



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

What are some words or phrases that stick out to you?

God chose and called Cyrus by name before Cyrus even knew Him. How does it make you feel to know that God knows your name and has a purpose for your life, even during moments when you might feel distant from Him?

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

What is a connection between the 1st Reading and the Psalm?

What does it mean to sing a "new song" to the Lord in your daily life? How can we keep our prayer life and relationship with God fresh, rather than letting it become routine or stagnant?

When you "enter his courts" (Mass), what personal gifts are you bringing to place on the altar? (e.g., your struggles, a sacrifice of your time, a specific intention, or a broken relationship).

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

In the beginning of St Paul's letters, he often begins with "grace and peace." How does the traditional Catholic greeting set the tone for how we relate to one another in small group?

Why does Paul connect faith with work, and love with labor?

What is the difference between worldly optimism and Christian hope?

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
grant that we may always conform
our will to yours
and serve your majesty in sincerity
of heart.

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-21

Jesus asks whose image (icon) and inscription are on the coin. What is the deeper theological meaning when Jesus implies that human beings bear a different image and inscription?

What are some words or themes that link the readings together?

In what practical ways can you "repay to God what belongs to God" in your daily routine this week?