

*29th Week in Ordinary Time –
A time to GROW in faith*

Celebration of the Word

Prayer Theme – Rights and Responsibilities –

Equality





*We begin with
the sign of the cross...*

*In the name of the Father,
and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit.*

AMEN

WE GATHER

**We take a moment
to welcome stillness
and silence...**

**Allow the distractions
and anxieties to fade
into the background...**



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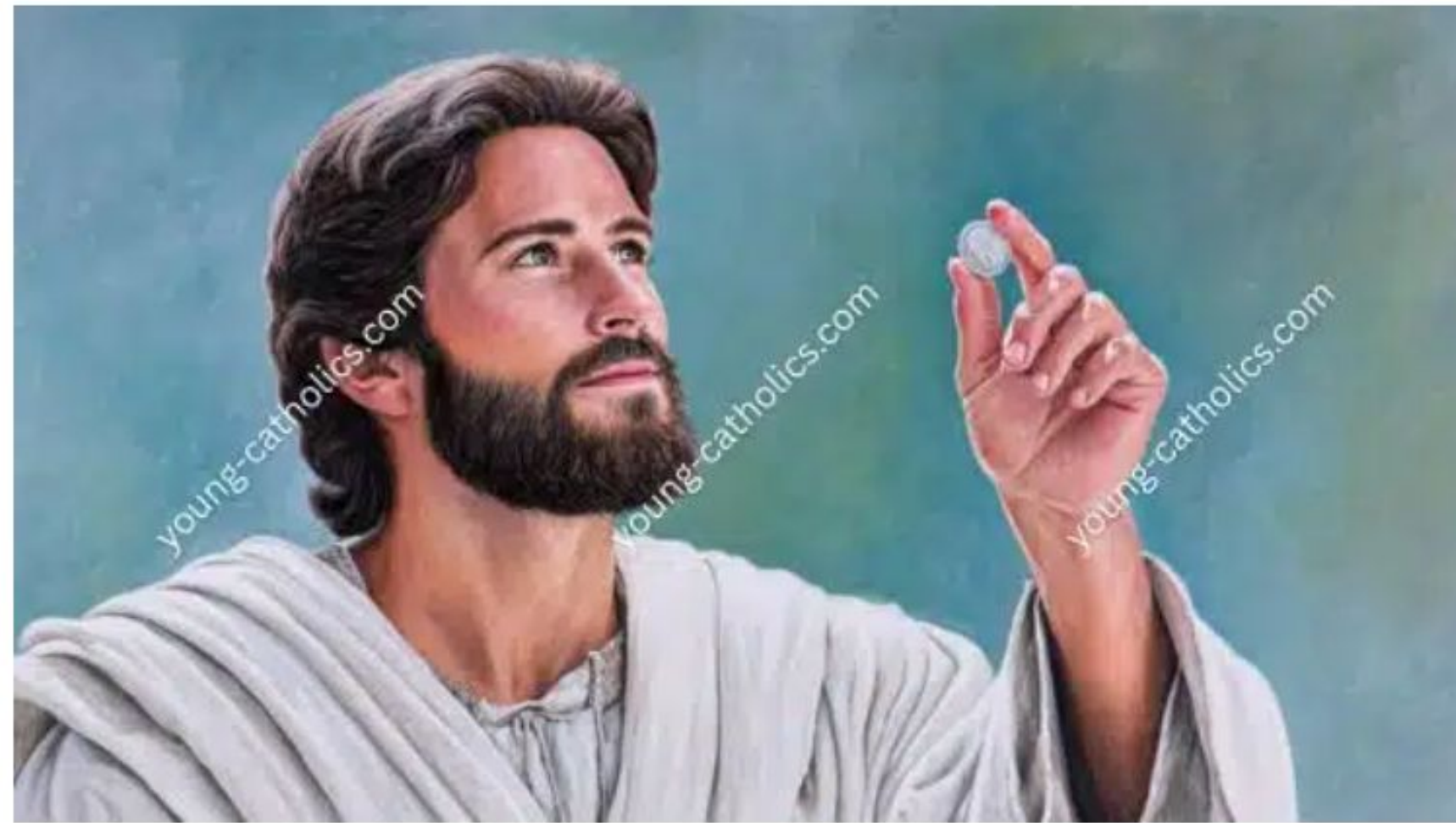
WE GATHER

Our prayer theme this week is

Equality -

- I wonder that means to you ...

*The readings this Sunday teaches that God's power reaches everywhere.
He can work through anyone, even people who do not know Him.*





**WE LISTEN TO
THE WORD OF GOD**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

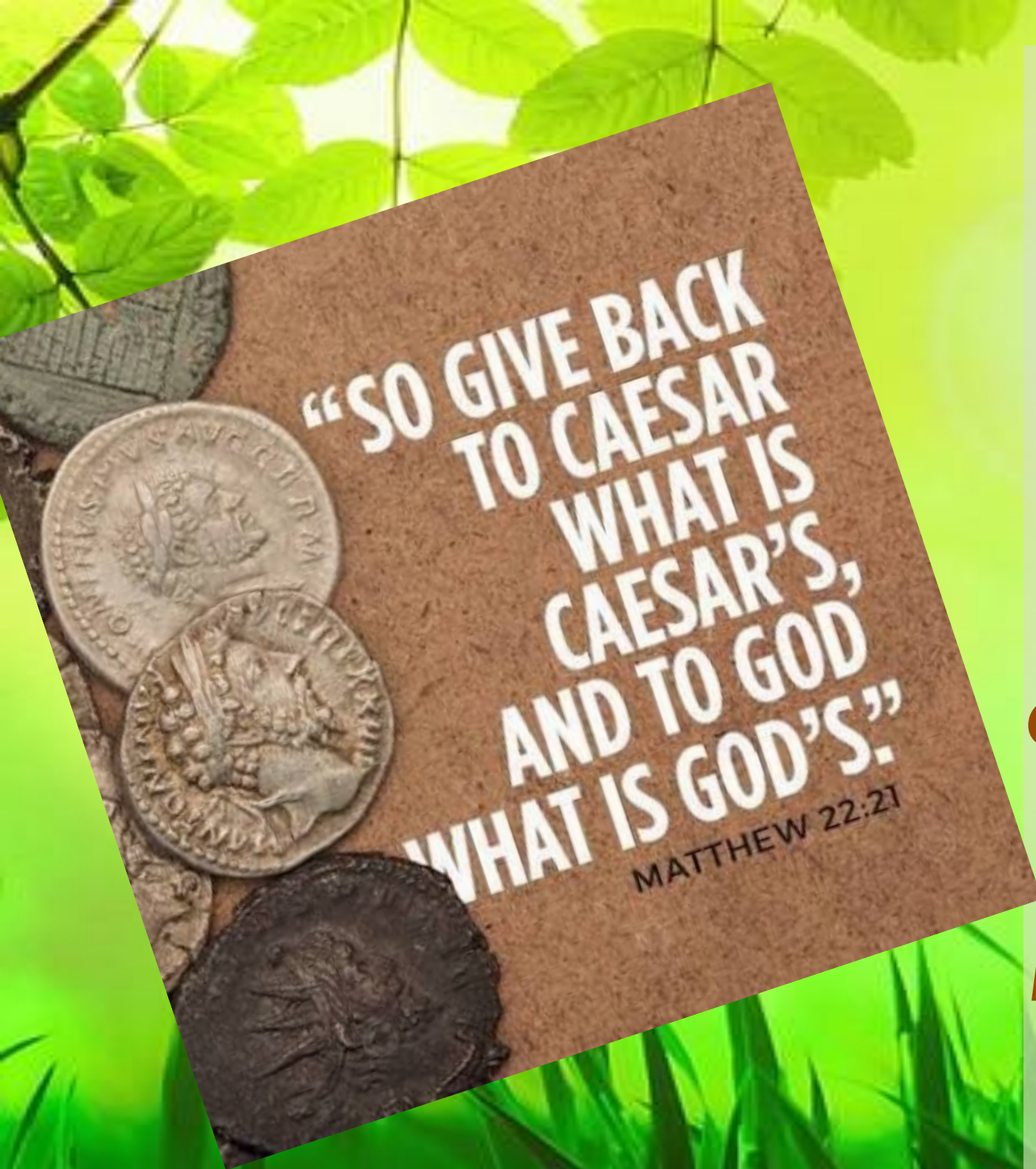


WE RESPOND

**Reflect on the
Gospel today...**

**The Gospel message is-
We belong to God.**

**Why is this message important
for you to hear today ...?**



In the Gospel this week Jesus faces a test about loyalty. His answer is simple but wise: give Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give God what belongs to God.

On the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, we are reminded that faith calls for balance. We live in this world, but our hearts belong to God alone.

I wonder how YOU give back to God...?

Our prayer theme this week is *EQUALITY* -

Black History Month reminds us that every person is created equal and deserves to be treated with dignity, respect and fairness. It is a time to celebrate the achievements and contributions of the Black community throughout history, while reflecting on how we can challenge prejudice and build a community where everyone is valued and has the opportunity to flourish.





*Use this moment to give thanks for the God-given
dignity and equality of every person.*

*We are ALL created in the image and
likeness of God.*

*We are also called to recognise the unique gifts,
cultures and contributions of ALL people.*

RESPECTING HUMAN DIGNITY = EQUALITY



Pope Leo XIV tell us

**‘Solidarity arises precisely when we decide
not to remain indifferent to what happens to
our neighbour but instead to transform
unavoidable bonds’**

Bishop Marcus says,

**‘ethnic and racial diversity finds unity...and produces
the shared core human values’.**

**In other words, we are to look beyond ourselves and
see our family in all we meet.**



Challenge:

- *Fulfill your duties and responsibilities with honesty and sincerity.*

- *Trust God above every earthly power.*

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

(Matthew 22:21)

Let us pray ...

Heavenly Father,

Help us to see the unique and equal dignity of each and every person.

Grant us wisdom to choose what is right, fair, and loving -
the things that belong to God.

Guide us to build a community where all are valued and respected,
as we continue to love and serve, just as Jesus asks us to.

We offer our prayers through Christ our Lord,

Amen.

St Augustine, pray for us.

St Cuthbert, pray for us.

MISSION

- **Love and serve through Christ -**



- **Complete one daily responsibility faithfully and offer it to God.**
- **Remember - YOU are BLESSED and LOVED.**

**OUR
MISSION**

We close our time of prayer
with the sign of the cross –
for the gift of peace
In the name of the Father,
the Son and the Holy Spirit,
Amen.



