

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?

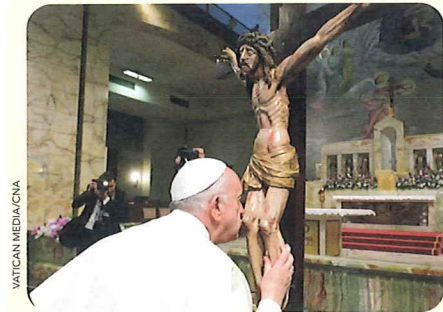
Strictly speaking, to break a government law does not automatically constitute the definition of sin, so it needn't be mentioned in the sacrament of penance. By definition, sin damages (or, with grave sin, destroys) communion with God and the Church (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1472). Some actions 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](#) 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, 17–19, 20b–21	Rom 6:12–18	Rom 6:19–23	Rom 7:18–25a	Eph 2:19–22	Ex 22:20–26
Lk 12:13–21	Lk 12:35–38	Lk 12:39–48	Lk 12:49–53	Lk 12:54–59	Lk 6:12–16	1 Thes 1:5c–10
						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

Our Parish COMMUNITY

October 22, 2023
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Isaiah 45:1, 4–6 / 1 Thessalonians 1:1–5b / Matthew 22:15–21



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?



Rectory & Parish Office
600 Soderberg St. Lakin, KS 67860
Mailing Address: PO Box 983
Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405
Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10/21/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Lucy, Jonathan, & Nathan Gannett

Reader: Tom Bachman

E.O.HC: Rosemary & Tom Bachman

10/22/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Cade & Jace Berning, Luke Woodrow

Reader: Alvin Bergkamp

E.O. HC: Alvin Bergkamp, Bob Woodrow

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10/28/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Volunteer, Jason Velasco, Ryann Bamberger

Reader: Debbie Frederick

E.O.HC: Debbie Frederick, Gwen Waechter

10/29/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Kirbe & Kipton Koons, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

Reader: Julie Kaps

E.O. HC: Mike & Cindy Broeckelman

Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee	355-6388
Lisa Gannett, DRE	355-6611
RCIA	355-6405
Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Chair	272-1030
Tressa Powers, Finance Council Chair	355-6206
Altar Society President, Nanette Rice	355-7676
Tom Bachman, Grand Knight	640-8259
Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek	355-1696
& Nanette Rice	355-7676

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Oct. 21	4:00 p.m.	Rick & Bonnie Knoll Family
Sunday, Oct. 22	9:00 a.m.	For our parishioners
Monday, Oct. 23	5:30 p.m.	Safe harvest
Tuesday, Oct. 24	9: 30 a.m.	David Hoang
(Tuesday Mass at the High Plains Retirement Village)		
Thursday, Oct. 26	12:10 p.m.	Special Int. Powers Family
Friday, Oct. 27	7:30 a.m.	Gary Sack
Saturday, Oct. 28	4:00 p.m.	Special Int. Bachman Family
Sunday, Oct. 29	9:00 a.m.	For our parishioners

Reconciliation: Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

Baptism: Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact parish priest at least four to six months before the wedding.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

October 22, 2023

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Give the Lord glory and honor." (Psalm 23:)

There is a story of the King of Sweden gets pulled over by a cop. The officer asks for the guy’s license and registration. The King has never been in this situation before, and doesn’t have what the guy is asking for. And he’s also probably wondering why the officer doesn’t recognize him. And then it dawns on him. He reaches into his pocket and pulls out some money and hands it to the cop. A bribe? No, not that at all. Rather, he holds the bill taught in front of the cop and there is the King’s face looking back at the officer. Yes, his face is on the country’s money. My friends, what kind of face will you be showing the world? Jesus gives us a hint in this Sunday Gospel (Matthew 22:15-21), “Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.” Of course, what belongs to God is us. We belong to God, and therefore Jesus is challenging each of us to give ourselves completely to God, surrender ourselves to his wants, his invitations and promptings, his will. It’s not much of a stretch to say that “giving to God what is God’s” is at the heart of faithful living, is at the heart of the journey of faith each of us is on. Fr. Peter

COLLECTION for October 15, 2023: Envelopes: \$685; Loose: \$418; Online Giving: \$548.29; Total \$1651.29; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under –109.88

CHURCH PROJECT GOAL \$52000—Building Fund To Date: \$37036.74. *Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards.*

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE As you have seen in the daily Mass schedule, daily Masses are scheduled in variety of time frames to meet most of the people’s survey outcome. Thank you so much for doing the survey and your constant love for our parish community. Note that when daily Mass is celebrated in our church, rosary is prayed 30 minutes before Mass. Please make an extra effort to attend weekend as well as daily Masses to show our love for the Lord and to His people.

THE DIOCESE OF DODGE CITY YOUTH SUMMIT will be held on November 4th at Dodge City Middle School. The day will consist of a Junior High Rally in the afternoon from 2-4 p.m. and a High School Leadership Retreat in the morning. As part of the Leadership Retreat, high schoolers will help prepare for and implement the junior high portion of the day. When registering, they are asked to select which portion(s) of the day they will be able to attend and help with. More information, a schedule of events, and registration can be found at dcdioocese.org/youth-events

BUDGET SHOP We will be working at the Budget Shop on Saturday, October 21 and Tuesday, October 24. Please keep these dates on your busy calendars and try to save a few hours to help us. We are open on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Any help will be greatly appreciated. And “Thank You” ahead of time. We will work again on November 18 and 21.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK What neighbor do I know who is in need? What can I do for them, even if it’s just something simple?

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (by Jacob Astley) Lord God, Help me today to realize that you will be speaking to me through the events of the day, through people, through things, and through creation. Give me the ears, eyes, and heart to perceive you, however veiled your presence may be. Give me insight to see through the exterior of things to the interior truth. Give me your Spirit of discernment. O Lord, you know how busy I must be this day. If I forget you, do not forget me. Amen

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Matthew 22: 15-21)

Refuting Jesus Jesus has delivered three parables of judgment against religious leaders. Now they’re looking for a way either to make him look bad or to get him arrested. The Herodians are probably members of the Jewish aristocracy who were loyal to Herod Antipas, king of Galilee, one of the sons of Herod the Great.

“Teacher” Jesus’ opponents call him teacher, a bad sign. In Matthew’s Gospel the only people who call Jesus teacher are those who either see him as merely one teacher among many or think he shouldn’t be teaching at all. Matthew makes it clear that Jesus is the true face of God’s teaching and the only one whose teaching and example should rule our lives.

Paying taxes Paying taxes to the Roman Empire was controversial. Taxes were an economic burden and a reminder of foreign domination. Taxes also had to be paid in Roman currency, which was stamped with the image of the emperor. According to Jewish law God’s people were not to make or use such images (see Exodus 20:4).

Setting traps If Jesus tells people to pay the tax, then he sounds insensitive to the hardships of his people and supportive of an oppressive foreign power. If he says people don’t have to pay the tax, then his opponents could report him to the Romans as a rebel. Jesus avoid this trap while setting one of his own: he gets his adversaries to show that they have one of the very coins they’re asking Jesus if they should use.

The real issue Although Jesus answers in favor of paying taxes, he rises above the controversy. Throughout Matthew’s Gospel Jesus challenges people to consider whether they’re ultimately living as God intends. Here he suggests that people shouldn’t be so preoccupied with particular issues that they neglect more important matters, like answering God’s call to holiness and justice.

(oursundayreadings.wordpress.com)

UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING OF THE WEEK - (Isaiah 45:1, 4-6)

The pagan messiah In the early sixth century BC the Israelites were conquered by the Babylonian Empire. About fifty years later the Persian Empire defeated the Babylonians, and King Cyrus of Persia issued a decree that allowed the Israelites to rebuild their city and temple. Isaiah calls Cyrus the LORD’s messiah, the Hebrew word for anointed (v.1). The title Christ is from the Greek word for anointed. Kings, priests, and court-appointed prophets were anointed as a sign that God had chosen them for these particular roles. The Israelites, however, would have been shocked to hear this title applied to a foreign ruler. Cyrus remains the only Gentile in the Bible who is hailed as God’s anointed.

By divine decree Although Cyrus doesn’t know the God of the Israelites, the LORD chooses this pagan king to defeat the enemies of Israel (v.1). Isaiah insists that the LORD has inspired Cyrus to permit the Israelites to return to their homeland and rebuild their ruined city and temple. Once they rebuild, Cyrus and all people, Jews and Gentiles, will know that the LORD alone is the true king and lord of heaven and earth (v.6).

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION OCTOBER 22,2023

“Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s. - Matthew 22:21

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren’t “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.

“Dad al Cesar lo que es del Cesar y a Dios lo que es de Dios.” - MATEO 22:21

Todo lo que somos y todo lo que tenemos le pertenece a Dios. No somos los dueños de nada, somos simples “administradores” de los dones que hemos recibido de Dios. Todo lo que Dios nos pide es que demos parte de lo que Él nos ha dado. Esa es la esencia de la Corresponsabilidad. Dios debe ser nuestra prioridad en todo. Todo lo demás viene en segundo lugar, especialmente nuestro dinero.

Eucharistic Revival Parish Mission St. Dominic Church in Garden City and St. Stanislaus Church in Ingalls will be holding a Eucharistic Revival Parish Mission from Sunday Nov. 5-Tuesday Nov. 7. The mission is being preached by Dominican Father Jonathan Kalisch, a member of the St. Joseph Province of the Order of Preachers. The parish mission will run from 6-8 pm each night and include the praying of the Rosary, Father Kalisch’s mission talk, Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction, and more. Each night’s talk will be on a different Eucharistic theme. The Parish Mission will be held at St. Dominic’s (615 JC Street) on Nov. 5-6 and at St. Stanislaus (200 N. Rush Street) on Nov. 7. While working in Poland after college, Father Kalisch encountered the writings of St. Faustina and the message of Divine Mercy with its words “Jesus, I trust in you.” This gave him the courage to follow his vocation and become a priest. He was ordained in 2003. He has served as a university chaplain and has led pilgrimages and retreats for college students, young adults and the Sisters of Life religious order, among others. Currently, Father Kalisch is the Director of Chaplains and Spiritual Development for the Knights of Columbus. For more information please contact Father Tim S. Hickey, pastor, at tshickey@icloud.com.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL
Works of Mercy

REFLECTION:

Can you think of a time when someone did something kind or helpful for you? Maybe they paid for a meal when you were short-changed or made you chicken noodle soup when you were sick. Perhaps it was offering prayers for you or a loved one in a difficult season of life. It is the smallest, simplest gestures that can have profound effects.

As followers of Christ, we are called to serve those in need. But it isn’t always easy to serve others. Especially when the people that we serve don’t seem to appreciate our help or reciprocate with any kindness themselves. But, of course, we aren’t called to serve others when it is easy, or even when it makes us feel good about ourselves.

Christ gave of himself even though we didn’t earn it or deserve it. When that truth dwells in our hearts, serving others becomes a deep desire. When you have experienced the grace of God, you want to show the grace of God. When you have received mercy, you desire to extend mercy.

We can look to Christ as our perfect example. He nurtured people spiritually and healed them physically. He didn’t just do it for those that he knew would reciprocate the gesture. He didn’t withhold his grace for only those who would follow him as a disciple. His mercy didn’t discriminate. As St. Paul reminds us, “for Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly” (Rom 5:6).

There are countless ways in which we can help others. However, the Church has given us seven ways in which we can assist others’ physical needs and seven ways to address spiritual needs.

The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities. Instructing, advising, consoling, and comforting are spiritual works of mercy, as are forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently. The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead (CCC 2447).

The Eucharist is a sacrament of charity. In fact, the Church teaches us that reception of the Blessed Sacrament commits us to the poor (CCC 1397). As our devotion to the Blessed Sacrament increases, so will our desire to serve others. Whether you are called to help others spiritually or corporally, in big ways or small ways, believe that God will bless others through you. Jesus continues to give us his very best; we are called to follow suit. Today, let us be mindful of those around us and the opportunity we have to meet them in their needs.

PRAYER:

Lord, thank you for the gift of today. As you have loved us, let us now do the same for others. We pray that we may be given the opportunity to be your hands and feet in this world. When it is difficult, grant us the grace to pour ourselves out for others, just as you have done for us. May your Holy Spirit give us the strength needed to serve those in our path. Amen.

CHALLENGE:

Choose one Corporal Work of Mercy and one Spiritual Work of Mercy that you can perform this week. You can reference paragraphs 2447 & 2448 in the Catechism of the Catholic Church for more information on the Works of Mercy.

TWENTY– NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Hearts on fire, feet on the move

Goal-setting is a normal part of life. We set a particular horizon in our education and profession, in domestic budgeting and in relationships. Pope Francis reminds us on this World Mission Sunday that sharing the Good News is the horizon for all church activity. Our aim isn't just to save our souls but to share in the rescue of the world God so loves. “Everyone has the right to receive the gospel. Christians have the duty to announce it without excluding anyone ... as one who shares a joy, signals a beautiful horizon, offers a desirable banquet” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 14). Embrace the mission! (Preparetheword)

VIGÉSIMO NOVENO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO
Coraznes ardientes, pies en movimiento

Fijarse objetivos es algo normal en la vida. Nos planteamos un horizonte concreto en nuestra educación y profesión, en la preparación del presupuesto del hogar y en las relaciones. El Papa Francisco nos recuerda en esta Jornada Mundial de las Misiones que compartir la Buena Nueva es el horizonte de toda la actividad de la Iglesia. Nuestro objetivo no es sólo salvar nuestras almas, sino compartir el rescate del mundo que Dios tanto ama. "Todos tienen derecho a recibir el Evangelio. Los Cristianos tenemos el deber de anunciarlo sin excluir a nadie... como quien comparte una alegría, señala un horizonte hermoso, ofrece un banquete delicioso" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 14). ¡Aceptemos la misión!