

All are welcome!  
Bienvenidos!  
Chào mừng!

**Sunday Mass**, 9:00a

**Holy Days**, 7:00p

**Communion Service**

Tuesdays, 12:15p

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Preparation

1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays

Call Temoc (828) 773-2353

**O.C.I.A.**

Adults desiring to explore  
the Catholic faith, contact

Sister Janis  
(336) 835-4542

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

by appointment

Fr. Engelbert  
(704) 578-2478

Fr. John  
(704) 763-2475 or after Mass

**Sacrament of Matrimony**

One year to six months  
prior to the wedding,  
contact S. Janis  
(336) 835-4542

**Anointing of the Sick**

Fr. Engelbert  
(704) 578-2478

Fr. John  
(704) 763-2475

S. Janis  
(336) 835-4542



*St. Stephen Catholic Church*

**101 Hawthorne Road Elkin NC 28621**

**Email: [Connect@StStephenNC.org](mailto:Connect@StStephenNC.org)**

**Website: [www.StStephenNC.org](http://www.StStephenNC.org)**

**(336) 835-3007**

**October 18, 2026**

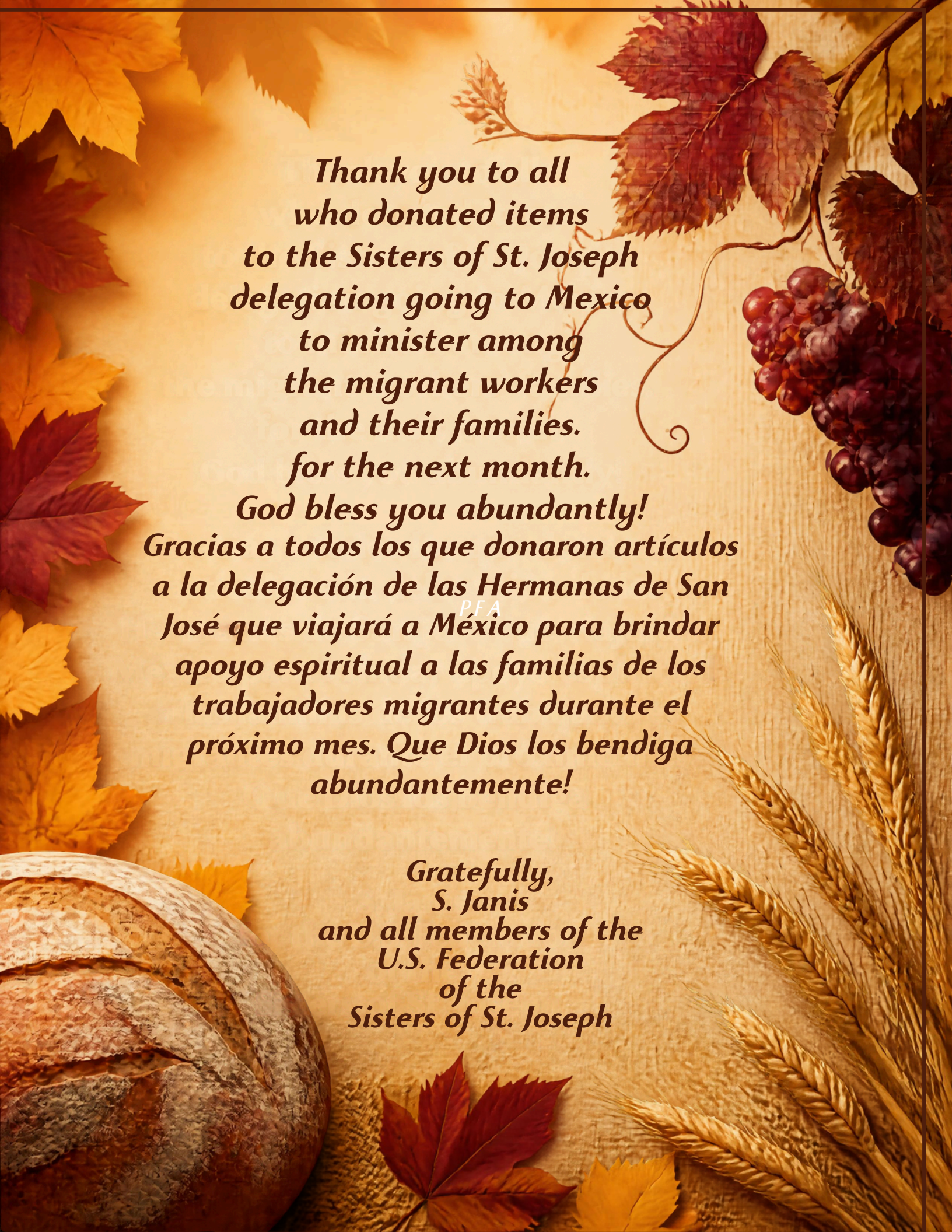
**18 octubre 2026**

**29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**XVIV Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario**

*God's justice:  
find out  
what belongs  
to whom  
and  
give it back.*

*~ Walter Brueggemann  
Scripture Scholar*



*Thank you to all  
who donated items  
to the Sisters of St. Joseph  
delegation going to Mexico  
to minister among  
the migrant workers  
and their families.  
for the next month.*

*God bless you abundantly!*  
*Gracias a todos los que donaron artículos  
a la delegación de las Hermanas de San  
José que viajará a México para brindar*  
*apoyo espiritual a las familias de los*  
*trabajadores migrantes durante el*  
*próximo mes. Que Dios los bendiga*  
*abundantemente!*

*Gratefully,  
S. Janis  
and all members of the  
U.S. Federation  
of the  
Sisters of St. Joseph*



***Congratulations***, Dianne and Andy Crawford,  
who completed a **seven day, 500 mile**  
bike trip across NC!



**National Hispanic Heritage Month**  
**Todos son bienvenidos!**

## Right Relationships

*Mornin', Church!*

Justice is neither political nor faith-based. Justice is relational. Believer witness the spirit and reality of justice in their relationships, regardless of the setting.

Justice begins wherever your feet are.

This is the pure truth of Justice, God's Justice.

Some faith leaders frequently use variations of this phrase to remind people that pursuing righteousness, service, and justice does not require traveling far away—it starts in your immediate community, workplace, or home.

Your feet bring you to various locations, like the civil places where you vote, or church where you pray. God's justice starts with you and where you're standing, or it doesn't. To live as Christ, gospel justice is essential. All relationship: personal, civil, economic, and ecclesial remind us to appraise them in light of gospel justice.

Jesus is clear in today's gospel that the water and oil of God and government is about justice. Pay your debts, financial and relational. Live in right relationships with God, your dear neighbor, and all of Creation.

The mantra of God's justice is:

***Find out what belongs to whom and give it back.***

If your gossiped has taken someone's reputation or dignity ~ is this God's justice?

If your racial bias has already judged another, as less ~ is this God's justice?

If you'd rather be right than truly listen to a differing opinion ~ is this God's justice?

Let's find out what belongs to whom and give it back.

*In the One, we are one...in CommUNITY*

## Relación recta

*¡Buenos días, Iglesia!*

La justicia no es política ni se basa en la fe. La justicia es relacional. Los creyentes dan testimonio del espíritu y la realidad de la justicia en sus relaciones, independientemente del entorno.

La justicia comienza allí donde te encuentras. Esta es la pura verdad de la Justicia, la Justicia de Dios.

Algunos líderes religiosos utilizan a menudo variaciones de esta frase para recordar a las personas que buscar la rectitud, el servicio y la justicia no requiere viajar lejos; todo comienza en tu comunidad inmediata, en tu lugar de trabajo o en tu hogar.

Tus pasos te llevan a diversos lugares, como los espacios cívicos donde votas o la iglesia donde oras. La justicia de Dios comienza contigo y donde estás parado, o simplemente no comienza. Para vivir como Cristo, la justicia del Evangelio es *esencial*. *Todas las relaciones —personales, cívicas, económicas y eclesiales— nos recuerdan que debemos evaluarlas a la luz de la justicia del Evangelio.*

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús deja claro que la relación entre Dios y el gobierno —como el agua y el aceite— tiene que ver con la justicia. Paga tus deudas, tanto las financieras como las relacionales. Vive en relaciones rectas con Dios, con tu prójimo y con toda la Creación.

El principio fundamental de la justicia de Dios es:  
Descubre qué le pertenece a quién y devuélvelo.

Si tus chismes han arrebatado la reputación o la dignidad de alguien, ¿es esto la justicia de Dios?

Si tus prejuicios raciales ya han juzgado a otra persona como inferior, ¿es esto la justicia de Dios?

Si prefieres tener la razón antes que escuchar verdaderamente una opinión diferente, ¿es esto la justicia de Dios?

Descubramos qué le pertenece a quién y devolvámoslo.

*En el Único, somos uno... en COMUNIDAD.*

## Pastoral Staff

Administrator  
Fr. Engelbert Ofon  
(704) 578-2478

Pastoral Associate  
Sister Janis McQuade, S.S.J.  
(336) 835-4542

Music Ministry  
Theresa Martin

O.C.I.A.  
Mondays, 7:00-8:30p  
For adults wishing  
to explore  
the Catholic faith,  
contact S. Janis

## FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Sundays  
10:15-11:45a

Lupe Hernandez  
Israel Lynch  
Jessica Nieland  
Beth Orta  
Peggy Reikowsky

LADIES GUILD  
Aileen Cahill  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays, 5p  
Family Life Center

MEN'S GROUP  
*Men's Breakfast*  
Joseph Spears  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 8:30a  
Cracker Barrel  
Jonesville

## OCTOBER



**03 Parish Spaghetti Dinner, 5:30-7:30p, FLC**

**04 27<sup>th</sup> Sun OT ~ Mass, 9a**  
**Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a**

**05 OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p**

**06 Communion Service, 12:15p**

**07 Choir, 7p**

**11 28<sup>th</sup> Sun OT**  
**Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a**

**12 OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p**

**13 Communion Service, 12:15p**

**14 Choir, 7p**

**15 SSJ Founder's Day 1650 - 2026**  
**Wise Ones, Cowboy's Restaurant, 1p**  
**Host: Patrick Colglazier**

**17 Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a**

**18 29<sup>th</sup> Sun OT ~ Anointing Mass**  
**Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a**

**19 OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p**  
**Give blood EV Baptist Ch. 1:30-6:00p**

**20 Communion Service, 12:15p**

**21 OCIA Mystagogia, 7p; Choir, 7p**

**25 30<sup>th</sup> Sun OT**  
**Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a**

**26 OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p**

**27 Communion Service, 12:15p**

**28 Choir, 7p**



**Anointing Mass**  
**October 18, 9:00a**

**All Souls Day Mass**  
**November 2, 7:00p**



*You Are Invited to a Free*  
**COMMUNITY  
MEAL**

**St. Stephen  
mark your  
calendar  
& plan to  
attend!!!**

CHICKEN STEW  
CHICKEN & DUMPLINGS

**WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER, 28, 2026  
6:00 - 7:30 PM**

**JOIN US AS WE DISCOVER  
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS & SACRED PLACES OF ELKIN**

**First Baptist Church  
110 Gwyn Ave.  
Elkin, NC**





*Celebrating*  
*70 Acts of Kindness in gratitude for*  
*St. Stephen Faith Community 70 Years*

This is a blessed time in the history of our faith community.

Our parish is known for its generous service, hospitality,  
and life-giving ministry among our dear neighbors.

You are invited to continue that same loving spirit  
by doing 70 Acts of Kindness between now and the

*Feast of St. Stephen*  
*on December 26.*

Keep a record of your loving acts

They will offer at Mass on the

*Feast of the Holy Family,*  
*Sunday, December 27.*

## *Birthdays*

**01 Ellen Bernabe**

**Daniela Trejo**

**03 Nancy Hubbard**

**Gerardo Parral**

**04 Ngoe Vo**

**06 Marisol Ledesma**

**08 Maria Mata**

**Sergio Loyola**

**10 Angel Ledesma**

**11 Beth Orta**

**12 Natalie Williams**

**14 Raquel Martinez**

**15 Geovani Spicer**

**18 Vanessa Spicer**

**19 Yaneli Nava**

**20 John Darcey**

**22 Ruben Ramirez**

**Leilany Garcia**

**25 Beth Altemueller**

**26 Ramona Doyle**

## *Anniversaries*

**10 Andrea Faw & Stephen Faust**

**14 Cathie & Jim Schmitgal**

**15 Kristen & Matt Brown**

**17 Donna & Joe Stvartak**

**20 Brittany Reece & Edward Kageorge**

**22 Liza Go & Jeff Harris**

**25 Samantha & Andrew Ange**

## *Thank you...*

**...for your countless, unseen acts of generous  
kindness made in Jesus' Name**

*y'all are ready for All Saints Day!*

# ST.S BULLETIN BOARD

## TRI-C MINISTRIES ALMSGIVING

JUL  
Peas

AUG  
Flour

SEPT  
Shampoo

OCT  
Sm. Dish Liquid

NOV  
Bar Soap

DEC  
Dry Beans

### PRAY

END TO ALL  
WAR AND  
GUN VIOLENCE,  
ESPECIALLY IN  
SCHOOLS

### THANK YOU

Theresa for leading  
the gathering  
at Mass  
last Sunday...

### YOU'RE INVITED

Community Meal  
October 28  
EFBC  
4:30-6:30p

### RECYCLE

TYVM for RECYCLING  
YOUR INK CARTRIDGES  
AT CHURCH.  
GOOD for EARTH &  
HELPS the CHURCH.

### UPCOMING FUNDRAISER

#### SMASH BURGERS

Watch your bulletin  
for more information.

### 70 FOR 70

70 Acts for 70 Years  
Decide each day how  
you will show kindness  
or gratitude in  
meaningful ways.

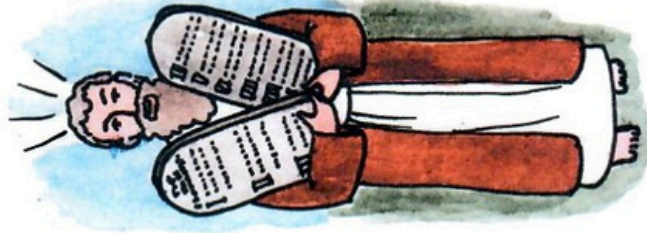
# Should we Obey the Government?



The Pharisees in today's Gospel reading were trying to trick Jesus and make Him say something wrong. They asked Him whether they should pay taxes to the pagan emperor. If He said no then He would be speaking against the emperor, but if He said yes then it would seem like He was saying that it was good for the Jews to be ruled by the pagan Romans.

But Jesus knew what the Pharisees were trying to do. He told them to show Him a coin, and asked them whose picture was on it. They said it was Caesar's (the Roman emperor's,) so Jesus told them, "Then repay to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." He was telling them that they should obey the rulers of the land, but also that they should obey God.

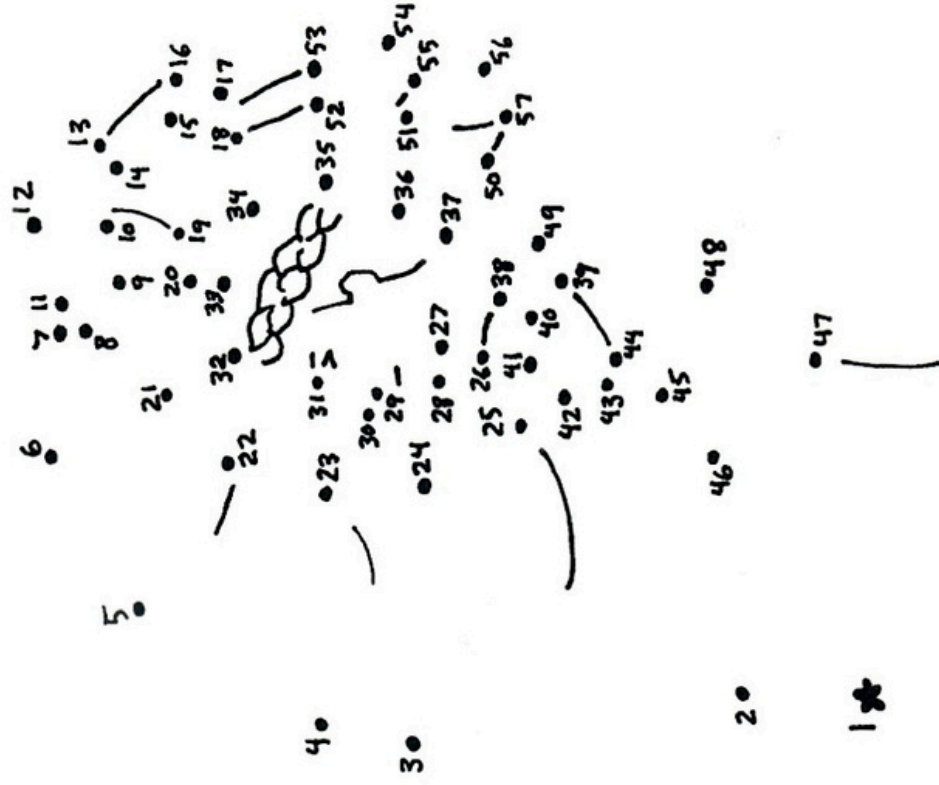
We have two kinds of laws: God's laws and the laws of our governments. Both are for our own good, but God's laws are more important. We should obey the government's laws as long as they agree with God's laws, but we must always obey God's laws. Can you think of some laws that the government makes that are for our good?



Answers to math puzzle: words are in this order: 8: Lord, 5: song, 6: sing, 9: lands, 7: glory, 2: nations, 3: peoples 4: deeds.

# The Kids' Bulletin

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
October 18th, 2026



*In today's Gospel reading, some men asked Jesus if it was right to pay tax. What did Jesus ask them to show Him? Connect the dots to find out!*

# Saint Anthony Mary Claret

## October 24

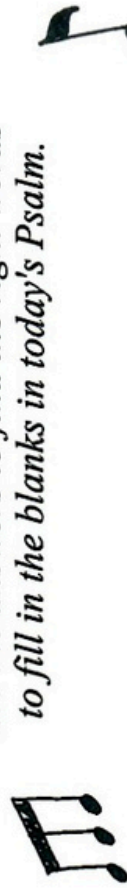


SAINT ANTHONY HAD A GREAT DEVOTION TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND OUR LADY. THIS GAVE HIM THE STRENGTH AND WISDOM TO BRING MANY SOULS BACK TO GOD THROUGH HIS PREACHING, WRITING AND HEARING CONFESSIONS. WE, TOO, GET STRENGTH TO DO GOD'S WORK FROM THE SACRAMENTS.

# Sing 2 the Lord...!

## a math puzzle

Figure out the answers to the math questions and use the answers to find the right words to fill in the blanks in today's Psalm.



Sing to the \_\_\_\_\_ a new \_\_\_\_\_;

$$4+4= \underline{\quad} \quad 1+4= \underline{\quad}$$

\_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord, all you \_\_\_\_\_.

$$4+2= \underline{\quad} \quad 6+3= \underline{\quad}$$

Tell his \_\_\_\_\_ among the \_\_\_\_\_;

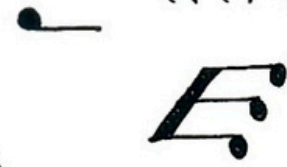
$$3+4= \underline{\quad} \quad 1+1= \underline{\quad}$$

among all \_\_\_\_\_,

$$2+1= \underline{\quad}$$

his wondrous \_\_\_\_\_.

$$2+2= \underline{\quad}$$



- |           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| 2 nations | 6 sing  |
| 3 peoples | 7 glory |
| 4 deeds   | 8 Lord  |
| 5 song    | 9 lands |