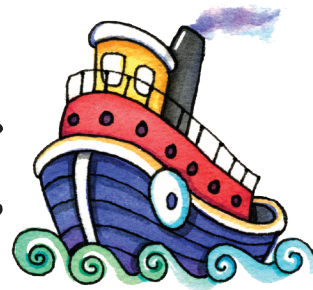


The Catholic Tugboat

A Children's Guide to God



October 18, 2020 Cycle A, 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Volume V, Issue 47

Buried Treasures



In today's Gospel the Pharisees and the Herodians join together to set a trap for Jesus. The first group did not support the Roman tax and the second group did. They planned to get Jesus to commit to one side so that the opposing group could then condemn Him. Jesus sidestepped their question by

telling them to give to Caesar what is his.

More importantly, Jesus left them with a second

instruction

that they didn't know how to answer: 'and repay to God what belongs to Him.' They were 'amazed' and went away. Did they not know what they owed to God? Did they spend so little time with God that they did not know how to give God what we owe Him? Let us never become children who don't know their Father.

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Psalms 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Matthew 22:15-21



Catholic I.D.

Since we would have no idea how to find God, we are thankful that "God calls man first. Man may forget his Creator... he may run after idols... yet the living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter..." (CCC 2567) This call gives us a conversation and a direction.

Even "after losing through his sin his likeness to God, man remains an image of his Creator, and retains the desire for the one who calls him into existence." (CCC 2566) As we grow and answer God more completely, we will live more deeply inside Him. Building our life around Him, we will come to see things like He does, just like Jesus did.



From Your Lips to God's Ear

God gave us a prayer that, "not only teaches us to ask for things, but also in what order we should desire them."

(CCC 2763) Our first '**petition**' (request) is to recognize God's holiness and ask that this gap is bridged, "**Hallowed be thy name!**" (CCC 2807)

We aren't able to make anything holy, but we can tell and show our Father how holy and great we think He is. To do this is to also sense our smallness before Him, and this is the beginning of humility. Comfortable before the Almighty, we can then say, "Ahh! Thank you, Almighty Father, for giving us Your Most Holy Name so we can always call on You!"



Our Salvation History: The Prophets Hold It Together

Even though Elijah had proved that Baal, the pagan god, was not real, many Israelites followed the evil king and queen to worship pagan gods. They would also go to fortune tellers to learn about the future instead of trusting the living God of Israel to take care of them.

Elijah and his student, Elisha, were the first of many prophets. Some would bring God's Word to the Northern Kingdom and others to the Southern Kingdom. We are now in the period of salvation history known as the Age of the Prophets. As we will see in Year B, the prophets were messengers who burned with zeal, fired by their love for God. They gave up much and risked much to pass on His message to the kings and the people. During these several hundred years there are many stories about God's love for his people, and the people's resistance to this love. Many were sent and many were ignored.

As we know, the Northern Kingdom and the Southern Kingdom fell further and further away from God. Because of alliances made with earthly powers and the betrayal of God, both kingdoms were soon conquered, and the people were scattered. They would have to endure the consequences of their choices before some would be ready to return home.

Important Dates!

931 B.C. – Solomon dies

722 B.C. – the Ten Northern Tribes were conquered by Assyria and sent into exile

587 B.C. – the South (Judah) falls and is sent into exile in Babylon

Tugboat Challenge

We owe God many things for what He has given us, such as praise, gratitude, worship, love, and a personal relationship. Pick one and write a letter to God letting him know how you plan to do this or show this:

Dear God,

Love,

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