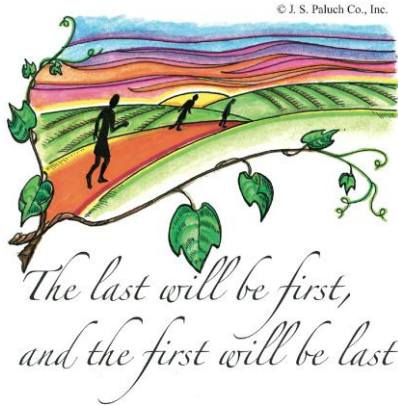


Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Equality

My sister keeps careful track of what she does for each of my children. If she takes one out to the movies, she has to work it in her schedule to take the others on an outing, too. If she spends ten dollars on one gift, she will not spend nine or eleven dollars on anyone else. They all have a price limit of ten dollars. I admire her sense of fairness, but mostly I admire her ability to keep track of what she's done over the course of the year!

I have learned a phrase that my children will complain I use all too often. When things just don't seem to be working out evenly, I tell them, "The world is not divided into five equal pieces." I must admit, none of my kids would have been very happy working in the vineyard all day and watching someone who worked half the time get the same amount of pay.

Comment

The readings from Isaiah, the psalm and Philippians focus on a merciful and just God—a God who is near, who is loving, who pardons. The people of Isaiah had lost their faith and hope in God. They were in exile and did not live the way God wanted them to. Their ways were not God's ways, and their thoughts were not the thoughts of God. But rather than abandon these people or punish them, God called them to return. Paul knew God to be kind and loving. He told the Philippians not to despair but to live good lives according to the gospel message. God's loving generosity became clear in the parable when Jesus suggested that it is all right, even admirable, for a vineyard owner to pay some of his workers generously. The parable causes us to look inward and discover what it is that makes the other apostles and us jealous of the workers who did little, and got paid the same amount we did.

Reflection

We expect God to be near, loving, and to pardon us. We find no contention in this description and have probably used these words to describe God ourselves. So why then do we find ourselves in league with the grumbling workers of the Gospel? Those guys didn't show up till almost quitting time. "It's not fair that they

receive the same amount of money as the workers who came early," many people would complain. Haven't we complained in the same way ourselves?

The parable, on closer examination, is not so much about people getting more than they deserve as it is about God's generosity. And God continues to be generous to us. Ours is a loving, forgiving God who is quietly involved in our lives.

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Reflecting on God's Word

What is a just wage? We might say it is pay proportionate to the amount of work performed, but in today's parable we learn that God's view of a just wage is high above our view. It is the wage a person needs to live on for one day: the "daily wage." In God's view of justice a person's worth (or pay) is not determined by industriousness, righteousness, status, wealth; not by anything a person has or does. Human worth is based only on our personhood. It is not "just" in God's eyes for anyone to receive less than the wages needed to live each day in dignity. Is the landowner generous? Yes, certainly. In God's eyes, only such indiscriminate generosity would be truly just. God's view of justice requires God—and us—to be generous. Whether we are speaking of spiritual or material "pay," here or hereafter, God wants to pay us not according to what we deserve, but according to what we need. All are equally worthy of a just wage in the eyes of our generous God.

—Virginia Stillwell

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13
Tuesday:	Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday:	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:	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

From Bishop Sis - Mass for the homebound

Dear friends,

Those who are homebound often desire to find a Mass that they can watch at home. There are various churches and organizations who offer such Masses.

One that has particularly good sound quality, closed captioning, music, and sign language interpreting is produced in Australia. It is best viewed directly from their website, not from YouTube.

Their website is <https://massforyou.com.au>

In the joy of Christ's service,

Bishop Michael Sis



**Turn to the LORD for mercy;
to our God, who is generous in
forgiving.** — *Isaiah 55:7b*

Saturday, September 19th -

5:00PM-IHM – +Belinda Gomez, Tomas and
Guadalupe Morales; +Daniel Grimaldo; +José Cruces

Sunday, September 20th –

8:00AM – IHM +Por Grupo Misionero y en acción de
gracias por los cumpleaños de Lisa Martinez-Soto y Lily
Ensenia; +Fidencio y Polly Carlos; +Quintín Alvarez

11:00AM – IHM – For the People of Nolan County

Tuesday, September 22nd 9:00 AM-HF

+Manuela Solano

Wednesday, September 23rd 6:00PM - IHM

In thanksgiving for the birthdays of Lena Flores &
Sesar Flores, Jr.

Thursday, September 24th 9:00 AM-HF

In thanksgiving to St. Jude

Friday, September 25th 9:00 AM-HF

For our Seminarian Raymond Martinez, II and the
well-being and health of Jordan Gunter

Saturday, September 26th -

5:00PM-IHM – Maria Morales Guerrero, Rodolfo
Morales, Carlos C, Maria and Carlos Guerrero, Sr.;
+Manuel Jaramillo; In thanksgiving for Jerry Delacruz's
birthday

Sunday, September 27th –

8:00AM – IHM Por la Gente de Nolan County

11:00AM – IHM – +Julianah Falana;

+Manuel & Cuquita Heredia; In thanksgiving for
Genisys Duenez's birthday

COLLECTION DATA September 12/13, 2026

ENVELOPES/CHECKS.....	\$5319.00
LOOSE PLATE.....	1371.41
TOTAL COLLECTION.....	\$6690.41

"Thank you for your generosity"

HOLY SPIRIT CLEANING SCHEDULE

September 26 - Guadalupanas October 3 - Jamaica

"J A M A I C A 2026"
-- Next Sunday -- September 27th

"CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2026"

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to bring
good news to the poor" Lk 4:18*

Today, Sunday September 20th, is the Commissioning of
our Catechists. Our gratitude and appreciation to all
involved in our Religious Education program. Thank you
for giving of your time to help our children learn and grow
in their faith journey. *May God bless you.*

CCD RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2026-2027

Sunday classes - Pre-K to 6th Grade; 9:30-10:40am

Wednesday Classes -7th to 11th Grades; 7:00-8:30pm

PLEASE PRAY for the Confirmation students who will
be on retreat, next Saturday, September 26th.

OCIA – Classes have started. If you are needing
Sacraments or would like to learn more about the faith,
you may still sign up to attend. Classes are held on
Thursdays, 6:00pm, Holy Family Hall.

• **NOTE: ADVANCED STUDY OF THE FAITH –**
classes led by Fr. Josh, will begin on Saturday,
October 3rd, at 10:00am at Holy Family Hall.

WEDNESDAY – Confessions begin at 5:15pm followed
by Mass at 6:00pm & Adoration until 8:30pm at IHM.

ULTREYA MEETINGS

Sunday, September 20th - 6:00pm (*English*)

Monday, September 21st - 7:00pm (*Spanish*)

at IHM Hall. All are welcome! You don't have to be a
cursillista to attend. For information on the Cursillo
movement, please visit

<http://www.sanangelocursillo.com/home.html>

BINGO PRIZE DONATION REQUEST

The Jamaica committee is accepting donations of prizes
for our Bingo game during the Jamaica. If you would like
to help, we kindly ask that all donated items be new and
unused so that everyone has the opportunity to win a
wonderful prize.

Some ideas include gift cards, home décor, kitchen items,
games, candles, snacks, seasonal items, or other new gifts.
Your generosity is greatly appreciated and helps make
this event fun and successful for our parish community.

Please drop off all prizes at the parish office.

Thank you for your kindness and support. May God
bless you for your generosity.

"JAMAICA SPONSORS"

Thank you to this week's generous donors:

Alex and Stella Garcia

Sweetwater Steel

*as well as the sweet anonymous
individuals sponsoring this year's Jamaica!*

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP: GROWING TO SERVE

Understanding Our Needs & Our Future

1 WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

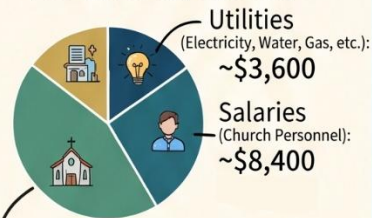


Average Weekly Collection:
\$5,000 - \$5,500



2 WHERE YOUR OFFERING GOES

(Average Monthly Expenses)



Diocesan Assessment
(Bishop & Office):
~\$11,000

Total Monthly
Expenses:
\$23,000
(Can reach \$26,000)

3 OUR BLESSING & MISSION



Your faithful giving sustains our ministry, keeps the church open, and serves our local community.

4 VISION FOR A SECOND PRIEST



We are discerning God's will for a second priest to expand ministries.

5 THE NEED & THE STRATEGY

Extra Cost Per Month: \$4,300



Small sacrifice from many makes a big difference.

- 100 families giving an extra \$10/week OR
- 130 families giving an extra \$8/week would reach the goal.

6 AN OFFERING, NOT A TIP



This is an offering to the Lord, who multiplies your gift to bring more spiritual blessings to our community.

- Additional Mass Times
- More Confession Times
- Further Spiritual Counseling
- Another Spiritual Father

7 NEXT STEPS



Please prayerfully consider if the Lord is calling you to help our parish grow. Thank you for your generosity.

