

# JOURNAL REFLECTION

*“Being made in the Image and Likeness of God”*

In the Gospel reading for this Sunday, when asked if it is lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, Jesus responds by asking, “who’s image is on the coin used to pay the census tax?” When the people say “Caesar’s”, Jesus says, then “repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.” The obvious question in response to Jesus’ words are, “and what belongs to God?” The answer is EVERYTHING, but especially you and me. How do we know that we belong to God? Because we bear his “image” – we have been made “in the image and likeness of God.” In order to help us think about this profound truth more deeply, we encourage you to set aside some time in this coming week to prayerfully reflect upon the following questions:

1. In what ways are humans made in the “image and likeness of God”?
2. Why do you think God made us in his image? What does this say about our dignity and worth?
3. If God has made us like himself, what impact should this have on our way of thinking and living?
4. If all people are made in the image and likeness of God, how should this impact the way we treat others?
5. How can we help others recognize their worth as children of God made in his image and likeness?
6. How can I more fully “render to God” my entire life? Where do I feel God calling me to grow/change?