

# Getting Ready for Sunday!



# **Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Jesus speaks to us through the medium of a parable this Sunday. A parable is a story which Jesus tells to deliver a particular message.**

**The parable is about workers in the vineyard.**

**The image of the master in the vineyard relates to God the Father.**

**The work in the vineyard relates to our own work, vocation and purpose in life.**

**The giving of payment presents an image of the last judgment.**

**At the end of the days work, all received the same payment regardless of the time spent. God is generous to all: both to those who came to work first and those who came last.**

**This presents a challenge to our own capacity for generosity, forgiveness, mercy and love!**

# Matthew 20:1-16



***The Labourers in the Vineyard***

**Jesus said to his disciples: *'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard***



Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "*You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.*" So they went



At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them:



*Because no one has hired us.*

*Why are you standing here idle all day?*

*You go into my vineyard too.*

**In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, *“Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.”***



**So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each.**





*These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.*

*Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?*



**They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. “The men who came last” they said “have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.”**




***My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?***



***Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.***



The image features three black crosses of varying heights and positions, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is a gradient of orange and red, with a darker horizon line. The crosses are simple, consisting of a vertical post and a horizontal bar. One cross is on the left, one is in the center, and one is on the right. The text is overlaid on the central cross.

"Thus, the last will be  
first, and the first will be  
last."

(Matthew 20:16)

# Bible Search

Read **Matthew 20:1-16** in your family Bible-this is the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.



# Consider



**How generous are you with your time and talents?**

# Praying to Jesus



**Pray for the grace to accept  
God's generosity to you.**

**Ask God to help you to let go of  
hurts and regrets.**

