

Saint Boniface Parish

Faith Formation Handout – Sunday, October 18th

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? 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."



How do I give to God what belongs to God?

First Grade

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus tell us to give to God what belongs to God. What do you think are some things that belong to God? What are some things that you have that also belong to God? If God is the King of the Universe, is there anything that doesn't belong to Him? Think of one thing that is God's and how you give it back to Him?

Second Grade

God gives us many people in our lives – our parents, siblings, other family members, friends, teachers, etc. He puts these people in our lives to help us. We are also in their lives to love and help them. In the past week, how have you helped the people in your life? How can you love God's people without being asked or told to this week?

Third and Fourth Grades

Each time that we get a gift, award or prize it can be tempting to think that we deserved it. Even though we worked hard at something does not mean that we did all of the work. God helps you in every moment. What are some ways that God helped you this week? Did you notice them when they were happening? How can you be more aware of God in your life?

Fifth and Sixth Grades

Giving to God what belongs to God means using the many gifts and talents to help other people. Our talents will sometimes get us a trophy or make us famous, but the reason God gave them to us is to share them with other people. What gifts do you have? Name at least five. How have you shared them with other people? How can you share one of your gifts with someone?

Seventh and Eighth Grades

Being thankful for all that have and have been given is an important way to give back to God what belongs to God. We often think that all of our accomplishments are just our own. How has God helped you with all of the things that you are good at? Why do you think it is important to thank God even when we had to work hard to achieve something?

High School and Adults

In today's Gospel the people questions Jesus about giving money to taxes. He tells them to give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's. How do you handle your money? What do you do with the little or abundant amount of it that you have? Are you honest with it? Do you give some of it back to God by supporting the Church and helping others?

For this Week...

We are Catholic always and in everything we do. Throughout the week bring your faith into your school, your work, your play and your family. Here are some ideas for you.

Monday

God is the God of time, and He gives us a new gift of time each day. How do you use your give of a new day? Do you waste it by laying around or focusing on yourself? Or do you use it well by working hard and giving to others? Today, give the gift of time back to God by giving more time to others, helping them to do the things that they need and want to do.

Tuesday

God has also blessed you with many talents. These gifts are given to each of us in order to help others to grow and prosper. What gifts have you been given by God? Today, choose one or two of your many gifts to share with someone else. Be sure that you are not sharing your gift to make yourself look good, but rather to help the person and to bring glory to God!

Wednesday

God has blessed each of us with different amounts of treasure, which are money and our material possessions. He has given us these things in order to live and be healthy, but also so that we can help others. Today, use your treasure, which is God's and comes from God, to help another person. This could be a simple act or a grand gesture.

Thursday

God is the creator of the whole universe, including the earth and the piece of it that you live on. Our city has many beautiful parts – the woods, the beach, the Common. How often do you get outside to see how beautiful creation is? Today, no matter the weather, do something outside. Perhaps take care of your own property or help someone else with theirs.

Friday

Everything belongs to God! This includes all of your struggles in life. It is not up to us to fight the battle against evil, but rather to accept God's help to fight the battle that belongs to Him. Today, spend at least ten minutes in prayer, first thinking about how what problems and struggles you have been trying to solve on your own. Then, give them back to God!

Saturday

What belongs to God are also every good thing in life – beauty, friendships, love, delicious food, laughter, etc. Every good thing comes from Him and belongs to Him. Today, give back to God what is God by enjoying the good things that He gives you every day and then by thanking Him. The more thankful we are, the more we realize how many things we can be thankful for.



FROM THE CATECHISM...

Man is by nature and vocation a religious being. Coming from God, going toward God, man lives a fully human life only if he freely lives by his bond with God. Man is made to live in communion with God in whom he finds happiness: 'When I am completely united to You, there will be no more sorrow or trials; entirely full of You, my life will be complete' (St. Augustine).

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 44-45

Next Week's Readings

Here are the readings for next Sunday so that on Saturday you can read through them. If you take a few minutes to read them and prepare, you will get a lot more from Mass. They are available online at www.usccb.org. Use the calendar on the right.

Exodus 22:20-26 Psalm 18:2-3,3-4,47,51 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10 Matthew 22:34-40

This handout was created by the Lynn Catholic Collaborative. For more info on how to use at your parish please email admin@lynnatholic.org

