

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, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "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. 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." He answered one of them and said, "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 Gospel of the Lord.**

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

20 SEPTEMBER 2020

**REFLECTING THE GENEROSITY OF GOD**

Today's Gospel is introduced as a parable 'about the kingdom of heaven'. That is, it illustrates the way in which God's rule is reclaiming the world for values that allow people to live lives that are human in the fullest sense of the word.

In the Palestine of Jesus' time, employment was for many a day to day business. Whether labourers got work—and the wage they needed to support themselves and their families—depended on whether they were hired for that day in the marketplace.

The story presupposes a long working day with successive hirings during the day. The 'just wage' agreed upon at the start of the day would have been a denarius, the standard wage for a day's labour. This is in fact what everyone receives, but when those who have laboured since early morning see even the latecomers paid this wage, they expect that in *their* case 'a just wage' will mean considerably more. Hence their grievance.

Jesus' message is that we cannot simply take the conventional idea of justice and apply it without qualification to God. God is just, but, beyond justice, reserves the right to be overwhelmingly generous as well. If the landowner, out of wider social concern, chooses to be generous and to pay everyone, deserving or not, what social justice today would call a 'living wage', this truly reflects the will and action of God. Aligning ourselves with this view of God has much to do with allowing the values of the kingdom to transform our lives and our world.

**Brendan Byrne, SJ**

**FIRST READING**

Isa 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*My thoughts are not your thoughts.*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.  
Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take  
pity on him,  
to our God who is rich in forgiving;  
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who  
speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth  
as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

**The word of the Lord.**

**RESP PSALM**

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18

**R. The Lord is near to all who call him.**

1. I will bless you day after day / and praise your name for ever. / The Lord is great, highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot be measured. **R.**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, / slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call him, / who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
**Philippians**

*For me to live is Christ.*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me



something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

**The word of the Lord.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

cf. Acts 16:14

**Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts,  
O Lord, / to listen to the words of your  
Son. / Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL**

Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
**Matthew.**

*Why are you jealous because I am generous?*

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



**Sacred Heart Parish Church**

Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale

81 Vivian St. Inverell, NSW 2360 (P. O. Box 107)

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Phone 67221103

**PRIESTS: FR JAMES POOVATHINKAL MS. P.P., VF**  
PPC Chair: Mrs Sharon Hollis

Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger—67224066  
Parish Secretary: Marion Fitzgerald—67221103. Office Hours  
Mon & Fri 8am—1pm; Thurs 8am—12 noon

**PARISH MASS TIMES**

**Sacred Heart Church Inverell**

Saturday 6.00pm  
Sunday 9.00am

Monday, Tuesday and 1st Saturday 9.30am  
Wednesday and Thursday 12 noon  
1st Friday Mass and Benediction 12 noon  
First Wednesday Anointing Mass (suspended) 12 noon

**McLean Village** Each Friday except 1st Friday 11.00am  
(suspended)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 8.15am - 9.15am  
Sunday 8.00am - 8.30am

**Tingha** St. Francis' Church Saturday 4.00pm  
**Ashford** St Patrick's Church 1st & 3rd Sunday 11.00am

**Bundarra** St Mary of the Angels 2nd & 4th Sun 11.00am

**Yetman** St Joseph the Worker 5th Sunday 11.30am

**Baptism (Saturday only) 11am;**

**Marriages and Funerals by Appointment**

**For emergencies please phone 0428-126703**



**PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

MON 21st Sept Rosary 9.00am  
**Mass 9.30am**  
(Feast of St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist)

TUE 22nd Sept Rosary 9.00am  
**Mass 9.30am**

WED 23rd Sept Rosary 11.30am  
**Mass 12 noon**

THU 24th Sept Rosary 11.30am  
**Mass 12 noon**

FRI 25th Sept Rosary 9.00am  
**Mass 9.30am**

SAT 26th Sept **No morning Mass**

**NOTE: Attendance at weekday Masses fulfil your Sunday obligation whilst Social Distancing applies due to Covid 19.**

**OUR VISION AND OUR MISSION**  
We as a PARISH, try to live out our  
**VISION: To continually form a Christ-centred community based on the Gospel Values expressed through SERVICE in peace, justice and love.**  
**MISSION: To know Christ more, His life and His teachings. To imbibe Christ's message of love and service. To try to share generously what graces and blessings we have and to be instruments of the Gospel message.**

**Mass Intentions for the Week**  
**Peter Koch, Pat Clancy, John Lennon, Lurline Mary Perrett, Patricia Durkin, Anne Migheli, Paul McCosker, David Watson and Edna Watson, Patricia Durkin, Bob Mather, Jim Noble, The Kelleher family, Cathy Matthews, Hannah Harris.**

**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK**  
Emma Donaldson, Wayne Lackey, Tony Starr, Ron Hedley (brother of Sr. Coral) Mary Kramer, Leo Germany, Baby Isabel Akhil, Terry Hopgood, Joan Hiscox, Paul Saint, Kerrie O'Keeffe, Carmel Hooper, Sr Leo (Josie) Clancy, Alana Goldman, Rhonda Lee Watts (daughter of Phyllis Nichols) John Sanders, David Sanders, Rex Parry, Jeanette Rennie, Danny Dickins, Katrina Newbigin, Bob Kneipp. Brian Barker, Dorothy Ball, Denise Taveira, Joanne Essey, Graham Tom, Fred Boight, Agnes Hannigan **and the sick members of our parish whose names are not listed here.**


**We Pray for the Recently Deceased**  
Kevin William James, Peter Koch (brother of Pat Bailey), Valerie Beveridge, Malcolm John Lane, Sr. Kathleen Price RSJ, Theresa Fitzpatrick (niece of Eileen Hanna) Jeremy Norman Campbell.  
**We Pray for the Anniversaries of**  
Pat Clancy, Lurline Mary Perrett.  
**Eternal life grant unto them Oh Lord ..... May their souls and all the faithful departed rest in peace.**

**2021 COLUMBAN CALENDARS**  
The 2021 Columban Calendars are now available in the Church foyer. Cost \$7.00 each.

**COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN FOR OUR PARISH**  
**Mass attendance and Weddings: One person per 4 square metre distance. The Sacred Heart Church can accommodate 100 worshippers at a time.**  
**Funerals: up to 50 attendees without the 4 square metre rule, provided 'non-household' contacts can maintain 1.5 metre physical distance. Maximum 100.**  
**Please sit in the Allocated Seats to observe Social Distancing regulations.**  
**Contact Sheets: placed at each opened entrance to the Church. Parishioners attending the Church are required to record their full names. Visitors are required to record their name and contact details. This is a health tracing requirement in case of a Corona Virus outbreak. The sheets will be removed after each Mass and kept confidential.**  
**If you are unwell please stay at home.**  
**If you require Home Communion contact the office.**

**20TH SEPTEMBER 2020 – 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A**

**THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION THIS SUNDAY**  
We congratulate all the students in Groups 1 and 2 who are taking the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday, and we welcome all the families who are supporting them in their faith journey. Please keep them in your prayers for this holy occasion.




**CONFIRMATION NEXT SUNDAY**  
Sunday 27th September 2020  
Group 3 Confirmation Mass 2.30pm  
*Please note: Mass is restricted to the students and their families due to Covid 19 regulations.*

**ALTER SOCIETY ROSTER FOR SEPTEMBER**  
Pat Mather, Judy Harris and Yvonne Campbell

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**  
Finance Committee Thursday 24th September 5.30pm

**HOME ROSARY**  
**TINGHA** Bernie & Colleen Graham  
11 Diamond Street  
**Wednesday 23rd Sept at 4.30pm**  
(every Wednesday)  
**INVERELL** Fred & Jeanette Rennie  
48 A Bennett Street  
**Wednesday 23rd Sept at 4.00pm**



**PRAYER TO GOD FOR HELP**  
God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us your sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and bodies. Look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief. Deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in the moment of trial but deliver us from all evil.  
  
We ask this through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, and Saint Joseph, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION**  
Due to Covid19 'Social Distancing' rules, parishioners are asked to **process in a single line** down either of the **two narrow aisles** to receive Communion, then **returning** to their pew via the main centre aisle or far aisles. Please maintain a 1.5metre distance between each other.  
**Thank you.**

Due to Covid19 we have suspended some of our Ministries and reduced numbers rostered in others. Thank you for understanding.

	19th SEPT—SAT 6PM	20th SEPT—SUN 9AM	26th SEPT—SAT 6PM	27th SEPT—SUN 9AM
<b>ROSTER</b>				
<b>GREETERS</b>	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
<b>PROJECTOR</b>	SIMON SMITH	DIANE BRYANT	NOELA TURNER	RHONDA MCGREGOR
<b>READERS</b>	SHAYNE O' BRIEN	ROSIE LONG	MARIE WARD	MARGARET ROBINSON
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	JO KELLY	MARGARET ROBINSON	PATSY ARMSTRONG	ROSIE LONG
<b>GIFTS</b>	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
<b>COMMUNION MINISTER</b>	JENNY MONIE	BRETT PISCHKE	RODNEY MOFFITT	JUDY HARRIS
<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
<b>MUSIC MINISTRY</b>	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
<b>CANTOR</b>				
<b>COLLECTION</b>	Collection baskets	are at each of the	entrances to the	Church. Thank you.
<b>MORNING TEA</b>	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
<b>COUNTERS</b>		G. HENRY and T. NEWBERRY		J. FRATER & D. HANNIGAN