

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 19, 2008

*“Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar,
and to God what belongs to God.”*

—Matthew 22:21

BALANCE

Power struggles occur on every level of society, from the world stage to relationships at work, to our own homes. We struggle for position in the hierarchy of power: Who has power over whom? How do they wield it? What is the source of that power? What is the healthy response?

In this Sunday's Gospel reading the Pharisees engage Jesus in a power struggle over whether Jews should show tribute to Caesar by paying taxes. Jesus' response puts this and every struggle for power into perspective. In harmony with the words of Isaiah and Paul, Jesus teaches us that God is the ultimate source of all power—the power of earthly rulers, the Pharisees, Jesus, the Church, and the power within ourselves.

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SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S 2nd ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

TODAY—OCT. 19TH 12 NOON—3:00P.M.

Today, everyone in the parish is welcome to taste a variety of chilies and then cast their vote for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners! Soda, water, hot dogs and the legendary *Mama Bear's Brownies* will be available. Your monetary donations will assist the Society in their mission to serve the poor of our community.

PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE...

We will have a meeting this **Monday, October 20th in classroom #2 at 7:00 p.m.** We will be planning our fall and winter calendar, full of worthwhile events that will help our local and world wide community. If you would like to know more about our ministry, please join us!

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS

You are asked to please send in your non-availability dates for November, December and the weekend of January 3rd and 4th. **These dates should be sent before this Monday.** csaiza@stmatthewlb.org or 562.491.1217.

TAKE TIME TO REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD

The readings for next Sunday, *The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time* are listed below along with questions for your quiet reflection throughout the coming week.

FIRST READING: Exodus 22:20-26

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-40

What gifts have I received from God that help me to love my neighbors? How do I live out the “love your neighbor” in my area of the world?

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Today is World Mission Sunday. A day when all parishes in every diocese of the world celebrate together our common vocation to preach and proclaim Christ throughout the world. It represents an attitude of responsibility for all of us to be missionaries through our prayers, our good works and our financial contributions. The response of Catholics on World Mission Sunday maintains the lifeblood of the Church in 1,000 mission dioceses throughout the developing world. There are contribution envelopes available in the pews. You may donate today or take an envelope home with you and return it next weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Please make plans to attend our next meeting as we begin planning our Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas liturgies. Our meeting will take place on Monday, October 27th in the Rectory at 7:00p.m. Your attendance is important.

ALL ARE INVITED

Join us on Saturday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in the church as we pray the Rosary for the intentions of our country.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

The acknowledgement of the personal dignity of every human being demands the respect, the defense and the promotion of the rights of the human person. It is a question of inherent, universal and inviolable rights. No one, no individual, no group, no authority, no state can change—let alone eliminate—them because such rights find their source in God himself.

Pope John Paul II, *Christifideles laici*

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO OUR BABY SHOWER FOR THE PRECIOUS LIFE SHELTER

We continue to highlight **Respect Life Month** with our “baby shower” to benefit the moms and babies at the **Precious Life Shelter**, a facility which provides quality care and a safe living environment for homeless pregnant women 18 years and older. **Throughout October** you may donate items such as receiving blankets, diapers, baby wipes, nightgowns, sleepers, booties, etc. by placing them in the bassinet located in front of the Sacred Heart Altar. **Monetary donations may be placed in an envelope marked “Precious Life Shelter” and dropped in the collection basket.**