

# Religious Ramblings 

## Respect for Politicians

fr David show us a way of understanding Jesus' saying in regard to paying taxes.

What difference does faith make to your life? St Paul, addressing the Thessalonians in today's second reading heaps praise on them for showing their faith in action. Hope and love are also mentioned by Paul, as these are the shape that the power of the Gospel, through the Holy Spirit, gives to the lives of the Thessalonians. This life of faith, hope and love is the life of the Church, and it is offered to us through the Church, and in particular through our participation in the liturgy. The liturgy forms us and teaches us. Through participation in the liturgy our lives are transformed, so that we become sharers in the mystical body of Jesus Christ.

But what about the rest of society? Could too narrow an emphasis on liturgy turn us inwards, concerned only with internal Church affairs, whilst remaining oblivious to the world around us? Do we run the risk of becoming a club for those on the inside, with no regard for the rest of humanity? There is little evidence to support this charge, and it is clear that Christians are active within society on many levels. Rather than seeing an opposition between full involvement in the Church and involvement in society, let us turn to today's Gospel for guidance on how the life of faith, hope and love is to be expressed in society.

In the Gospel Jesus is confronted by a group of Pharisees along with the Herodians. They seek to trap Jesus by asking him whether it is lawful to pay taxes to Caesar. If Jesus says yes he will lose support from the people, who oppose the imposition of Roman taxes. If he says no he will set himself in direct opposition to the Romans. In response Jesus gives the famous and much quoted answer: ‘Give back Caesar's things to Caesar and God's things to God' (Matthew 22:21).

At first sight this response would seem to confirm the idea that there is no relationship between our Christian life and our life in society. Yet Jesus does not say that his followers are to split themselves in two, nor that the demands of the Kingdom are limited to 'religious' things. In order to understand this saying of Jesus we need to examine the radical nature of the Kingdom he proclaims.

Earlier in the Gospel of St Matthew Jesus has outlined his manifesto for the Kingdom. We recognise this as the Sermon on the Mount and particularly in the Beatitudes. Just as Moses received the tablets of the law of Israel upon a mountain, so here Jesus, the second Moses, proclaims the law for the new Israel from a mount. This new Kingdom is not, however, one which will have political boundaries. It is not a kingdom of this world. Yet it is present in the world, and those who belong to it are called to be the salt of the earth and a light to all people (Matthew 5:13-14).

It is in the context of Jesus Christ's proclamation of the Kingdom that we are to understand his saying concerning paying taxes to the Romans. His mission was not to establish a political kingdom, so in responding to the Pharisees he avoids entering directly into political confrontation with the Romans.

At the same time his response is far more radical and further reaching than any act of direct political action. In giving to God what belongs to God Jesus makes possible a total transformation, which changes us on every level of our being. The life of faith, hope and love moves us not only to render to civil authorities what in justice is required, but to work for the transformation of society by going beyond the demands of justice. This often requires great personal courage and selfsacrifice. And so it is right that each Sunday we pray for those who serve us in political society, and that we respect them. It also encourages us to become involved in society, to use our own gifts in the service of other, so that we may co-operate with Jesus Christ in building his Kingdom.
fr. David Goodill OP teaches at the Dominican Studium in Oxford and at St Mary's College, Oscott.

## Financial Update

Year-To-Date July 1 - October 14, 2014


Gifts As Of October 14, 2014
(Gifts: Pledged, non-restricted and Sunday Collections) YTD Gifts Budget Shortfall < $\$ 6,155>$

## from our Pastor

## RCIA:

Considering becoming Catholic? Haven't been Confirmed? Or just want an adult perspective on the Catholic Faith? Want to be a sponsor to some on the journey of faith? Why not join the RCIA? Starting October 5th at 2:30 pm in the Rm 301 in Old Union. If the schedule does not work for you, contact me! xavierop@stanford.edu or 415-336-4203

## Good News About You!

Gallup has a wonderful book called "Living Your Strengths", and by using a unique code in the book you can take an online inventory that identifies your top 5 signature talents. Each person is richly blessed. You are using these talents even now, but people often don't recognize what their talents are and misuse them. With knowledge and practice you can turn those talents into strengths, i.e. near perfect performance. "Strength Finders" is also a wonderful way of learning how to understand and appreciate others.
We would investigate your leadership talents. Everyone is a leader at one time or another. Let's explore how you can use your talents in leadership. My proposal is simple. I would be willing to conduct in your homes miniworkshops. Gather a small group of permanent community members or just friends, and at a time convenient for your group, I would lead you in taking the inventory and in applying the results. We would meet three or four times, and explore!
Xavier OP, xavierop@stanford.edu or 415-336-4205

## GENERAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Baptisms:

We will celebrate baptisms next Sunday during the $4: 30$ Mass in Memorial Church. Please pray for those who will be brought forth for this sacrament.

## Thanksgiving Service Trip:

Interested in engaging with our brothers and sisters through public service? Want to put back the "thanks" "giving" in "Thanksgiving"? Apply to the CC@S Thanksgiving Back trip! We will travel to Las Vegas to assist an underserved HIV/AIDS community in preparation for Thanksgiving. The trip will be from Sunday morning, Nov. 23 to Wednesday morning, Nov. 26th (You'll still have Thanksgiving Day and Black Friday free!) Find out more information and download the application at http://catholic.stanford.edu/. Applications due October 19th (next Sunday). Spots do fill up quick, so after some thoughtful contemplation, if you feel called to join the cause, sign up soon! Questions? Contact the CC@S TGB Coordinators,Lourdes Alonso (lalonso@stanford.edu) or Matthew Gonzalez , mgonz324@stanford.edu.

## Sister Ramona -- Here for You:

How may I be of service? A companion to walk with You:
-Spiritual Direction -Prayer
-Discernment -Daily Life ups and downs
-Relationships -Other
Where? Old Union, 3rd floor
When? Tuesday $1-5 \mathrm{pm}$; Wednesday $1-5 \mathrm{pm}$, Thursday $1-4 \mathrm{pm}$ or by appointment.
How? email: ramonabascom@gmail.com

## Singers and Instrumentalists

WE NEED YOU!! There are music groups at the 10:30, 4:30, 10:00 p.m. and monthly Spanish Masses. No auditions! We work on a variety of music, from chant to contemporary. Make new friends and serve your community with God's gifts. Most needed: instruments (flutes, violins, cello, guitar, PIANO, percussion) and sopranos. For info, contact Teresa, tpleins@stanford.edu.

## Korean Catholic Community At Stanford (KC@S):

KC@S (/ka:s/) is a Korean catholic community at Stanford consisting of a number of Korean under/grad students, post-docs and community members at Stanford. During the academic year, we have a Friday night prayer meeting with various topics and activities to deepen our faith in addition to a weekly lunch gathering. New students and summer visitors are all welcome to join us. For more information, contact Kyoungjin at kjlee99@ stanford.edu.

## Small Faith Group for St. Ignatius Spiritual Exercises:

 We are starting a small faith group for St. Ignatius spiritual exercise! It consists of individual spiritual exercises and a group sharing. You will spend 30 minutes x 3 days on daily practice of contemplation and journaling, and during the group meeting we will share what we've heard from God. The book, The Ignatian Adventure by Kevin O'Brien, SJ will be used. If you are interested, contact Eun-Soo (eschoi@ stanford.edu) immediately.
## Second Collection:

This Sunday, October 19 , is designated as World Mission Sunday in the Diocese of San José. $5 \%$ of the monies we collect in the baskets at all Masses will be donated to Catholic Education. Please be generous.

## Reading Group:

The next meeting of the reading group is tomorrow, MONDAY, OCTOBER 20th at 7:30pm at Casa Gelpi (870 Tolman Drive). We'll be discussing Irish fiction writer Colm Toibin's highly praised novel "Brooklyn" (2009), which is available from libraries, in bookstores, and from Amazon. All are welcome to join the discussion.

## ESTEEM:

Engage your Faith as a Leader in the Catholic Church. ESTEEM (Engaging Students to Enliven the Ecclesial Mission) is looking for new members who desire to learn what it takes to be a leader inside and outside of the Catholic Church. By focusing on our Catholic theological traditions and the example of Christ leading his disciples, ESTEEM teaches its members how to be disciples focused on leadership at both Stanford and in the real world. ESTEEM meets Tuesday nights in the Sanctuary on the third-floor of Old Union. Please contact Lourdes Alonso, lalonso@stanford. edu.

## Volunteer for the 10pm Mass Ministry:

The 10 pm Mass Ministry serves to create a welcoming and prayerful space for students to encounter Christ. We hand out bulletins, set up the space, and reset everything after Mass. We need more volunteers and would like to invite you to consider this ministry. It only takes 20 minutes before and 15 minutes after Mass. You would only be scheduled for a few Sundays per quarter. If you're interested, contact Awapuhi Lee, awapuhil@stanford.edu.

## Attention Catholic Singles:

Interested in joining an excellent Catholic singles organization? The Catholic Alumni Club International currently has a group in the San Francisco area! We provide a group dedicated to social, cultural, civic and spiritual relationships in a Catholic setting. For more information, please check out the following site or contact Elinor at tancke@sbcglobal.net; http://catholicsinglessfbayarea.com/

## YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Mass and Halloween Dinner Party:
Tues. Oct. 28th at 7:30pm, St. Simon Church, 1860 Grant Rd, Los Altos. The Young Adult Circle will be gathering for our annual Halloween Mass followed by a Halloween themed dinner party. This is one of our more popular annual events. If you have questions or would like more information on the Mass, please contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

## Dinner at Pluto's:

Tues. Oct. 21st at 7:30pm, 482 University Ave., Palo Alto. The Young Adult group meets for its monthly social gathering. Please confirm your attendance on our Facebook Page "Young Adult Circle" or contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

## a way of life

Sunday, Octoberber 19, 2014
As indicated many times previously in these reflections, it is difficult to reflect comprehensively on the totality of the readings for a particular Sunday, and it is often more effective to focus our thoughts on something smaller, although significant. Saint Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, our second reading, offers one of those insights. Most scholars believe that the letter to the people of Thessalonica, Greece (the Thessalonians) was perhaps the first of the many letters Paul wrote. Note that in his opening greeting, Paul makes it from not just himself, but from Silvanus and Timothy as well. As successful as Paul was as an evangelist and an apostle, he recognized early on that it was not something he could do or accomplish alone. In addition to God's help, St. Paul gathered a team around him, which he used and empowered in many ways. Sometimes each of us may think we are more efficient operating alone. Stewardship on the other hand calls us to see that we are part of a community, and that community can accomplish more as a group than any one of us can individually. That is the strength of community stewardship, a faith-filled people working hand in hand to build the Kingdom of God. There is a Tibetan proverb which states, "If you help someone to the top of the mountain, you reach the peak also."

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Questions about this or stewardship ministry in general? Please contact M'Lis Berry at meberry@stanford.edu

## UNDERGRADS

## Spaghetti Dinners:

Thursdays 5:15pm.
Join us Thursday for our weekly Spaghetti Dinners. Come feast on pasta and meet new friends every Thursday at $5: 15 \mathrm{pm}$. We meet in the Common Room of Old Union located on the 3rd floor.

## GRADS

## Catholicism 101:

Grad students are invited to Catholicism 101, a forum for graduate students and young adults that fosters community and open discussion. Join us on Monday nights this quarter from 7-8:30pm for dinner and discussions. More information will be available in the weekly email. Let us know if you would like to be added to the grad email list by contacting Lourdes at lalonso@stanford.edu.

Oct. 20th - What Confession has taught me about Relationships - Fr. Xavier
Oct. 27th - Lay Saints - Amy
Nov. 3rd - Dying with Dignity: Last Rites, Funerals and IncorruptablesMaria
Nov. 10th - Orthodox/Eastern Rites - Dmitry
Nov. 17th - Secular History of the Church - Brittany
Dec. 1st - Tying the Knot: What you should know about marriage - Fr. Daniel
Dec. 8th - Grads will attend Mass together for the Feast Day
Grad Bible Study:
Sundays: Dinner at 6:30pm, Study 7-8pm, Rosary afterwards. All are welcome to a grad student Bible study. For more information contact cgiam@stanford.edu.

Sunday, October 19, 2014

- 10:30am at Tresidder Oak Room
- 4:30pm in Memorial Church
- 10 pm
in Memorial Church
Monday, October 20 - Friday, October 24
- Office hours: Mon to Thurs, 10am to 4 pm

Fr Xavier Lavagetto OP extended office hours:
Tuesday to Thursday, 9 pm to $\mathbf{1 0 : 3 0} \mathbf{p m} \mathbf{- 4 1 5} 336-4203$
Daily Liturgy:
M T W and F in Memorial Church Thursdays in the Old Union Sanctuary
Confessions:
Sunday, from 9:15am to 10:15am at Old Union 3rd Floor offices, and $4: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ at MemChu Vestibule, and Tuesdays, $1: 30-2: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ and $9-10: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ Old Union, 3rd Floor, Rm 304 or 319 or by appointment: call 415-336-4203


The Catholic Community at Stanford is a parish and campus ministry operating as a guest of Stanford University.

We appreciate the support of our community members and visitors to grow and sustain our mission.
If you would like to support our ministry, please visit us at http:// catholic.stanford .edu/giving.

Or you can download the easy and free EverGive mobile app.
Whether you would like to give once or set up a recurring gift, EverGive is a simple mobile app that lets smartphone users contribute and manage donations in 15 seconds.

It's really that easy. EverGive is available for both iOS and Andriod devices.

## Volunteer Opportunities

## St. Anthony Padua's Dining Room:

The CCAS is committed to serving the needy and homeless at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room in Menlo Park. If you are interested in volunteering on Saturday, Oct. 25 or Nov. 1 from 8:30-1pm or a subset thereof, please contact gary.glover@stanford.edu to discuss and/or have a volunteer position reserved for you. We serve every first and fourth Saturday of the month, so plan ahead and let Gary know at least by the Wednesday before. Pay homage to Caesar in taxes, pay homage to God at St. A's!
Gathering Be Thou My Vision

Nought be all else to me save that thou art Thou mine in - her - it - ance, now and al - ways, May I reach heav'n's joys, $O$ bright heav-en's Sun!


Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy_ pres - ence my light. High King of heav - en, my treas - ure thou art. Still be my vi - sion, O _ Rul - er of all. Gloria Mass From Age To Age C. DeSilva


1. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
verse 2


2. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## First Reading Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

The Lord anointed Cyrus of Persia to subdue the nations and free Israel. God made Persia great so that everyone might know that there is no god besides the Lord God of Israel.


## Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

The Thessalonians believed in the gospel, lived in the Holy Spirit, and labored in love with full conviction.


Gospel
Matthew 22:15-21
When some Pharisees tried to trap Jesus into saying something negative about the emperor, Jesus used a Roman coin to teach them, "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God."

## Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

## Offertory You Will I Love, My Strength J. Scheffler

You will I love, my strength, my tower;
You will I love, my hope, my joy;
You will I love with all my power, With fervor time cannot destroy.
You will I love, O Light divine,
So long as life is mine.
You will I love, my life, my Savior, You are my best, my truest friend; You will I love and praise forever, For never shall your kindness end. Your love for me casts out my fear, You are my Savior dear.
I thank you, Jesus, sun from heaven, Whose radiance has brought light to me; I thank you, who has richly given All that could make me glad and free. I thank you that my soul is healed With love that you revealed.
Oh, keep me watchful, then, and humble, And never suffer me to stray; Uphold me when my feet would stumble, And keep me faithful to your way. Fill all my nature with your light, O Radiance strong and bight!
You will I love, my crown of gladness;
You will I love, my god and Lord, Within the darkest depths of sadness, And not for hope of high reward For your own sake, O Light divine, So long as life is mine!


I. Seek ye first the king-dom of God and his right-eous -
2. Ask, and it shall be giv-en un-to you, seek, and ye shall

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ness, and all thesesthings shall be add-ed un-to you;
find, knock, and the door shall be 0 -pened un - to your;



## Women's Discernment Retreat:

Is God calling you to consider consecrated life as a Dominican Sister of Mission San José? You are invited to our RELIGIOUS LIFE DISCERNMENT RETREAT: Nov. 7-9, 2014 (Fri. 6 pm - Sun. 2pm) with the Dominican Sisters of MSJ at 43326 Mission Blvd.,Fremont, CA 94539-5829 (For single, Catholic women college-40) Register by Monday Nov.3, 2014 at www. msjdominicans.org. For more information call Sister Marcia Krause @510-502-5797.


If you suspect financial mismanagement or misconduct in your parish or in the Diocese of San José, please contact: EthicsPoint: dsj. ethicspoint.com or hotline telephone number 1-888-325-7863. Teresa Conville, 408-983-0241 or email:tconville@dsj.org.

