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Welcome to Father Vlad's Newsletter!

Let's stay in touch for updates on events and special seasonal messages!

I will be glad to stay in touch, but if you prefer not to receive these messages, please unsubscribe below. Thank you.

Please visit www.fathervlad.com for more!

The Universe Catholic

Father Vlad latest column on The Universe Catholic Weekly:

[20th October 2023 - Sports coming out of the shadows](#)

[6th October 2023 - In life, as in sport, when hopes run out, so do your chances of succeeding](#)

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 22nd October 2023

Today we witness the intelligence – and wisdom – of this carpenter's son in his early thirties.

Jesus avoided the either/or trap with a both/and response.

Importantly, his phrasing did not put God and Caesar on the same level, but it also avoided giving any grounds for the Jewish authorities to use against Him.

Vertically, the Kingdom of God and horizontally, duty to civil authorities – a bit like our family and work balance -though often in tension, need not clash.

Remember the Two Great Commandments? Deut 6,5 and Lev 19,18: Love God above all and love your neighbour as you love yourself - by doing good to your neighbour and society.

In fact, our vocation is to help God make the world we live in a better place.

Matthew added, that hearing His wonderful answer, his enemies were amazed. They didn't think Jesus would be able to successfully answer their clever question without offending at least one side. But He managed it. So, they left Him and went away perhaps - I suspect - to plot his eventual demise. Which- in fact - turned out to be his magnificent victory: the redemption of humanity.

The more time I spend remembering - and meditating on - the life of Jesus Christ, the easier it is to love Him. He is – to put it mildly – inspirational.

If you would like to enrich your life, how about making a resolution to spend more time each week - reading and pondering the Gospels?

Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time - 15th October 2023

The Kingdom of Heaven – the Wedding Feast - a feast of peace is an invitation – a gift from God. All too many reject it and do not live by its values – including peace.

At Mass, after the Our Father, the word 'peace' appears seven times! The Church underlined the importance of this reality.

At the end of the parable we see an interaction between the king and a man who was not dressed appropriately. The dress – the appearance – seems to refer to his behaviour. His ethics, morality.

It is not important who we are. What is important is how we are. Our doing shapes are being – open or closed to God. Open to God we can receive God's gifts, benefit from God's graces and be alive in the Kingdom of God.

All too many people don't accept God's gifts, because money, responsibilities, and relationships often stand in the way.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be." (Lk 12,34) My treasure - my top priority - are God's gifts; above all a close friendship with Yesh, Jesus The Christ.

Ask yourself – ask your friends – including your family, if you dare – "what are my priorities? What evidence is there to back up my claims?"

Father Vlad on Radio Maria

Father Vlad podcasts on Radio Maria England are available! Please follow this link to access all podcasts [Father Vlad's Radio Maria podcasts](#)

Don't forget to buy Father Vlad's book Life Squared!

As I approached my 80th birthday, I wanted to find out what I really thought about life. Writing this book has crystallised my experiences. I now know better what I have learned and what I think.

Now, that I'm coming to the end of my life, I have finally learned how to live. Time's slippage nudged me to act on my dream of passing what I have learned on to others.

Father Vlad

[download the introduction to Life Squared](#)

To buy your copy of the book (£12.95+pp) please contact Father Vlad at: msg.vladimir.felzmann@gmail.com or +44 (7810) 116 508



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