

ST. ANN'S PARISH

Sunday, October 22, 2017

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Week's Mass Times:

Tuesday 6 pm & Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 8 am

Saturday: 4:00 pm Sunday: 10 am

Confessions: Saturday 3pm

Tuesday 5:30pm

...or by appointment: please call 816-294-9841

Adoration: 1st Friday of the month: 8:30 am – 12

Saturday, October 21: 4 pm

Ushers: Open

Lectors: Bill Lueckenotte & Clare Pelzel

EMHC: Della Mallen & Elaine Stoll

Sunday, October 22: pm

Ushers: Eric Niemann & Vince Seiler

Sunday, October 22: pm

Ushers: Eric Niemann & Vince Seiler

Lectors: Paul & Lori Broderick

EMHC: Vince & Joan Seiler

MONEY COUNTERS

Paul & Lori Broderick

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Mary Ann Garton

Saturday, October 28: 4 pm

Ushers: Open

Lectors: Clare Pelzel & Judy McKowen

EMHC: Della Mallen & Elaine Stoll

Sunday, October 29: 10 am

Ushers: Eric Whitlow & Mindy Beall

Lectors: Terry Miller & Bill Lueckenotte

EMHC: Vince Seiler & Charlie Harper

MONEY COUNTERS

Eric Niemann & Cathy Hanson

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Open

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Oct 21: Johnny Hales

By: Gerry Hales

Sunday, Oct 22: People of the Parish

Tuesday, Oct 24: 6 pm Private Intention

Wednesday, Oct 25: +Stephanie Trujillo

Thursday, Oct 26: Carol Benjamin

Friday, Oct 27: + Fr. Peter Pilarski

Saturday, Oct 28 People of the Parish

Sunday, Oct 29 : + James Henley

By: Catherine Henley

2nd Collection – WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

From Father Totton's Desk

Render Unto Caesar...

Jesus said, "Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." (Matthew 19-21)

With this simple statement, Jesus acknowledges the legitimacy of civil government. That is not to say that the Emperor, King, President, Prime Minister or any other leader is perfect or sinless! Even the Pope, himself a head of state, sins. (infallibility is an entirely different matter than *impeccability* and only applies to a very strict set of circumstances, but that is a column for another time!) In other words, Jesus encourages us to be good citizens, even as we exercise our greater membership as subject of His Kingdom! The Catechism of the Catholic Church says: *As far as possible citizens should take an active part in public life.* (no. 1915). This includes paying taxes. It also includes voting, even running for public office and exercising other civic duties (like jury duty). In all these things, we exercise them *as disciples of Jesus and members of the Catholic Church.* We cannot be expected to "check our faith" at the voting booth, nor, should we be elected to serve, to renounce Christ upon taking public office! Rather, our faith must form our conscience, and our conscience must guide us in the exercise of all civic responsibilities. When laws are enacted which curtail the free exercise of our religion, we also have a sacred obligation to rectify these laws - using the legitimate means at our disposal. In our representative democracy, we have many such channels, but we may never forsake the Truth of the Gospel for political expediency.

I have always been struck (if you will forgive the pun) by the illustration that Jesus uses in looking at the coin and asking "whose image and inscription is this?" "Caesar's" they answered, "The render unto Caesar that which belongs to Caesar and unto God that which belongs to God!" Just as the coin in question bore the image of Caesar, so the souls of the Faithful are impressed with the image of God. Therefore, we belong to God! Our actions, our lives must be lived for him. The Catechism says, "*Baptism imprints on the soul an **indelible** spiritual sign, the character, which consecrates the baptized person for Christian worship.*" (CCC 1280). We can and should make use of our earthly citizenship in a legitimate way but also in a way that furthers the Kingdom of God whose image is impressed upon our soul. This is what Jesus means when he says that we are to render "unto God what belongs to God" (what bears His image!).

St. Paul provides for us an excellent example of using the privileges of one's citizenship to further the Kingdom of God. Paul enjoyed the privilege of Roman citizenship by special dispensation given to the population of the city of Tarsus. As such, he could appeal to the emperor in answering criminal charges (with which he was eventually charged). Therefore, he invoked the privileges of his citizenship to prolong his ordeal, and as he traveled, as a prisoner, to Rome to appeal to the Emperor, he built up and encouraged the members of the Church along the way! What are some ways that **you** can invoke the privilege of citizenship to advance the Kingdom of God, bearing in mind that, having been "stamped" with the image of God, you must ultimately render unto God what belongs to Him?

--

Fr. Joseph W. Totton

ABBREVIATED BULLETIN

Just to let you know this week's bulletin is in a abbreviated format because the computer died.

No the hard drive didn't get fried, the motherboard either.

It just died – quit working.

We will purchasing a new computer this week and hopefully (pray) we will be up and running next week.

Thank you for the understanding.