

## **Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time, October 18th**

Hello families! I hope you are all doing well! We are still in Ordinary Time for this twenty-ninth Sunday of the year. This weekend we hear the gospel from St. Matthew 22:15-21. You can find this gospel reading in the Catholic Children's Bible on p. 1503 and in the Catholic Family Connections Bible on p. 1352. In our gospel reading today, we hear the Pharisees trying to get Jesus into trouble. They ask him a question regarding taxes and hope that he will give the wrong answer so they can throw him in jail. Read the gospel reading and then continue on to today's other activities!

### **Video:**

Here is a video from ShareFaithKids! Start the video at 2:00 since the beginning is a review of a previous gospel reading.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_y0JXVAaLH8&t=61s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_y0JXVAaLH8&t=61s)

### **Summary:**

In our gospel reading today, we hear about the Pharisees, who were the religious leaders of Jesus' time, trying to get Jesus arrested. They plan to ask him a question about paying taxes. They assume that Jesus will say taxes are bad and for that, Jesus could be thrown in jail for going against Caesar! Jesus knows their tricks though and answers very wisely. He asks them who's face is on the coin and of course they say it is Caesar. Then Jesus says that since Caesar's face is on the coin it belongs to him and therefore should be returned to him. He then follows up by saying that what belongs to God should be returned to God as well. So what does Jesus mean? Well, as citizens, we all have a public duty to vote, pay taxes, and take care of our community. Jesus says that we can be both a good citizen and follow God without one interfering with the other. When he speaks of what belongs to God, he means us! We were created in God's own image; We are his children. We owe him our love and time. Sometimes our devotion to God and the community overlaps! It all comes down to following Jesus and doing the right thing, no matter what we are involved in.

## **Questions:**

1. What can we do for our community that shows our commitment to God?
2. What different communities are you in? School? St. Mary of the Hills? Sports?
3. Why is it important to remember God and his teachings in every part of our lives?

## **Activity:**

Do you remember from today's story that Jesus asked the Pharisees whose face was on the coin? Today I want you to design your own coin all about you! Include pictures and sayings of the communities you're in or things that you like.

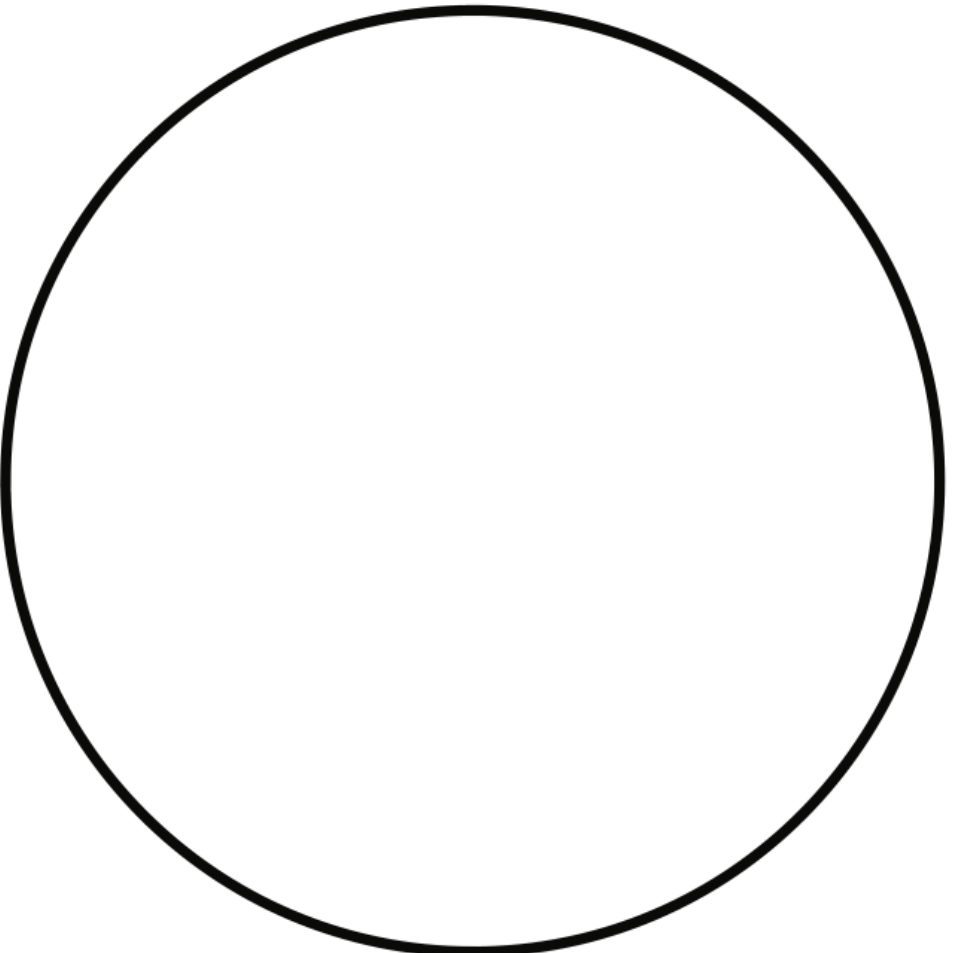
### Here's What You'll Need:

- Coin template (See page 3)
- Colored pencils/Crayons/Markers
- Scissors
- Glue

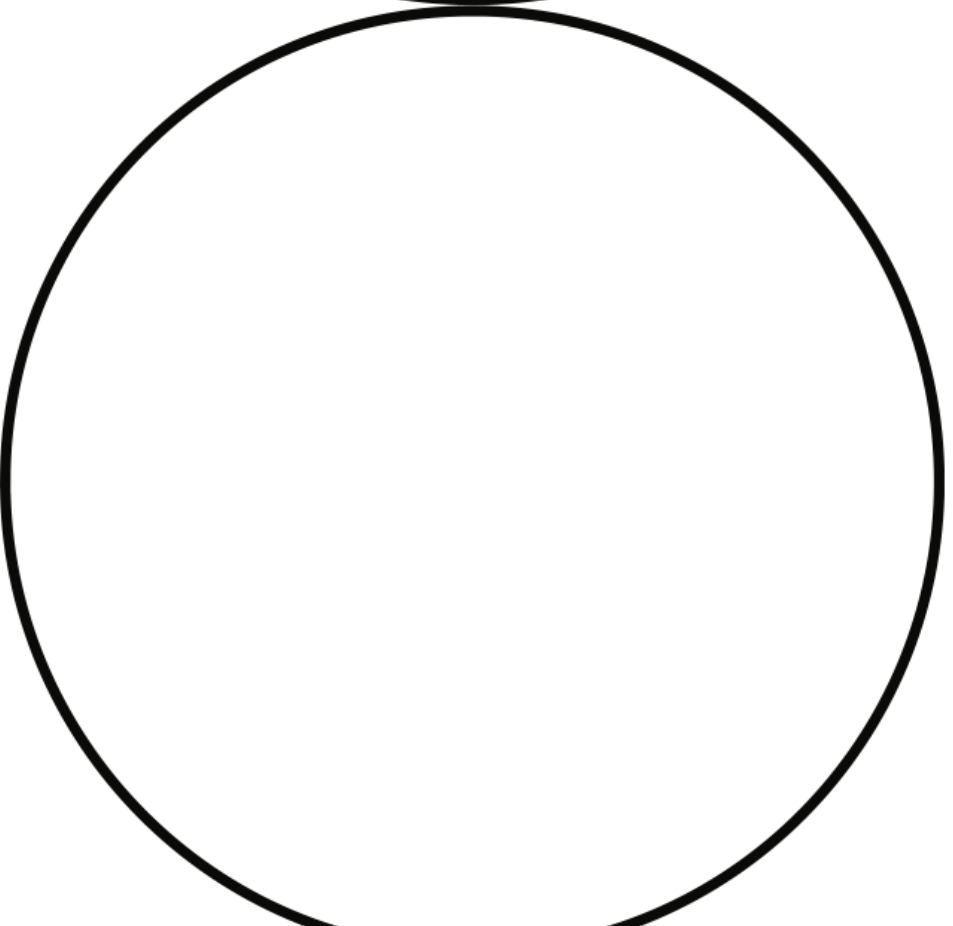
### Directions:

1. Print the coin template from page 3
2. Color and decorate what the front and back of your coin will look like. Include things about yourself and the community as well as your connection to God. For example maybe you draw a cross to represent your relationship with God or a baseball if you're a part of a sports team
3. When you're done, cut out the front and back of your coin
4. Glue them together so you can flip the coin over and have both sides decorated

Now whenever you look at your coin you can remember that every aspect of our lives is all tied together. We can be a good citizen, be a part of a team, and go to school all while maintaining our connection and relationship with God. Have a blessed week everyone!



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