

October 22, 2023
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

* **He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?"** *
* The last sentence of today's Gospel Reading is well-known. "Repay to *
* Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." Jesus' reply *
* to the malicious, hypocritical disciples of the Pharisees is effective in shooing *
* them away, as the verse following today's passage reveals. But Jesus' rhetorical *
* skills aren't the point of this passage. His reply leaves an implied question *
* unanswered: "What exactly belongs to Caesar, and what belongs to God?" *
* Some might reply, "Everything belongs to God!" But the context of today's *
* Gospel passage suggests otherwise, with Jesus implying that the coin does *
* indeed belong to Caesar. This doesn't contradict the plain truth that every good *
* thing ultimately comes from God. But the fact that something comes from God *
* doesn't mean that it belongs to God. God has reasons for entrusting things over *
* to others. *
* But is the coin one of these good things? If the coin belongs to Caesar, *
* perhaps Jesus is admitting this because it's bad? In the last sentence of the *
* passage, is Jesus simply making a distinction between bad and good, or *
* between the things of earth and the things of Heaven? If so, then why didn't He *
* encourage His disciples to flee from society and everything associated with it, *
* including "filthy lucre" as some call it? *
* Jesus' actions in this and other Gospel passages show that He does not *
* condemn money or its use per se. Money is in itself a good, and it belongs to the *
* government that mints it or prints it. Money is an agency of human government, *
* and it's within this context that we can see its role. *
* Governments are formed by human beings who use right reason to organize *
* their relationships with neighbors both near and far. As such, the idea of *
* government comes from God, since God by His creative and sustaining power *
* governs the whole universe. In human government, money is a useful part of *
* governing our relationships with neighbors. *
* Returning to today's Gospel passage, what is Jesus really *
* commanding? What belongs to Caesar and what belongs to God? If one wants *
* faithfully to follow Jesus, to what extent should one's life be bound up with the *
* things of this world? A clue is offered by today's Responsorial. *
* In Psalm 96 the Psalmist weaves references to the "nations"—a word which *
* appears once in each of the four verses of today's Responsorial—amongst *
* references to "the Lord". For example, Psalm 96:5 proclaims that "all the gods of *
* the nations are things of nought, but the Lord made the heavens." The contrast *
* between the nations and the Lord anticipates the contrast between Caesar and *
* God. Focus, then, on how the Psalmist answers the question of what belongs to *
* the Lord. *
* "Give the Lord glory and honor." Here the Psalmist gives an example of what *
* belongs to God: not money, but glory and honor. Reflecting on this, we see a *
* difference in what "belongs" to Caesar or any other man, and what "belongs" to *
* God. What belongs to the Lord is His by His very divine nature. It cannot *
* possibly be taken from Him, yet He shares it with us so that we might return it to *
* Him, and rejoice in doing so. *
* By contrast are things that "belong" to human beings. They're of several *
* different types. First, we might consider those things that belong to someone by *
* human nature: intelligence, will, body and soul. Second, we might consider *
* those things that belong to someone personally: one's ancestry and parentage, *
* nationality, race and religion. However, when most of us think of what "belongs" *
* to us, we're considering a third set of things, which are far less important: things *
* that can be taken away from us, such as money or possessions. These belong *
* to us in the least certain manner, and yet many of us count them as the most *
* dear. *
* The money and possessions in our lives belong to us so that we may love our *
* neighbor with them and through them. When I think of them as belonging to me *
* in an enduring way, or as a means for loving myself, they become those "things *
* of nought" that the Psalmist speaks of: "idols", as another translation puts *
* it. Love your God by giving Him the glory and honor that is His, and love your *
* neighbors by using your belongings for their benefit rather than your own. *
* —Reflection by Fr. Thomas Hoisington at catholicdioceseofwichita.org/



**Wagoner Area
Neighbors Thanksgiving
Food Drive**

You can help fellow residents by making a monetary donation and/or by donating needed food items for the annual Thanksgiving Baskets.

- 1) a collection basket will be in the back of the church for monetary donations, and/or**
- 2) bring food items — such as, boxed stuffing mix, boxed instant mashed potatoes, canned corn, canned green beans, boxed dessert items, or boxed mac-n-cheese, which can be placed on the table in the vestibule.** Please bring food items by Nov. 12.

Your help is greatly appreciated!

Jim and Sherry Ruyle will ensure that both the monetary and food item donations are delivered to WAN.

Are you or do you know of someone that is considering joining the church? Or are you or someone you know Catholic and want to return to or learn more about the Catholic faith?

RCIA Classes
Each Thursday from 5-6:15 p.m.
In the Holy Cross Parish Library

Questions? Contact Dcn Jim (retired) at jandsruyle@gmail.com, 918-638-0605, for more information and to register.

Raising Saints Youth Group
will be selling
5-Day Candles for All Souls Day
These candles will have the deceased person's name on it and can be displayed at the All Souls Mass on Nov. 2, or can be taken to the cemetery.
Cost: \$7 ea. or 3 for \$20

'Jesus and the Eucharist' Study

Continues Each Week
Tuesday, October 24, at 6:30 p.m.
Holy Cross Parish Hall

A Wonderful Way to Reconnect with the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist!

There is no preparation needed and no homework!
You will watch a video and discuss it with others.

Everyone is encouraged to come

The Holy Cross Catholic Charities
Mobile Food Pantry

Thursday, Oct 26th, 10 a.m.—Noon

Food Boxes Available & Distributed While Supplies Last
using a drive-through format with a
new route where cars enter from the north on Pierce.

Upcoming Holy Day and Commemoration Day
Masses

Wednesday, Nov. 1, All Saints' Day (Holy Day of Obligation) Mass, 6:00 p.m., followed by Adoration until 7:30 p.m. (no confessions)

Thursday, Nov. 2, All Souls' Day (Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed) Mass, 6:00 p.m.

Discipleship Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC)

"Communion—Our Bond with the Lord and Each Other"
An Experience that has the Power to Shape Your Faith Journey

Saturday, Nov. 11, Cox Convention Center
Registration Deadline—Nov. 8 (no on-site registrations, or registrations after the 8th)
Admission \$49; Confirmation Students \$39

Oct 21 (Vigil)	Oct 22		Oct 28 (Vigil)	Oct 29
Laura Rodriguez Paul Rodriguez	Rosalina Empuerto Raul Empuerto	USHERS/GIFT BEARERS	Judy Helms Richard Helms	Bill Scrimsher Mike Cucchiara
Larry Chekofsky Matthew Higginbottom	Carlos, Liam, Makenna, & Aceah	ALTAR SERVERS	Larry Chekofsky Matthew Higginbottom	Carlos, Makenna, Liam, & Kaygan
Mike M./Dorene M.	Chris H./Bille C.	EUCCHARISTIC	Carolyn G./Kay R.	Mike H./Elaine H.
Charlie Moe	Eric Jordan	READERS	Dorene McMahan	Paul Stuart

We can use your talents yet again!
M&M is planning the
Annual Christmas Bazaar
on November 11-12.

Please donate your home-made items for this fund-raising event! We appreciate you bringing your donated items (except baked goods) to the church by Nov. 8th for setup.

Diocese Jubilee Picnic

Celebrating 50 Years for the Diocese of Tulsa & Eastern Oklahoma

Saturday, October 28, 3-10 p.m.

Eucharistic Procession from St. Henry's Catholic Church to Redbud Festival Park, 109 N. Main, Owasso, Mass, Loads of Music, Food/Beer Sales, Children/Youth Activities, T-shirt & Cookie Competitions.

respect life
month

OCTOBER 2023



October is Respect for Life Month.
As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life. Ways to assist you in this mission: **Join the Novena, Read the Daily Reflections, Make a Pledge** — all available via Holy Cross' Flocknote emails.

Happy Birthday!

Mary Dufour 10/1 Kathy Hickman 10/14
 Nathaniel Schmidgall 10/7 Todd Kuehn 10/20
 Kaygan Allen 10/8 Sharon Carter 10/24
 Kevin Moe 10/9 Bryan Bond 10/27
 Mark Moe 10/9 Laura Rodriguez 10/27
 Matthew Higginbottom 10/12



Weekend Collections Oct 14-15

General Collections \$3,122.00
 Capital Improvement \$150.00
TOTAL \$3,272.00
Mission 872.95

Daily Mass Readings—Oct 22-28*

Sunday	Is 25:6-10a/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10
Monday	Rom 1:1-7/Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday	Rom 1:16-25/Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday	2 Tm 4:10-17b/Lk 10:1-9
Thursday	Rom 3:21-30/Lk 11:47-54
Friday	Rom 4:1-8/Lk 12:1-7
Saturday	Rom 4:13, 16-18/Lk 12:8-12

*Daily Readings (and link to full biblical text) also available on Holy Cross Website:
www.holycross-wagoner.org

To place information in the bulletin or on the church website, contact Karol Watson, karol_watson@yahoo.com or 918-640-5819

For issues/help with Flocknotes, contact Kay Rodriguez, msrod@sbcglobal.net or 405-659-0507

FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

Jean Podeyn, sister of Jackie Spieker
 Judy Wright, parishioner
 Becky Harding, parishioner
 Hope Watson, parishioner
 Lucille Dickinson, parishioner



WE PRAY TO THE LORD

Holy Cross Mission Statement/Prayer

Almighty God, the mission of Holy Cross Parish is to bring the love of Jesus Christ to our community and the world. As your disciples, help us to touch the hearts of everyone in a way that enhances human spirituality and will bring all people into the fullness of your Kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen!

	<u>Altar Linens</u>	<u>Altar Flowers</u>
<i>Oct</i>	Elsa Kuehn	Rosemary Kotas
<i>Nov</i>	Bille Cummings	Kathy Gordon Sherry Ruyle

**Stay Connected — Stay Informed
 with your Catholic Faith & your Holy Cross Family**

*Daily Readings, Daily Prayer of the Day, Bulletins,
 Catholic & Holy Cross News/Events*

www.holycross-wagoner.org,
 Holy Cross Catholic Church - Wagoner OK (FB) &
<https://holycrosscatholicchurch5.flocknote.com/dashboard>

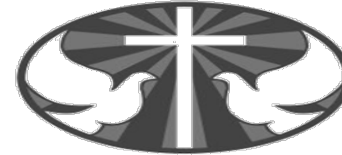
**Finding solutions for
 your financial need.**



Seth A Yoder
 Financial Advisor
 114 East Cherokee
 Wagoner, OK 74467
 918-485-0992

Edward Jones
 BULLETS: BULLETS OF FINANCIAL
 edwardjones.com

Holy Cross Catholic Church



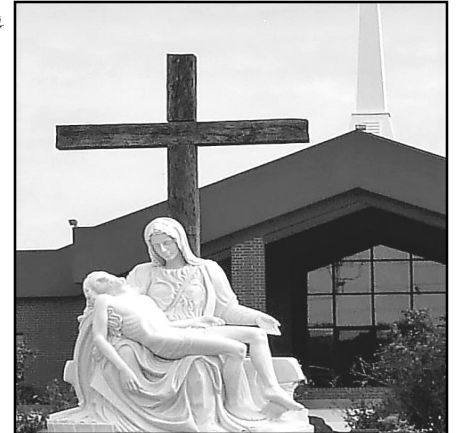
*Holiness - Disciples - Community
 Wagoner, Oklahoma*

P.O. Box 710 / 708 SW 15TH ST.
 539-209-9988

Email: holycrosswagoner@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.holycross-wagoner.org>

Facebook: Holy Cross Catholic Church—Wagoner, OK



October 22, 2023
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor	Very Rev. Leo Ahanotu holycrosswagoner@gmail.com 539-209-9988
Visiting Priests	Fr. Gabriel Garcia fr.gabriel.garcia@dioceseoftulsa.org; 918-836-2597 & Fr. Alessandro Calderoni fr.alessandro.calderoni@dioceseoftulsa.org; 918-455-4551
Deacons	Dcn James Ruyle (Retired) jandsruyle@gmail.com 918-485-8228
Secretary	Earlyne Hutchens earlynehutchens@gmail.com 918-894-0474
Religious Education	Mary Feichtinger maryfeichtinger@yahoo.com 303-519-0605 Emily Ledgerwood (Youth Group); muddytime@gmail.com 405-887-7832
Parish Council	Karol Watson karol_watson@yahoo.com 918-640-5819
M&M Society	Sherri Moe smworks@hotmail.com 918-521-9127
Men's Group	Seth Yoder seth.yoder@edwardjones.com 918-869-9129

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil — 5:00 p.m.

Sunday — 8:30 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays (Latin) — 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday & Friday — 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday — 8:30 a.m.

First Sat. of Each Month — 8:30 a.m.

ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

Fridays following 5:00 p.m. Mass

1st Wed. of the Month — 6:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before weekend Masses

Or by appointment/request

THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

Breaking Bread Book
Pages 209-210

Vatican II Hymnal
Pages 655-656

