



When [the Pharisees] heard  
this they were amazed, and  
leaving him they went away.

MATTHEW 22:22

## Night Goggles

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

It was a gathering of longtime friends. The conversation drifted from the shore of one topic to another like leaves bouncing down a river. Eventually the talk bumped up against politics. Because we tended to think alike, it turned to smashing and bashing the opposition—all until someone asked, “Can you name the wisdom in the others?” “There isn’t any,” came someone’s swift reply. “But surely there is,” the questioner persisted. “No one has all the wisdom, and everyone has some of the wisdom.” What followed was dumbfounded silence. Truth can do that.

We live in a time when the wisdom on the street, over our backyard fence, and at the coffee pot at work all tend to skew “You’re only OK if you think the way I do.” It’s a

hard-core bias that surrounds not only politics but also raising children, what constitutes a clean house, and the best way to boil spaghetti. Nothing remains untouched.

When Jesus was challenged about whether or not to pay taxes to Caesar, his response was, “Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God” (Matthew 22:21b). In other words, it’s OK to pay taxes to Caesar because even Caesar belongs to God. Everything and everyone does. God’s wisdom finds a home everywhere.

Having faith is a bit like wearing night goggles. We begin to see what no one else sees, even though it may be a bit blurry, and what we see is the hand of God at work everywhere, even in the opposition. ●

### Reflect

*Are you able to find truth in an opinion with which you disagree?*

# Saint Michael's Catholic Church

17150 - 88th Ave, Coopersville, MI 49404  
Parish Office: 616-384-4026

*Saint Michael's Catholic Community is a family challenged by Christ,  
inspired by the Holy Spirit, to care for others and to become the body  
Of Christ through worship, hospitality and service.*

Pastor: Fr. Michael Hodges—[frmhodges@grpriests.org](mailto:frmhodges@grpriests.org)  
Deacon: Deacon Tom Roberts—[troberts@saintmarysmarne.org](mailto:troberts@saintmarysmarne.org)

For more information on staff, councils, ministries and schedules,  
visit our website : [www.saintmichaels.us](http://www.saintmichaels.us)  
Prayerline: Chris Albrecht, 616.403.7110 or Judy Driedger, 616.899.2470

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday October 21

4:30PM † Joanne Kluting by M/M Dave Hastings.....**MA**  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

### Sunday October 22

8:30AM † Noella Mahn by Chris and the late Chuck Albrecht ...**MI**  
10:30AM † Pat O'Connor by M/M Jim Jirous .....**MA**  
4:30PM † Sherman Hecksel by Doris Kline .....**MI**  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

### Monday October 23 No Mass

### Tuesday October 24

9:00AM † Ruth Ann Nelson by Knights of Columbus #11581... **MA**  
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Mary

### Wednesday October 25

9:00AM † Fred Boswell by the O'Bradovich Family .....**MI**  
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Michael

### Thursday October 26

9:00AM † Betty Oziemkiewicz by Marcy Goosen.....**MA**

### Friday October 27

9:00AM † Fr. Mel Fox by Mary VanDenBrink .....**MI**

### Saturday October 28

4:30PM Mass of Thanksgiving-Fr Mike 11 year Ordination Anniversary ..**MA**  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

### Sunday October 29

8:30AM † Dave Reames by Julie & Will Reames .....**MI**  
10:30AM † Bob Bacon by Donna Scheidel .....**MA**  
4:30PM † S.J. Hecksel by Dave & Lori Hastings .....**MI**  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

**MA**=St. Mary **MI**=St. Michael's



## St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

	Oct 29 / 8:30 AM	Oct 29 / 4:30 PM
Altar Servers	Adalyn Taylor Clare Taylor Kenzie Harker	NEED TWO
Eucharistic Ministers	Sharon Carlson Jennie Taylor Andrew Bonter Paul Schmidt Rosemary Weigel Cindy Lindberg Kenny Harker	Ken Schwallier NEED ONE
Lector	Peter Nielsen	Mark Phillips
Sacristan	Judy Driedger	Sue DeVos
Ushers	Wade Lindberg Jim Ponshair Dave Tronovich Deb Tronovich	NEED TWO
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

## St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

	October 28 - 4:30PM	October 29 - 10:30AM
Sacristan	Vito Dolci	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	MaKaelyn Britt Kassidy Britt	Noah Davis Calvin Davis
Precious Body	Deacon Tom Need Two	Becky Warners Christina Withers Need one
Precious Blood	Butch Schoenborn Rose Mary Schoenborn Keith Anderson Need One	Margie Jirous Geary Farrell Need Two
Hospitality	Need Four	Rick Leale Jeanne Leale Anthony Leale Nettie Leale
Lector	Nicolette Looks	John Klein
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko

## Congratulations & God's Blessings to Fr. Mike Hodges

on the 11th anniversary of your priest ordination!  
**October 27, 2012 ~ October 27, 2023**

Please pray for Father Mike and his continued service as pastor of our Parish Cluster.

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priest, Father Mike. Through him, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help him to be strong in his vocation. Set his soul on fire with love for your people. Grant him the wisdom, understanding, and strength he needs to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire him with the vision of your Kingdom. Give him the words he needs to spread the Gospel. Allow him to experience joy in his ministry. Help him to be an instrument of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest, Amen





## St. Michael's Parish News



**Scrip News**—Scrip totals will be updated next week.

## St. Michael's Preschool

Have you considered St. Michael's Preschool for your child or grandchild? If not, you should! Come see what a great experience St. Michael's Preschool can provide. Come meet our Director/Teacher, Cindy Lindberg! Preschool meets on MWF from 8:45—11:45 am. For more info, call the Parish Office at 616-384-4026.



**Parish Directory** — We will be updating our parish directory this year, and we want you to be included! This will be done in-house, by a parishioner at St. Mary's. Please email a photo you'd like included to [secretary@saintmichaels.us](mailto:secretary@saintmichaels.us) or call the Parish Office to set up a time to come in and have Beki take your photo for you. This directory will be available online, only to parishioners with a password. Please email or have your photo taken by December 1, if possible. *Hard copies of the directory will eventually be available for purchase.*



## St. Michael's Faith Formation

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** program is offered on Sunday during 8:30 Mass. Children 3-9 years old are welcome to join us each week as we pray, read and explore the Sunday Gospel from a child's viewpoint. We include the Gospel Acclamation so children understand the importance of preparing our mind and heart for the Gospel reading. In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus told the people to give to God what is God's. Reminding them that God made each and every person in his own image and likeness, so we all belong to God.



**Elementary Faith Formation:** The elementary program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesday from 6:15- 7:30 pm. Registration forms are in the back of church and on the parish website. **Classes have started, but it is not too late to join us.** Contact Debbie if you have any questions. (616) 384-4026. **We will have a Rosary prayer service on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 pm in the church. Parents and siblings are asked to join us.**



**Middle School Faith Formation:** Grades 6, 7 and 8 will meet on Sundays after the 8:30am Mass from 9:45 to 11:15 in the Youth Room. The 8th Grade students will also receive Confirmation Preparation. **Classes have started, but it is not too late to join us.**

## St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp



for the Special Intentions of our parishioners

## St. Michael's Parish Family

**Remembers in Their Prayers:** Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Brad Boerma, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Ken Heflin, Payton Patterson, Winnie Spencer, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.

## Praying the Rosary for America

— On October 14, St. Michael's parishioners held a rally at 12 noon, along



with 22,000 other rallies sponsored by America Needs Fatima across the U.S. It was said for all the problems currently facing our country and our Faith.

## Schedule Change —

The Parish Secretary will be IN the office this Thursday, October 26 and OUT of the office on Friday, October 27. She will return Monday morning, October 30, at 9 AM. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

## Knights of Columbus News

Fr. Mike and the Knights of Columbus would like to honor our diocese as they proclaim October as the month to pray for vocations. We would like to substitute the prayer for vocations for the St. Michael prayer following Mass in the month of October. It will be projected at the front of church to follow along.



## Giving Back to God

October 15, 2023

Adult Envelopes	\$4,133.00
Loose Cash	\$300.00
Children's Envelopes	\$12.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,445.00</b>
Building Fund	\$30.00
Financial Assistance	\$20.00

*Thank you for your continued support!*

**October 22, 2023 ~ The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time/World Mission Sunday**

## Cluster News and Community News and Events

### Director of Religious Education -

St Mary Marne is seeking a part-time director of religious education (DRE). The ideal candidate possesses a clear knowledge of the Catholic faith, is energetic, confident, self-motivated, has excellent communication skills, and is enthusiastic about forming our children in the Catholic faith. This person reports directly to the pastor and is responsible for designing, articulating and implementing a comprehensive religious education program using the guidelines of the diocese. Coordination and collaboration with staff members and parishioners is crucial. Full Job Description here:

<https://www.saintmarysmarne.org/join-our-team>

St. Mary's Church - Marne is pleased to present, A Flute Recital:

## FROM DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

*Jesus is the Light of the World*

**Tuesday, October 24 ~ 7:30 PM**

Saint Marys  
15164 Juniper Dr. Marne, MI 49435  
616.677.3934 ~ [www.saintmarysmarne.org](http://www.saintmarysmarne.org)

Local professional flutist Jill Brown, accompanied by Maureen Carmody (piano), Bernie Stanko (organ), and over 20 other flutists (flute, piccolo, alto flute, bass flute), perform hymn arrangements and light classical music with scripture reflections.  
*Refreshments will follow the concert*

### Fr. Mike's Musings

Over one billion Catholics all over the world observe today as 'World Mission Sunday'. This annual observance was instituted ninety-seven years ago in 1926 by Pope Pius XI's decree. Every year since then, the universal Church has dedicated the month of October to reflection on and prayer for the missions. On 'World Mission Sunday', Catholics gather to celebrate the Eucharist, and to contribute to a collection for the work of evangelization around the world. This annual celebration gives us a chance to reflect on the importance of mission work for the life of the Church. It reminds us that we are one with the Church around the world and that we are all committed to carrying on the mission of Christ, however different our situations may be.

In his 'World Mission Sunday' messages, Pope Benedict XVI stressed the importance of Christian charity in action as the keynote of evangelization. He encouraged churches with a shortage of priests to get them from countries with many priests. He encouraged everyone "to take renewed awareness of the urgent need to proclaim the Gospel...the goal of the Church's mission is to illumine all peoples with the light of the Gospel...to redouble their commitment to participate in the missionary activity that is an essential component of the life of the Church."

Pope Francis, in his first 'World Mission Sunday' message in 2013, challenged us to proclaim courageously and in every situation the Gospel of Christ, a message of hope, reconciliation, and communion. In his 2014 message, the Pope challenged the Church to become a welcoming home, a mother for all peoples, and the source of rebirth for our world through the intercession of Mary, the model of humble and joyful evangelization. "The Church is on a mission in the world. This missionary mandate touches us personally: I am a mission, always; you are a mission, always; every baptized man and woman is a mission." Hence the Holy Father calls on all Catholics and the Church to revive missionary awareness and commitment.

The Catholic Church, according to Vatican Council II, is "missionary" in her very nature because her founder, Jesus Christ, was the first missionary. God the Father sent God the Son, Incarnate in Jesus, His Christ, into the world with a message of God's love and salvation. Thus, the evangelizing mission of the Church is essentially the announcement of God's love, mercy, forgiveness, and salvation, as these are revealed to mankind through the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Why should we preach? Jesus, the first missionary, made a permanent arrangement for inviting all men throughout the ages to share God's love and salvation: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19). This is why the Second Vatican Council declared that the Church "is missionary in its origin and nature." Hence, it follows that the mission of the Church is the mission of every member of the Church, and is not reserved for the priests, the religious, and the active missionaries alone. Thus, every Christian is a missionary with a message to share; the message of God's love, liberation, and eternal salvation.

How should we evangelize? By exemplary and transparent Christian life, by prayer, and by financial support. The most powerful means of preaching Christ is by living a truly Christian life; a life filled with love, mercy, compassion, and a spirit of forgiveness and service. Prayer is the second means of missionary work. Jesus said: "Without Me you can do nothing." Prayer is necessary for anyone who wishes to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. All missionary efforts also require financial support because the love of God can often be explained to the poor only by providing them with food, medicine, and a means of livelihood. Hence, on this 'World Mission Sunday', let us learn to appreciate our missionary obligation and support the Church's missionary activities by leading transparent Christian lives, by fervent prayers, and by generous donations.

### Mass of Christ the Healer – Oct. 29

The Diocese of Grand Rapids' annual Mass of Christ the Healer will be celebrated on Oct. 29 at the 10 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew. All who work in healthcare, including physicians, nurses, dietary staff, administrative staff, maintenance staff, etc. are invited to join Bishop Walkowiak for this celebration of grace and in gratitude for their service. Please wear your white coat or uniform so we may recognize your service. For those unable to attend in person, Mass will be televised on FOX 17, and livestreamed on the diocesan website, [grdiocese.org](http://grdiocese.org), and Facebook (Diocese of Grand Rapids).

### Please Pray for our Engaged Couples

#### Julia Delaney & Logan Brouwer

.....April 13, 2024 (Cathedral of St Andrew)

#### Rachel Berg & Joseph Elenbaas

.....September 21, 2024 (St Mary)

Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen



### Meal Train for Fr Mike

Have you signed up yet? It really is as easy as making an extra serving of whatever you are preparing your family for dinner. Put it in a microwavable container and drop it off at the Parish Office on your way to (or home) from work.. Or call the office to make special drop off arrangements. (Sign up online: or call the parish office)

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/8vv97n>

**October 22, 2023 ~ The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time/World Mission Sunday**



## St. Mary's Parish News

### St Mary Religious Education

#### Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW)

During 10:30AM Mass.

All children pre-school through 2nd grade are encouraged to join Miss Carmody for an age-appropriate experience of sacred scripture.

Children are dismissed after the opening prayer and gather in the community room to hear the readings and reflect on the Gospel. Children return to Mass during the offering.



#### Religious Education Classes

1st-7th Grade

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:15- 7:30pm

8th Grade -Confirmation Classes

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:15- 7:30pm

**Classes have begun, but it is not too late to register.**

**Please call the Parish Office for more information.**

#### Schedule

All Dates / Times are subject to change.

Please watch for updates from your catechist.

Oct 22- Children's Liturgy of the Word -CLW

Oct 25- Rel Ed Classes-

Grade 2 Parent Meeting (First Reconciliation)

Oct 29- Children's Liturgy of the Word -CLW

Nov 1- Rel Ed Class- All Saints Day Mass, 6:30PM

#### Questions or comments:

Please contact the Parish Office. 616.677.3934

or dre@saintmarysmae.org

### In Memory of our Loved Ones

During the month of November we take the time to remember our deceased loved ones. Everyone is also invited to bring in a **framed picture** of your deceased loved ones to be on display in church for the All Saints and All Souls Day Masses and throughout the month of November. We ask that you put your loved ones name and your contact information on the back of the frame. Please drop off pictures to the parish office or leave in the designated area in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.



**All Saints Day Mass Schedule:**

**Wednesday, November 1 - 9AM - St Michael / 6:30PM - St Mary**

### Knights of Columbus #11581 News

To learn more about the Knights of Columbus' activities and what they do to support our parish community, the surrounding area and the world, please contact Grand Knight: Rob Rander at: [roblander82@gmail.com](mailto:roblander82@gmail.com) or come to a General Membership Meeting. Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in Parish Hall.

**Next Meeting - November 2 at 7PM at the Parish Hall.**

**Sobie Meats - Gift Card Raffle-** License #X08274

1st Place \$250.00 Gift Card

2nd Place \$150.00 Gift Card

3rd Place \$100.00 Gift Card

Tickets are \$10.00 for One Ticket or \$20.00 for Three Tickets

Drawing will be November 2 - 8PM

*Special Thanks to Tim & Teresa Sobie for their help with this raffle!*



**Knight Person of the Month** for October - Jim Lothschutz

**Knight Family of the Month** for October - Geary & Darlen Farrell

The Knight Person / Family of the month is a way of recognizing someone who has gone above and beyond, or done something extra for the council or the church community. *Congratulations and Thank you for service and commitment to our Parish Family!*



### Blood Drive Results : Goal: 22

Donors Scheduled: 18 / Donors Registered: 22

Successful Donations: 16 whole blood + 3 double red = **22 units!**

**First Time Donor:** Carl Spence

**Milestone achiever:** Joseph Lothschutz - 6 gallons!!!!

**Lives saved in our community: 54! THANK YOU for your support!**

**Our next blood drive is scheduled for Sunday, February 11th.**



### Save the Dates

<b>Oct 24</b>	Flute Recital - St Mary 7:30PM
<b>Nov 1</b>	All Saints Day Mass - 6:30PM St Mary
<b>Nov 3</b>	Mass of Hope, Health & Healing St Mary 7:00PM
<b>Nov 22</b>	Thanksgiving Eve Mass, Grocery Collection 6PM St Mary
<b>Nov 23</b>	Thanksgiving Day Mass 9AM St Michael
<b>Dec 3</b>	Advent by Candlelight - 6:30pm Parish Hall

### Catholic Service Appeal 2023

Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ.

**CSA 2023 Pledge Goal: \$51,834.00**

Total Pledges Made: \$45,730.00 (89%)

Balance: \$6,104.00

Participation: 120 of 292 Active Households (41%)

Totals as of October 15, 2023

**Thank you for your stewardship**

**Please Note, if we do not reach the parish goal set by the diocese, the shortage will need to come out of our church operating account. Please help us reach our goal and send in your pledge card this week! If you have returned your CSA pledge card, thank you! If you have not responded, please do so as soon as possible**



### Giving Back to God ~ Time, Talent & Treasure

Attendance at Mass: Oct 7/8	4:30PM: <b>98</b>	10:30AM: <b>109</b>	Oct 7/8	Oct 14/15
Attendance at Mass: Oct 14/15	4:30PM: <b>89</b>	10:30AM: <b>139</b>		
Adult Contributions			\$4600.00	\$3319.00
Children Contributions			\$3.00	\$11.00
Loose Contributions			\$100.00	\$62.00
Capital Improvement			\$265.00	\$50.00
Online Giving			\$740.00	\$1665.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$5708.00</b>	<b>\$5107.00</b>
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget			n/a	\$5,472.11
Budget vs Actual to Date (since July 1)			n/a	(\$269.62)

**Thank you for your continued support and generosity!**

### St. Mary's Sponsor of the Week

**BROUWER TREE SERVICE, LLC**

616.784.7086 ~ 4653 Gibbs NW

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!**

**Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael**



# September 27 - November 5 **40 DAYS FOR LIFE®**

## **HELP SAVE LIVES IN GRAND RAPIDS!**

**You can protect mothers and children** by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

**With God's help**, here are the proven results in 33 coordinated campaigns:

- **23,525 babies** saved from abortion
- **251 abortion** workers converted
- **142 abortion** centers closed

**Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:**

- **Vigil Location:**  
Planned Parenthood  
425 Cherry Street SE, Grand Rapids
- **Vigil Hours:**  
7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Local Contact:**  
40daysGR@gmail.com
- **Learn more** and get involved by visiting our campaign at the address below:

**[40daysforlife.com/GrandRapids](http://40daysforlife.com/GrandRapids)**



# Dear Padre,

*Is it a sin to break the law? It is illegal to use fireworks in my city, but every year I do it anyway. Should I mention this in confession?*

Strictly speaking, to break a government law does not automatically constitute the definition of sin, so it needn't be mentioned in the sacrament of penance. By definition, sin damages (or, with grave sin, destroys) communion with God and the Church (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1472). Some actions may not be objectively destructive to our relationship with God and Church—and therefore are not sinful—but they may affect others. Church members are part of society, which depends on its citizens to abide by the laws. Saint Paul encouraged everyone to obey the authorities, for all authority that exists is established by God (see Romans 13:1–7).

Not all sins are equally offensive to God; similarly, not all civil laws are equal in their gravity. To knowingly travel a few miles over the posted speed limit isn't the same as intentionally starting a fire in a posted area of a forest. The danger is in thinking one's actions are without consequence. Sensible civil laws are designed to ensure the safety and well-being of citizens, and many municipalities outlaw fireworks because of the hazards they pose.

When any civil law is broken for mere self-indulgence or when breaking the law places others at risk, the act has the potential of constituting the definition of sin. In that case, it would rightfully warrant sacramental reconciliation. ●

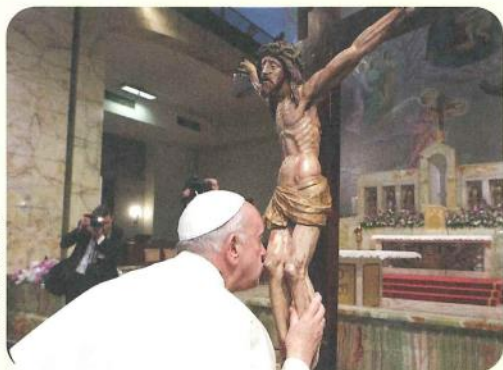
**Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org**



## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
October 23	October 24	October 25	October 26	October 27	October 28	October 29
Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Rom 4:20–25	Rom 5:12, 15b,	Rom 6:12–18	Rom 6:19–23	Rom 7:18–25a	Jude, Apostles	Ex 22:20–26
Lk 12:13–21	17–19, 20b–21	Lk 12:39–48	Lk 12:49–53	Lk 12:54–59	Eph 2:19–22	1 Thes 1:5c–10
	Lk 12:35–38				Lk 6:12–16	Mt 22:34–40



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*[Jesus] acknowledges that the tribute to Caesar must be paid—for all of us, too, taxes must be paid—because the image on the coin is his; but above all he recalls that each person carries within him another image, that of God, and therefore it is to him alone that each person owes his own existence, his own life.*

ANGELUS, ROME, OCTOBER 18, 2020