



October 22, 2023  
**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sun	10/22	8:00 AM <b>10:00 AM</b>	Memory of Tom La Combe ~13th Anniversary in Heaven Love, Sandy, Kennedy & Trenton * Second Collection for World Mission Sunday <b>Mass at St John's Gary Schaumberg</b>
Tues	10/24	<b>8:15 AM</b>	<b>Mass at St John's Gertrude &amp; Eben Mullen</b>
Wed	10/25	<b>8:15 AM</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Mass at St John's Mary Van Dyn Hoven</b> Communion Service Faith formation
Thurs	10/26	<b>CLOSED</b>	Parish Office Closed to attend Conference
Fri	10/27	8:15 AM	All Souls In Purgatory * Confession offered after Mass
Sat	10/28	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Mass at St John's Luella Ward</b>
Sun	10/29	8:00 AM <b>10:00 AM</b>	Don Roskom & Karen Vander Velden by Shirley Roskom <b>Mass at St John's Rose Marie Skinkis</b>

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

With little more than a year until the United States' national elections, I find myself feeling, like many Catholics, both dread & energized. Dread, because our democratic republic can be a messy endeavor and campaigns a long, nasty, & unedifying slog; energized, because hope for positive societal change can be enticing & engaging. As a pastor, I see similar conflicting attitudes in those whom I serve. How can Catholics best engage our political arena in a way which is truly helpful and worthwhile?

This weeks' gospel reading offers wisdom in this regard. Jesus says, **"Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."** This riddle forces us to answer for ourselves a hidden question: what is the relationship between political & divine authority? Two common but false answers lead to mischief. If we answer that the two are equivalent, politics becomes our absolute authority. This happens whenever religion is slave to the state, as in the travesty of the pro-Nazi German Christian movement in the 1930s and 40s. It also usually occurs when there is an official state religion. If we answer that the two are totally unrelated, we end up with an unchecked aggressive secularist state as we often experience now. Thus, religion becomes a weak and private pastime.

What's a better alternative? At our best, Christians hold that political authority does indeed have its own legitimate autonomy but is nested within God's all-encompassing authority. Think, for example, of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s respect for politics while also being able to criticize unjust human laws because he recognized a higher heavenly law. In other words, Caesar owns politics — *and God owns Caesar*. So, we should allow Jesus' words to lead us to have a deep respect and willingness to peacefully engage in politics without making that engagement our religion. We bring our faith to bear on our politics knowing confidently that Caesar isn't God — but he is indeed God's.  
— Father John Muir

**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

**The Tax of Caesar**

Too often, I confuse this world with the next.

Every day has its set of problems that need dealing with. Some are very easily discernible as problems of this world: I am tired, and I need a nap and a latte. Some are very obviously problems of eternity: I need to ask for forgiveness, but I'm not ready to admit it.

Most problems are a subtle, maddening mix of the two: my body feels tired, obscuring how tired my soul also feels, while making me very cranky, which is keeping me from asking for the forgiveness I need.

It's not that the nap and the latte *aren't* solutions. Heaven forfend! I would never propose such a thing. Sleep and coffee, I am confident, can fix almost any problem in this world. *This world.*

Too often, I slap a one-size-fits-all earthly band-aid on all my problems and rush on to the next thing. But if the problem is an issue of my soul, I may as well pay for a parking ticket in Monopoly money.

I render unto Caesar, and I forget about what is owed to God. I apply solutions meant for the here and now to problems that have eternal consequences. The spiritual problems are dismissed, shoved to the back of my mind. *For when I have time*, I tell myself. *For when I am ready*.

But the only time we have is now. God is no king of this earth, and he does not ask for a tax offering. He asks for our heart. He doesn't want us for minions but for children.

***"I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not." — Isaiah 45:4***

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman




**The October Bulletin is sponsored in memory of Tom La Combe, on his 13th Anniversary in Heaven. Love, Sandy, Kennedy & Trenton**

DAY/TIME	LECTOR	DISTRIBTORS	GREETERS	SERVERS	USHERS
SUNDAY	Brad Vanden Heuvel	Dcn Rich Matuszak		Paden Melchert	Jacob Vanden Heuvel
October 29				Eloise Melchert	Perry Matuszak

St. Sebastian Monthly Stewardship and Expense Report 2024 Fiscal Year			
Ordinary Revenue	September	Year to Date	
Parish Support	\$ 6,044	\$ 19,425	
Offerings and Other Unrestricted Income	192	667	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 6,236</b>	<b>\$ 20,092</b>	
Ordinary Expenses			
Worship, Music, non-Religious Ed Catechesis	\$ 466	\$ 748	
Personnel Expenses and Salaries	7,543	17,937	
Purchased Services and Supplies	801	2,800	
Utilities	574	1,708	
Building and Grounds	-	1,740	
General and Office Expenses	224	1,341	
Diocesan Assessments	695	3,248	
Other Expenses	21	44	
Parish Donations	-	-	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 10,323</b>	<b>\$ 29,566</b>	
<b>Revenue Net of Expense</b>	<b>\$ (4,087)</b>	<b>\$ (9,474)</b>	

**Prayer for Mission**

Dear Lord,  
Ignite a fire in our hearts that burns brightly for You.  
Help us to see in every soul the value that You see.  
Lead us to the people who need to hear Your message.  
Inspire us, sanctify us, send us.  
Here we are, Lord, send us!  
Amen.



**LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

God is greater than this world, and his truth is stronger than all its ideologies. Remember that no matter how we vote, who we agree with or what our background is, we belong to Him alone.

**Why Do We Do That? - Catholic Life Explained**


**Dropped Host**

**Question:** What happens to a consecrated host if it accidentally falls to the ground?


**Answer:** This is a very practical question because, as we all know, accidents happen, even during the most careful celebration of the liturgy. The short answer to this question is that nothing happens to the consecrated host. The Real Presence of Jesus remains in the consecrated host or any consecrated wine that might accidentally be spilled.

Another question we might ask is: ***How should the ministers respond if the Eucharist is dropped or spilled?***

If this happens, the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion should immediately pick up the dropped host and consume it. If it is a case of the Precious Blood being spilled, the minister would use the purificator (and additional purificators if needed) to clean the spill and then the area should be reverently washed as soon as the Mass is over and the water poured into the sacrarium (a special sink that is located in church sacristies for reverently disposing of holy water, the water used to clean sacred vessels, etc.).

 **Confession will be offered the last Friday of each month, following 8:15 am Mass**

INCOME FOR WEEK:	
Church Support	\$ 890.00
Loose Collection	\$ 170.00
Votive Candles	\$ 14.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 10.00
Building/Maintenance	\$ 70.00
Lumen Christi	\$ 650.00
One by One	\$ 19,987.17
DISBURSEMENTS:	
ISP –background checks	\$ 13.00
The Catholic Foundation	\$ 25.00
DeWitt Church Goods	\$ 46.00
Country Vision Coop	\$ 100.00
Comcenter / RE Books	\$ 180.45
Salvation Army Annual Christmas	\$ 400.00
Lawn Care	\$ 85.00
WeShare CC Fees	\$ 1.83

 **Nativity of Our Lord  
Mass & Eucharistic Healing Service  
Monday, November 6th**

4-6 PM Adoration, Confession & Prayer Teams  
6:00 PM Mass - Following Mass -Eucharistic Healing & Prayer Teams  
All are invited to attend.

**Ministry of the Sick:** Please notify the parish office if a member of your family is confined to their home or is hospitalized. Also, please inform the hospital of your affiliation with your parish.

**Baptisms:** Please call the parish office two months in advance.

**Marriage:** Please call St. John's parish office eight months in advance.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Please call St. John's parish office.

**Anointing of the Sick and Dying:** Please call St. John's parish office.

**Fr. Sengole Dass**  
**St. John Parish Office - 833-6140**

**DC. Richard Matuszak**  
**833-2294 or 609-5292**

**St Sebastian Parish Office - 833-2558**  
**Current Hours: Mon & Thurs 8:00 – 4:00**  
**Wed: 8:30 - Noon, Closed: Tues & Fri**