

October 18th 2026 29th Sunday Ordinary Time – Year A Matthew 22:15-21

²²⁻¹⁵Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?”

¹⁸But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me?

¹⁹Show me the coin used for paying the tax.” They brought him a denarius, ²⁰and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?”

²¹“Caesar’s,” they replied.

Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel.	➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition.
➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.	➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).

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This week’s gospel speaks about giving to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God. The message is that we are all called to be good citizens of the countries and societies where we live, while at the same time giving priority to our relationship with God. That relationship is made possible by our gift of faith.

When have you been faced with a conflict of loyalties? What helps you to get your priorities right?

Prayer:

Thank You Lord for our gift of faith which helps us to be good citizens giving priority to our relationship with God.

Forgive us Lord for the times when we failed to pass on the message of the love of Jesus for each one of us especially to those who were most in need.

Help us Lord always to respect life and bring human dignity and encouragement to all.