

October 22, 2023  
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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***Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar  
and to God what belongs to God. (Mt. 22:21b)***

The list of Scripture passages that touch my heart and mind continues to grow. I hope that's the case for you too. Some passages challenge me more than others. With that in mind, please permit me to share such a passage with you because while this pertains specifically to the clergy, its truth affects all of us.

*Thus the word of the Lord came to me: Son of man, I have appointed you a watchman for the house of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, you shall warn them for me. If I say to the wicked man, You shall surely die; and you do not warn him or speak out to dissuade him from his wicked conduct so that he may live: that wicked man shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, on the other hand, you have warned the wicked man, yet he has not turned away from his evil nor from his wicked conduct, then he shall die for his sin, but you shall save your life. If a virtuous man turns away from virtue and does wrong when I place a stumbling block before him, he shall die. He shall die for his sin, and his virtuous deeds shall not be remembered; but I will hold you responsible for his death if you did not warn him. When, on the other hand, you have warned a virtuous man not to sin, and he has in fact not sinned, he shall surely live because of the warning, and you shall save your own life. (Ezekiel 3:17-21)* To say that that passage now makes me think is a huge understatement. It should make all the ordained stop and think and examine, am I dropping the ball and if so, in what ways?

So, why at this time do I bring the quote from Ezekiel to this reflection this weekend when our Gospel passage today reminds us of these very familiar words: *Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God?*

I convict myself of failing to “warn,” failing to touch upon topics that are considered controversial in our day and age, topics which the Catholic Church teaches as truth, as part of natural law, *applicable to every person*. God's *truth* or Caesar's “truth?” Unfortunately, Caesar, and many in our governments and in our modern culture, teach and preach something else with clarity - moral relativism. Basically, do whatever you feel like doing. What's right for you is right for you. What's right for me is right for me, even if our beliefs differ. I do whatever I feel like doing. Mind your own business.

So, all that being said, I will now touch upon just 3 countercultural, eternal teachings of the Church. Then, I will ask each of us to decide on these three topics: obedience to God or to Caesar. As we consider our decisions on each of these topics, please remember that we will have to give an account at our Judgment for what we've done and what we've failed to do in our brief life on earth. Fact: We sin whenever we support sin. We, intentionally or not, can become accomplices to disobedience to God, and that is never the wise choice.

Do the following belong to God or to Caesar? Does God have anything, anything at all to say about the following?

- \* Who is the giver of life, the author of life, God or Caesar/Supreme Court/popular opinion? Abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia/“mercy killing”, et al.
- \* Who is the author of marriage, the one who defines what marriage is, God or Caesar/Supreme Court/popular opinion?  
Any two consenting adults may marry? Why just limit it to two? Who determines?
- \* Male & female? Who is the author of human nature, who decides? God or Caesar/Supreme Court/popular opinion?  
The way I feel determines who I am?! Feelings matter more than biology/reality?

In each of these and other truths, we must consider what is pleasing to God and then, do that.

Is this hateful of people? Actually, it's just the opposite. It's love of God and love of neighbor, especially when we consider the passage from Ezekiel. Considering the truth in that passage from Ezekiel, it is an authentic work of **charity** to remind us of the present and **eternal** consequences of our actions, dreadful if left unrepentant. Authentic love seeks the good of the other, here-and-now and the primary good - our eternal destiny, Heaven or Hell.

*My watchmen are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark.* (Isaiah 56:10) I no longer want to be God's dumb dog. And so, today I bark, for love of God, neighbor, and self, proclaiming God's wisdom and love for all of us, as He reminds every person to choose Him and His wisdom and truth above all else.

At the end of our brief pilgrimage on earth, we will have to give an account of our lives. Will we do so to our friends, to our media, to public opinion, to the Supreme Court in D.C.? Of course not. However, every person has or will one day stand before the ultimate and final “SUPREME COURT,” our merciful and **just** Judge, our Lord, Jesus. We should prepare for that moment, and may we be found pleasing in His sight when that inevitable day arrives.

-Fr. Michael



## SAINT ANTHONY

*Our Mission: May Christ's grace renew us to exercise His gifts. (see Rom 12:4-6)*

**Very Rev. Michael Bodzioch**  
**Rev. Enrique Salazar**  
**Deacon Ronald Michieli**  
**Deacon Bernard Schwartz**  
326 South 3rd St.  
Sterling, Colorado 80751  
(970)522-6422

For Sacramental Emergencies,  
please call (970)520-3628.

Church Email: [parish@saintanthonyssterling.org](mailto:parish@saintanthonyssterling.org)  
Church Website: [www.saintanthonyssterling.org](http://www.saintanthonyssterling.org)

### Holy Mass

Saturday Vigil .....5:00 p.m.  
Sunday.....7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.  
Domingo (en Español).....12:00 p.m.  
Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri.....12:00 p.m.  
Tue.....5:30 p.m.  
Saturday.....8:00 a.m.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday.....3:30 p.m.  
and 30 minutes before scheduled Masses

### First Friday—Eucharistic Exposition



## SACRED HEART

Physical Address: 621 Logan St., Peetz, CO

### Eucharistic Celebrations:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday .....8:00 a.m.  
2nd and 4th Sunday.....10:00 a.m.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday .....7:30 a.m.



## SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

Physical Address: 111 S. 5th St., Iliff, CO

### Eucharistic Celebrations:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday.....10:00 a.m.  
2nd and 4th Sunday .....8:00 a.m.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

2nd and 4th Sunday .....7:30 a.m.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

### Sunday, October 22

#### TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Is 45:1, 4-6 / Thes 1:1-5b / Mt 22:15-21**

*Vocation Intention - Spirituality Year Seminarians*

7:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Clinton, +Lucille, +Connie, & +Joni Armstrong**

8:00 a.m. St. Catherine Mass **+Henry Rosas**

9:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **Pete & Magdeline Lambrecht Family – Living and Deceased +Benedict Miltenberger**

10:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Mass **+Benedict Miltenberger**

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Sp.Mass **Parishioners of all 3 parishes**

### Monday, October 23 **Rom 4:20-25 / Lk 12:13-21**

*Vocational Intention - 1st & 2nd Year Philosophy Seminarians*

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Jody Etl**

### Tuesday, October 24 **Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21 / Lk 12:35-38**

*Vocational Intention - 1st & 2nd Year Theology Seminarians*

5:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Hours – Associates of the Sisters of St. Francis-All welcome (lift door - Parish Center)

5:30 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Gin Marostica Frei**

### Wednesday, October 25 **Rom 6:12-18 / Lk 12:39-48**

*Vocational Intention - 3rd & 4th Year Theology Seminarians*

9:00 a.m. Legion of Mary (lift door - Parish Center)

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Lester & +Estelle Griggs**

### Thursday, October 26 **Rom 6:19-23 / Lk 12:49-53**

*Vocation Intention – Vocations Ministry*

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Nick Mildenberger**

### Friday, October 27 **Rom 7:18-25a / Lk 12:54-59**

*Vocation Intention - Pastoral Year Seminarians*

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Marilyn Mallory**

### Saturday, October 28 **Eph 2:19-22 / Lk 6:12-16**

#### **Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles**

*Vocation Intention - 1st & 2nd Year College Seminarians*

8:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **Fiscus Family-Living & Deceased**

5:00 p.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Faye Fehringer**

### Sunday, October 29

#### THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Ex 22:20-26 / 1 Thes 1:5c-10 / Mt 22:34-40**

*Vocation Intention - Spirituality Year Seminarians*

7:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Audrey Brekel**

8:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Mass **Marcine Owens**

9:00 a.m. St. Anthony Mass **+Ron Weingardt**

10:00 a.m. St. Catherine Mass **+Albert & +Marge Zink**

12:00 p.m. St. Anthony Sp.Mass **Parishioners of all 3 parishes**

### Parish Office Hours:

Monday through Friday 8:00 am – Noon, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
CLOSED FOR LUNCH FROM 12:00 pm UNTIL 1:00 pm  
Phone number (970)522-6422

### PLEASE NOTE

Weekday Mass at St. Anthony for Tuesday, October 31 will be at noon instead of 5:30 pm. This Mass does NOT fulfill our All Saint's Day obligation because it is celebrated before 4:00 pm.



St. Raphael Counseling provides clinical counseling for individuals, children, teens, couples and families. Our office is located at St. Anthony's Parish Center in Sterling. Please call Dr. Dianna Haas, LPC at (970)520-9697 to schedule an appointment.

**Baptism:** Baptism forms are available online at our website: [saintanthonyssterling.org](http://saintanthonyssterling.org). Please complete all forms, including the godparent forms, and return them to the parish office.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Notify the Parish office eight months in advance of proposed marriage date to allow for adequate preparation.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please notify the Parish office if someone is ill, homebound, or in need of the sacrament.

**Quinceañera Ministry:** Please call Caroline Lopez 970-522-9438 for any questions or interest in celebration. Notify at least one year in advance of proposed date for adequate preparation.



### St. Anthony Pastoral Council Members:

Eddie Baughman, Cyler Beeson, Mike Ehrmann, Bernice Reed, Mark Unrein, and Bobbi Zen.

**St. Anthony Finance Council Members:** Greg Etl, Dan Helgoth, Ron Marostica, Kristin Nichols, and Adam Rose.



## St. Anthony of Padua, Sterling

Last week's collection: \$4,461.25

Maintenance collection: \$ 465.00

We ask that you **PLEASE** use a separate check for Maintenance donations because those contributions go into a different bank account. Thank you.

### Let us remember these sick and suffering:

Mary Jane Fehringer, Rose Shank, Marcine Owens, John Loos, Traudi Torres, Paul Schiel, Barbara Dread, Tony Skrollant, Lisa Ballendir, Lauren Dyess, Kashlyn Gordanier, Leo Sonnenberg, Charles Bau, Jackson Hammons

To add someone to the prayer list please contact the parish office during regular business hours at (970)522-6422. Names will remain on the list a minimum of two weeks.



### Masses for All Saint's Day

**St. Catherine, Tuesday, October 31 at 6:00 pm**

**St. Anthony, Wednesday, November 1**

Noon -- 5:00 pm -- 7:00 pm (Spanish)

**Sacred Heart, Wednesday, November 1 at 6:00 pm**



### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Spend an hour in adoration of our Lord Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, beginning **after noon Mass Friday, November 3**, at St. Anthony's, & ending with the **start of 8:00 am Mass, Saturday, November 4**. Signup sheets will be at the back of church to ensure each hour is covered.



Please join us for a Holy Hour & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament **Sunday, November 5, at 3:00 pm**, in Saint Anthony Church.

## St. Catherine of Siena, Iliff

[www.saintcatherinesiliff.org](http://www.saintcatherinesiliff.org)



Last Sunday's collection: \$1040.00

## Sunday, October 29, 2023 10:00 am

**Children Lead the Rosary at 9:30 am**

**Sacristans – Gerks & Strombergers**

**Lector – Sarah**

**Servers – Aniston, Bailey, Jordan**

**EMHC\* - Jeri, Sonny, Tim**

**Gift Bearers – Larry and Carol Lauer**

**Coffee and Rolls 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, after Mass**

St. Catherine Finance Council: Randy Gerk, Tom Huss, Sarah Lueck

\*Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

## Sacred Heart, Peetz

[www.sacredheartpeetz.org](http://www.sacredheartpeetz.org)



Last Sunday's collection: \$1663.00

## Sunday, October 29, 2023 8:00 am

**EMHC\* -**

**Sacristan – Kristy**

**Lector – Melinda Beyer**

**Servers – Mason Long, Cole Meier, Tyler Wanberg**

**Greeters & Offertory – Steven Schumacher Family**

**Coffee and Donuts 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, after Mass**

**Church Potluck 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, after Mass**

Sacred Heart Finance Council: Randy Fehringer, Evelyn Gardiner, Phil Schumacher

\*Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

## ST. ANTHONY'S



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4 & SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5**



The time changes Sunday, November 5, at 2:00 am. Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour before you go to bed!

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Deadline for bulletin announcements is **8:00 am Thursday**.  
Email announcements to [parish@saintanthonyssterling.org](mailto:parish@saintanthonyssterling.org)



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