



1st Reading: IS 45:1, 4-6

Responsorial Psalm: PS 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10

Second Reading: 1 THES 1:1-5B

Gospel: MT 22:15-21

I have called you by your name,  
giving you a title,  
though you knew me not.  
I am the LORD  
and there is no other,  
there is no God besides me.

## Give to God

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees pose a trick question to Jesus, "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Jesus did not fall for the legal trap. Jesus notes that the coin has the image of Caesar and therefore, it belongs to Caesar. But, more importantly, Jesus also said "Give to God what belongs to God." Just as the Roman coin bears the image of the Emperor who made it, so the human soul bears the "image and likeness" (Genesis 1:26) of God who calls each of us into existence so as to live in personal communion with him. "Coming from God, going toward God, man lives a fully human life only if he freely lives by his bond with God" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 44).

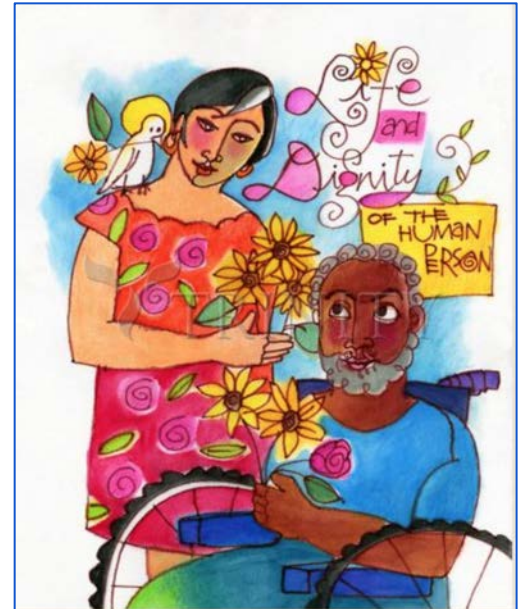
The Bible says that we were created by God and that we were created in the image of God. If we are created by God, and we were created in His image, we must belong to Him. That means we must give ourselves to Him.

**Family Activity:** Gather loose coins around the house - under the sofa cushions, in the car, the bottom of your purse, etc. Sort the coins and talk about the images of those on the coins. Then, have each family member create a "coin" on paper with a self portrait (or use a photo). List ways each family member can "give of themselves" to God. Count and roll coins to use as an offering either at Church or for another charity such as your local food pantry.

*Dear Father, you created us in your image and we belong to you. Because of that, we give our hearts and lives to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

## RESPECT LIFE MONTH

As we focus this month of October as Respect Month, let us remember that each human being is made in the image and likeness of God and deserves the dignity of that life.



*"Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."*

Matthew 22:21



Time

## The Three T's of Giving



Talent



Tithing



Tithing Bank Craft

## Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

[Sermons4kids](#) - Kids pay taxes, too! (Children/Family Faith Builder)

[catholicicing.com](#) - Craft a Church Tithing Bank for Kids (Children's Faith Builder)

[WordonFire.org](#) - Caesar and God, Bishop Barron podcast (Adult Faith Builder)

[youtube.com](#) - CST 101: Life and Dignity - (Image of God in every person), USCCB - Bishop Barron (Teen Faith Builder)

## VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

# Respect