



The kingdom of heaven
is like a landowner
who went out at dawn
to hire laborers for his vineyard.

Matthew 20:1

September 20, 2020

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

LET GO

In our daily lives, and in prayer and worship, we encounter a God whom we don't fully understand. We sometimes meet a mysterious and surprising God, whose actions and designs are beyond us, "as high as the heavens are above the earth." Our readings this week describe the confusion, the joy, and the challenge of this encounter. The readings invite us to "let go." Isaiah invites us to let go of trying to fit God into our own comfortable ways of thinking. Paul, knowing that he might face death at any time, describes his joy over having let go of trying to control his future. Jesus' parable in the Gospel of Matthew challenges us to let go of limiting God's generosity to others. May our encounters with our mysterious but trustworthy God transform our hearts and minds, and deepen our trust in God.

A GENEROUS GOD

The parable in today's Gospel identifies a very strong human tendency to believe that everyone should get what they deserve. If we achieve more than others, we deserve to receive more: more money, more privilege, more honor. And so we anticipate that God will reward more liberally those who have done more for God.

Jesus says that God does things differently. The full day's wage in the story is like the gift of forgiveness and salvation, shared equally and abundantly with all. The full-day laborers complained that "you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden." They resented not being placed higher than the others, refusing to accept them as equals. Jesus is saying that, among God's people, there is no such pecking order. Regardless of background or achievements, we can accept everyone as brothers and sisters, and rejoice in God's generosity to everyone.

THE FIRST AND LAST

In today's parable, had the laborers who worked all day been paid first, they likely never would have known that the late-starters had been paid the same wage, and would not have become jealous. In the way the story is told, though, both the justice and the mercy of God are revealed. The landowner gave a just wage to those who worked all day, and he was generously merciful to those who worked less.

When Jesus says that "the last will be first and the first will be last," he points to the kingdom of God. This is a kingdom where oppression is ended and divisions between people are healed. God brings justice and mercy to a world that sorely needs them. In the book of Revelation, Jesus is called "the first and the last," the Alpha and Omega. In Jesus, the first and the last are brought together to heal God's world. When we work for justice and show mercy, we join in Jesus' healing ministry.

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 55:6-9
Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
Matthew 20:1-16a

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LIVESTREAM SUNDAY MASS 9:45 AM
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SATURDAY: BY APPOINTMENT

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PRINCIPAL:

MRS. COLLETTE YOUNG

BAPTISMS

PARENTS MUST BE REGISTERED PARISHIONERS FOR THREE MONTHS BEFORE SCHEDULING A BAPTISM. PARENTS AND GODPARENTS MUST ATTEND A BAPTISM CLASS PRIOR TO THE CHILD'S BAPTISM. PLEASE CHECK WITH THE PARISH OFFICE FOR THE BAPTISM CLASS SCHEDULE. BAPTISMS ARE HELD ON THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 2PM.

CLERGY

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PASTOR EMERITUS

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REFRESHMENTS SUNDAY MORNINGS:

CARMIE CASAL 8:00 AM

carmiecasal@yahoo.com

APRIL MALOLES 9:45 AM

LOU ABILO 9:45 AM

GIFT SHOP

KATHI GENEWICK

WEDDINGS

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT LEAST SIX MONTHS BEFORE DATE OF MARRIAGE. ONE PARTY MUST BE A REGISTERED AND ACTIVE PARISHIONER FOR SIX MONTHS BEFORE BOOKING A WEDDING AND MUST BE CONFIRMED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH.



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CALL RECTORY FOR APPT.



Why Is It Important to Register With the Parish ?

At various times in a Catholic's life, it is beneficial that you be able to show that you are a "practicing Catholic."

This is possible by confirming your parish registry.

Here are some of the situations to which this may apply:

Marriage in the Church

Baptism of a Child

School Registration of a Child

Becoming a Godparent or Sponsor

We urge you to:

Register at the Rectory

Inquire about using your talents for the good of the parish

Use your Sunday envelopes so that your generosity can be recorded.

Does Someone In Your Home Need Special Help?

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Narcotics Anonymous 1-323-933-5395 Alcoholics Anonymous 1-800-923-8722

TODAY'S READINGS

Reading 1

Is 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near.
 Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts;
 let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving.
 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
 As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways
 and my thoughts above your thoughts.

Reading 2

Phil 1:20c-24, 27a

Brothers and sisters: Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit.

Gospel

Mt 20:1-16a

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

READINGS FOR THE WEEK of September 21—27, 2020

Sunday:

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday:

St. Matthew

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13

Tuesday:

Autumn begins

Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday:

St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

Prv 30:5-9; Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163; Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17bc; Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4; Lk 9:18-22

Saturday:

Ss. Cosmas and Damian; Blessed Virgin Mary

Eccl 11:9 — 12:8; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17; Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25:4-9; Phil 2:1-11 [1-5]; Mt 21:28-32





PRAY FOR...

Healing...

Roben Bustos
Luz Sarmiento
Mark Sanchez
Glenn Hoskins
Sean Fenady
Arlene Tan
Carmen Gomez
Meilani Rodriguez
Marlyn T. Rodriguez
Hyuk Jin Kwon
Anna Raval
Aida Tomines
Stacey Seablade Hoskins
Joel Rivera
Gilrose Pereda
Jaime De Jesus
Alice Senar Alarkon
Lucita Z. Liangco
Reynaldo V. Tanayan
Lui de Leon
Loretta O. Mangona
Enrique Honrado Cabrera
Adoracion Layco
Bob Lass
Ricardo Villanueva
Jocelyn Mercado
Feliciano Manansala
Janet Calleja

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Sunday, September 20th
9:45 am
 Marian Arriola †
 Manuel Chiu Mee †
 Teresita Castro †
 Yong Sik Kim †
 Leandra Ilagan Verdera †
 Jacqueline Cavanagh †
 Lucy Torroba †
 Rudy & Toni Bernaldo †
 Nestor Isla †
 John J. Lee †
Monday, September 21st
 In Baek
 In & Wonkyu Baek
Tuesday, September 22nd
 Adriano Domingo †
Wednesday, September 23rd
 Manuel Venturina †
Thursday, September 24th
 Maria Chon
Saturday, September 26th
 Magdalena Chung †
 Tom G. Neilsen †
 John Moon

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In Memoriam

Mary Catherine Hawley
Bradwell Smith
Elba Manzo
Santos Angeles
Thomas Hodgkiss
George McCarthy
Randy Roque
Mary Frances Fenady
Andrew Fenady
Fernando Rojas
Allan Graf
Consuelo Eckhardt
Anne Lombard
Eugenia Walendowski
Catherine Crahan
Judy Francisco Herrera
Julian "Bud" Rice
Moises Chavez
Steve Keller
Maria Sol Elazegui
Madge Broadbelt
Ramon R. Casal Jr.
David Ines
Hortensia Ines
Manuel Orquia
Mila Agpaoa
Joseph Vogl
Mary Bottum
Mercedes Perez
Therese Holz
Caroline Laquer
Jacqueline Cavanagh
Yelba Chilingar
Lucy Torroba
Dickie Olsen
Lauro Tecson