

September 20, 2020

### Ordinary Time

### Twenty-fifth Sunday

The last  
will be first,  
and the  
first will  
be last.



Mt 20:16

### Mercy Without Measure

Today's readings offer us a glimpse of the mercy of God, which is a mercy without measure. This mercy of God is what inspired the parable of the vineyard. Whether a person came early or late to God, Jesus' actions illustrated that their welcome would be equally warm because God's ways and thoughts are tempered by mercy and love.

### MASS INTENTIONS



Thursday, September 24

5:30 p.m. Louis Stryk

Saturday, September 26

2:00 p.m. Lopez-Grifaldo Wedding

4:30 p.m. Benjamin Smolik and Louis, Albina & Mary Ann Smolik

Sunday, September 27

8:00 a.m. Msgr. Gerard Cernoch



**\*\* Face masks required and social distancing protocol will be in place. \*\***

### Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

**First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28**

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 25**

**Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11**

**Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32**

**The Sanctuary Light will be lit this week in memory of Nancy Petru.**



### REFLECTION

#### Merit or Grace?

**Isaiah 55:6-9 Psalm 145 Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a Matthew 20:1-16a**

The parable of the Vineyard, during Jesus' ministry, represented Jesus' response to those who accused him of wasting his time and efforts among the least members of society. No doubt the Scribes and Pharisees regarded themselves as full-time, dawn-to-dusk workers whom God would generously reward at the end of their day. These righteous ones were certain that those who strayed from God's ways could never merit the same reward. But, Jesus in whom the ways and thoughts of God became incarnate, reached out with mercy and generous forgiveness for all, not as merit that can be earned but as grace freely given to sinners.

Most of us would bristle at what appears to be an injustice perpetuated on hard-working people. The parable however teaches us a lesson about the Kingdom of Heaven. Entrance to the Kingdom cannot be earned, no matter how early one rises or how long one works. Entrance is God's gift, given freely and mercifully to those who seem by human standards to deserve it, as well as to those who do not. Generous mercy is that quality of God without which we would have no hope of survival.



Rosary every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Come join a group of church ladies at the Zdravas Maria Plaza to pray.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



September 23 – Larry Prause

September 24 – Dolores Labay

September 26 – Ronnie Masek

– David Saucedo

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



September 23 – Doris & Jerome Kalina

September 26 – Sarah & Harvey Berckenhoff

### WEDDING BANNS



McKenna Rae Lopez & Miguel Grifaldo

**Moulton Picnic Today:** Moulton parishioners supported our Pražská Pout Fundraiser. It is only fair that we also support their Picnic today. At least go get a plate. Thank you.