
Benediction on 1st Friday
Meetings - 4th Friday @ 6.30pm
(in Madigan room)

HOLY HOUR PRAYERS
Sponsored by the Filipino Group
First Saturday - After Mass
Saturday: 9:30am

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES
by appointment.



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