

Ordinary Time

October 19, 2014 • Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

What do we owe God?

We are long removed from tax season, but I always think about it when I read today's gospel. It's nice to know that the debate about paying taxes was going on more than 2,000 years ago. Part of the issue for the Jews was that Caesar considered himself a god, and paying taxes seemed like worshipping a false god.

We don't pay taxes to a false God, but many of us would like more say over where our money goes and don't feel that our representatives really speak for us.

Jesus didn't get involved in the debate then, and he will not now. But his answer gives us something to think about: *What do we owe God?*

God loved us into being, knew us in our mother's womb, and called each of us to a life with him. When we turned our backs, God redeemed us through the



incarnation and the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God has promised to be with us always and is, through the Holy Spirit, guiding us through the ages until the end of days.

If we could look at our heart and soul, we'd find only one image stamped there: God's. We owe him nothing less than ourselves. The world can take all we possess, but it cannot take away our identity as children of God. The world can have the fruits of our labor, but God alone has our being and fulfills our desires.

How do we pay what we owe God? By loving others, using our gifts and abilities for the glory of his name and, in every way, living in a manner worthy of the reign of God.

Let's start paying that now.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

**Today's
Readings**
Is 45:1, 4-6
1 Thes 1:1-5b
Mt 22:15-21

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Tues 10/21 7:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

**Thurs 10/23 4pm Youth Choir Rehearsal
7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal**

Sat 10/25 4-5pm Confessions

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised there will be no daily Mass Monday, October 20th through Friday, October 24, 2014 due to the Annual Presbyteral Retreat. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

RCIA will NOT be held on Monday evening, October 20th. The program will resume on October 27th. Msgr. McCann will be discussing the Blessed Trinity. We apologize for any inconvenience.

ICA HSO is collecting gently used or new Halloween costumes for Berks Women in Crisis. The bins will be located in the Narthex. Please consider donating so little superheroes and princesses in our area can enjoy the season as well. The last day to donate will be October 19th.

Bereavement Support Group will meet on October 20th, 7 to 8:30pm in the Church (side door, first room on right). We welcome anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. For information call Toni 610-404-1389 or Pat 610-775-1892.

RESORTS AC TRIP - October 23rd - LEAVE the Church at 9:30am - 6 hours in AC - Package Deal: Pay \$30 get \$25 Back - Call Carol J. if interested @ 610-775-4447

Signups are underway for CYO winter sports. Visit www.iccyo.com for more information.

DON'T DELAY! Buy your **Bosco's Friends Helping Friends** shopping pass today in the narthex of the church to save \$\$\$ on October 21st, 9am-11pm. The shopping pass is only \$5 (100% of the proceeds go to the church). A purchase of only \$20 earns back the price of the pass. You will enjoy a whopping 25% off your purchases throughout the store (exceptions listed on the pass). With the extended shopping hours allow you plenty of time to shop and save. Enjoy refreshments, entertainment, and a chance at some valuable prizes. YOU could be the winner of one of the \$100 or \$500 shopping sprees so don't forget to drop your stub off at one of the collection boxes throughout the store.

The Women's Society will be preparing Apple Dumplings on October 24th and 25th in the social hall, 9am - till? Come one or both days. We usually finish up around 1pm after a lite lunch. Easy, stress free, fun work with a great bunch of people. Order sheets are in the narthex and church office. Payment must accompany orders and are due October 19th. We may have extras to sell but we encourage you to pre-order as extras go really fast! Pick up your order in the social hall before or after Masses on October 25th/26th.

2015/2016 Registration for Berks Catholic High School is open. Please visit the our website www.berkscatholic.org for more information about the school. Contact Nicole Smith nsmith@berkscatholic.org or 610.374.8361, ext244 to set up a personal tour or shadow day or simply to answer any questions you may have. All inquires are confidential.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY AT NOON

The **ICA HSO Christmas Bazaar** will be held in the Social Hall November 15th, 9am-3pm. Please come out and enjoy this fun event. Thanks to all of the vendors that have signed up and helped us reach our goal of fillings all the spaces!

Berks Catholic Ice Hockey Program offers Learn to Skate and Learn to Play hockey for boys and girls of all ages. Session 1 starts November 1st for 9 Saturdays, 7:30-8:30am at Body Zone. Email Britt at brittkobularcik@comcast.net or phone 484-256-1782 for registration or more info.

Registration for **Berks Catholic Youth Lacrosse** for boys and girls in grades K-8 will be held November 9th, 6-7pm at Berks Catholic High School. rthanley@comcast.net or MDuddy@world-electronics.com.

SCRIP is a great church fundraiser and you can benefit too! Basically you are buying gift certificates. There is no additional cost and a percentage of what we spend at specific stores comes back to our church and to you in the form of Tuition Credit for School and CCD. Stop by the SCRIP table after Mass and check it out. SCRIP is also available at our Parish Office. SCRIP that is currently available: Boscovs, Kohls, Redners, Applebees, Giant, Red Lobster/Olive Garden/Bahama Breeze/LongHorn Steakhouse/Season 52 and Flynn & O'Hara.

PLEASE REMEMBER to pray for our country and for all those who serve in the Military.

Please pray for a Priest each day!

Oct 19 Rev. William J. O'Donnell
20 Sick and Infirm Priests
21 Rev. John M. O'Neil
22 Rev. William J. Onushco
23 Rev. Richard O'nyamwaro
24 Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. Orsualk
25 Rev. Msgr. Alfred R. Ott



The **National 40 Days for Life Campaign and Prayer Vigil** is through November 2nd. Daily prayer vigil in front of Reading Planned Parenthood, 4th and Franklin Streets, 7am-4pm, Monday to Saturday. Visit 40daysforlife.com/Reading and use the Reading calendar to pray.

PLEASE HELP The Daughters of Divine Zeal on their apostolate here in Reading at CABRINI ACADEMY Pre-K and K and also for the Christian Education of the most disadvantaged children in the Philippines. You are invited to a **Christmas Gala** at the Crown Plaza on December 20, 2014. Doors open at 5:30pm, program starts at 6pm. Dinner will begin at 6:30pm. There will be dancing, 50/50 raffle and cultural dances. All proceeds go to the scholarship fund. Your prayers and generous financial supports will give hope for the needy students both here and in the Philippines. **Deadline for tickets is November 15.** \$55/adult, \$25/children 4-11, children under 4 free; choice of chicken, salmon or kids meal. This event is sponsored by the Filipino American Association of Berks. Please call Ray Dia at (484) 663-4617 for more information. To make a tax deductible donation before and during the event, please make checks payable to "The Daughters of Divine Zeal" and mail your donation to: The Daughters of Divine Zeal, 237 Franklin Street, Reading, PA 19602, Attention: Scholarship Fund. For donations of \$25 or more, your name will be entered to the 50/50 raffle during the gala.

October 19, 2014

Dear Padre



Are we supposed to pray a specific prayer after we genuflect and kneel in the pew before we take our seats? What about after Communion? I want to be sure I'm doing it correctly.

There is no particular prayer to say when we genuflect, enter the pew, and kneel for a while. Genuflecting and kneeling are powerful expressions and prayers in themselves—we kneel only to God.

But these gestures can become mere routine unless we accompany them with a moment of awareness and recollection and maybe a prayer like "I adore you, O Christ, and I bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world."

Neither are there required prayers to say in the moments after holy Communion as we return to the pew. But this is a most special time. Giving it a name, we call it *thanksgiving*. We silently remain focused on the astonishing passion and affection of Jesus in giving himself to us to eat and make part of ourselves. It's what gives us eternal life, the personal life of Jesus in that Bread we eat. It's what makes possible the living of a truly Christian life, the holy energy in that Body of Jesus.

So much depends on awareness; so much depends on gratitude. Prayer books may help us enter a time of thanksgiving. But surely we can know enough to say, "Jesus, I love you."

FR. JOHN HAMROGUE, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

Monday
OCTOBER 20
Weekday
Eph 2:1–10
Lk 12:13–21

Tuesday
OCTOBER 21
Weekday
Eph 2:12–22
Lk 12:35–38

Wednesday
OCTOBER 22
Weekday
Eph 3:2–12
Lk 12:39–48

Thursday
OCTOBER 23
Weekday
Eph 3:14–21
Lk 12:49–53

Friday
OCTOBER 24
Weekday
Eph 4:1–6
Lk 12:54–59

Saturday
OCTOBER 25
Weekday
Eph 4:7–16
Lk 13:1–9

Sunday
OCTOBER 26
Thirtieth
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time
Ex 22:20–26
1 Thes 1:5c–10
Mt 22:34–40



FREE GIFT

FAITH MEETS WORLD
Liguori Publications wants to help you answer Pope Francis' call to meet Christ in the poor and downtrodden by giving you a free e-book: *Faith Meets World: The Gift and Challenge of Catholic Social Teaching*. For a limited time, visit Liguori.org and search for *Faith Meets World*. Use special discount code 15553 when you check out.

Thank you for letting Liguori walk with you on your spiritual journey.