



Iconic Giving: Whose image is on the coin?

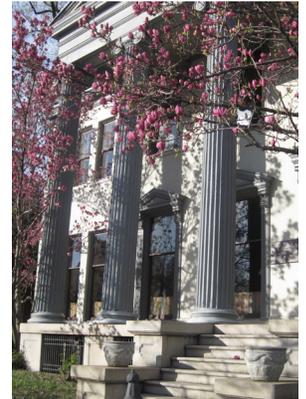
Reflection by The Rt. Rev. Edwin F. "Ted" Gulick Jr.

Sometimes the Greek word behind an English translation is a catalyst to expanded understanding. In Greek our Lord's stretchy question is, "whose 'icon' is on the coin?" Some interpreters of this verse believe it is an echo of Genesis. "In the image (icon) of God he made them." Jesus just might be saying Caesar's icon may be on the coin, but you are an icon of God. It is stunning to hear Jesus say you — all of you — are to be icons of the living God!

Every action taken after our baptism should be iconic... it should be a re-presenting of God's nature, God's generosity, and God's being. Every action should proclaim whose we are and should participate in that generosity of God seen in Jesus the Christ.

Whether we stop to administer CPR, or fill a backpack with food so a child will be nourished during the weekend, or fill out our pledge card, the action is iconic. God's image is stamped on each of us, and God's power is visible in those iconic moments where generous joy illustrates whose we are.

Proper 24 | Matthew 22:15-22
October 22, 2017



Reflection Questions

- Paintings of Christian icons are not said to be painted at all. Rather, icons are "written." Why?
- What is the most recent iconic action of Christian life that you have experienced?
- How do you see God's iconic image stamped on yourself?
- How is completing a pledge card an iconic action?

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The Rt. Rev. Edwin F. "Ted" Gulick Jr., became the assistant bishop on January 1, 2011.

Bishop Gulick returns to his native Virginia from the Diocese of Kentucky, where he served as diocesan bishop from 1994-2010.

A native of northern Virginia, Bishop Gulick received a bachelor of arts degree from Lynchburg College and a master of divinity degree from Virginia Theological Seminary. He also holds honorary doctor of divinity degrees from Virginia Seminary and the University of the South.

From 1965 to 1970 Bishop Gulick worked at Shrine Mont, first as a counselor-in-training, then cabin counselor, and finally as assistant director of St. George's camps.

