

Reflection Question of the Week

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

**29th Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

October 18, 2026

What is one thing you
can give to God today
– your time, kindness,
or love?

Children

What does it mean
to give God what
belongs to God?

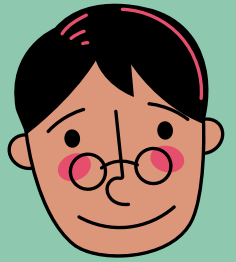
Teens

What part of your life do
you need to place more
fully in God's hands?

Adults

How can our family give
God a greater place in
our everyday lives?

Families





The Word of God

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."

Gospel Glossary

The **Pharisees** are Jews who try to remain faithful to Moses' law, even in the smallest acts of daily life. Jesus criticizes them for too severely judging those who don't live like they do.

Herodians were followers of King Herod.

To **regard** a person's status is to pay attention to whether or not that person is important.

Malice refers to evil desires and plans.

Hypocrites are people who say one thing (usually about how good they are) but do something else.

Caesar was the given name to emperors of Rome.

Closing Prayer

Almighty and ever-living God, our source of power and inspiration, give us strength and joy in serving you as followers of Christ. We ask this, as we ask all things, through Christ our Lord,
Amen