Saint Clare Kaizuka Catholic Church

KAWASAKI PARISH NEWSLETTER

A warm message from our parish to all of you, dear friends.

NEWSLETTER VOL. 4
November 2026

> **"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me."**
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> *— Gospel of Matthew 25:40*
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> Christ, the King of Glory, appears before us in the guise of the poor, the isolated, and those in need of help. More than achieving grand deeds, small acts of kindness and a compassionate heart offered to those struggling around us become direct expressions of our love for God.

From the Priest's Homily *(Oct. 18, 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time)*

Gospel of Matthew 22:15–21: The Pharisees went and asked Jesus, "Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" Jesus answered, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."

The Pharisees who sought to test Jesus were colluding with high-ranking officials of the Roman Empire—which ruled Israel as a colony at the time—reaping personal benefits from that relationship. Although they acted like devout Jews, Jesus saw right through them and declared that paying taxes to the Roman emperor and keeping the Jewish Law did not contradict each other at all.

Their question missed the real point. Jesus was challenging them: "Pay your taxes—yet thanks to whom do you enjoy your high social standing today, and thanks to whom are you alive and healthy?" His words, "Give to God the things that are God's," remind us that everything we need right now has been given to us by God. Nothing comes from our own strength alone; God awakens us to this truth and guides us to walk along the right path.

Saturday, Oct. 31 — Special Jubilee Pilgrimage of St. Francis

- **Visited Parishes:** Den-en-chofu Catholic Church, Yurigaoka Catholic Church, and Tsukui Catholic Church
- **Parishioners' Commemoration:** Community group gatherings on the steps of Den-en-chofu Church and inside the sanctuary of Tsukui Church.

This Month's Announcements

- **Sun, Nov. 8:** Mass for the Dead (9:00 AM, 2:00 PM)
- **Sun, Nov. 15:** Shichi-Go-San Celebration (9:00 AM, 2:00 PM)
- **Sun, Nov. 29:** First Sunday of Advent — International Mass at 11:00 AM
  - Infant Baptism Ceremony
  - **12:15 PM (after Mass):** Disaster Prevention Festa (Disaster Preparedness Seminar: AED training, earthquake simulation vehicle experience, fire extinguisher practice, etc.)

This Month's Liturgy

Service	Schedule & Language
Sunday Mass	9:00 AM~ (Japanese) 2:00 PM~ (English) **On Nov. 29, International Mass begins at 11:00 AM.*
Weekday Mass	Fri, Nov. 13 — 6:30 PM~ Fri, Nov. 27 — 6:30 PM~

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If you wish to receive Holy Communion or have anything you would like to consult about, please feel free to contact the church.

May God's blessings be upon you all.

(If our answering machine picks up, we will return your call shortly.)