



# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

**THIS SUNDAY October 22 & BEYOND**

**“What’s in your wallet?”**



When the Football season rolls near the end it’s fairly short season we all take a deep breath and say that heart felt common prayer, “Thank you, Lord.” Super Bowl hails the end of another hard fought season and it’s time for the question.

How much will it cost this year for just a minute or two of very expensive commercial time to grab our fleeting attention, Five, six or seven million dollars a second ? I might be exaggerating but maybe not. A lot of clever minds have been thinking and planning and trying to reach our inner most psyche to capture our imaginations, money is no object. The more money spent the better the product or so the experts tell us. I say maybe not.

Jesus sure grabs the attention of the Pharisees in answering their devious self-serving question. In other words to paraphrase the credit card ad, “What’s in your wallet?”

Americans tend to see in this passage an argument for the separation of church and state imbedded in the First amendment of the US Constitution. That would make NO sense at all in the first-century Mediterranean world of Jesus.

When Jesus asks, “What are the rivals to God in your life today? What personalities, what ideologies. what prejudices, what addictions, what economics, what possessions?” He’s asking, “Where do your loyalties lie?” He is asking the Pharisees and us to do a personal inventory and decide who are the Caesars that we attach ourselves to, and do we sometimes give to them what we should give to God?

Getting our priorities straight is what Jesus is pushing us to do in today’s Gospel. Give to Caesar what is his. Many of those Caesars of our lives do have real importance and some rightful claim on our time and devotion. But keep them in the proper perspective. Don’t

make them our be all and end all, overshadowing faith and family, our health and moral integrity. Don't give to them what rightly belongs to God alone: our confidence, our trust, and our humble service, our surrender, and our most fundamental and ultimate allegiance. What's in your wallet?

Always in Christ,  
Fr. Sanders+

## CALENDAR

**SUNDAY:** 8:00a Low Mass (Church)

10:30a Solemn Mass (Church)

—*The entrance to the church is on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue*—

*Note: Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.*

**MONDAY:** 7:00p (AA) Doctors' Group (Fireside Room)

**TUESDAY:** Noon Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

**FRIDAY:** 9:00a Morning Prayer (St. Mary's Chapel) Temporarily Cancelled

9:30a Mass (St. Mary's Chapel) Temporarily Cancelled

AA Meetings

8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)

8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)