



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.'

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Our attention shifts slightly in these last Sundays of Ordinary Time. We turn from concentration on the character and responsibilities of discipleship to reflection on the import of the end of time. As we move toward the close of the liturgical year, we are invited to consider the final coming of Christ and the last judgment.

The thought of judgment is enough to strike fear in the hearts of many. We sometimes experience tension between the idea of divine justice, which requires that the good be adequately rewarded and the evil be appropriately punished, and that of the mercy of God, which we hope will be generously extended to us. As seen in the readings for this Sunday, the justice of God does not conform to the standards of human justice. It is incomprehensible, because its foundation is mercy. While we might find consolation in this view of divine judgment when it is directed toward us, our hearts do not always seem to be generous enough to rejoice in the mercy extended to others. It is almost as if we feel that we have been cheated in some way, if God is merciful to others. However, divine mercy can work in us to abolish our pettiness and indignation and replace it with generosity of heart. We are called to conduct ourselves with this kind of generosity, this kind of love, this kind of mercy.

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The Living Word

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

20 September 2020

First Reading Is 55:6-9

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.

Responsorial 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

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.

Gospel Acclamation See Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel Mt 20:1-16

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 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



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Michaelite Fr Stan Kluk CSMA PP Fr George Gorzkowski CSMA

Community: Fr Anthony Casamento CSMA

SUNDAY MASS: Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am & 5:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS: Mon 8:30am, Tues 7:00pm, Wed 8:30am, Thur 8:30am, Fri 7:00am,
Sat 8:30am. Public Holidays 8:30am

Reconciliation: Saturday after morning Mass or by appointment.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00am to 3:00pm Mon – Fri

ST VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL HELP CENTRE: 9809 2757

Next Week: 26th Ordinary (A) Ezekiel 18:25-28; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32.

COVID-19 Update

Parishioners are reminded of the NSW Government advice to **wear face masks** as a safeguard to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. If parishioners choose not to wear a mask, they should be careful to ensure they maintain a clear distance of 1.5 metres from others.

Congregational singing, the sign of peace and passing of the collection plate continue to be suspended at this time.

Mass attendance numbers are limited to a **maximum of 100 people**, providing there is a four square metre space around each person, with the exception of people from the same household.

Up to 150 people are now allowed to attend church weddings.

Parishioners must not mingle before, during or after Mass since social distancing rules cannot be easily observed.

Our Flame Gift Shop is OPEN! Check out the great selection of cards and gifts for all occasions. Come in and visit us and see our range of sacramental and general gifts. There is something for everyone. All proceeds benefit our parish!



PRAYERS FOR HEALING: Barbara Kortynski, Dorota Gorzkowski.

PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF: Rondalea Perkins, Katherine Armstrong, Hilda Prandolini recently deceased.

Also, the Escalante & Venal families, Frank & Edgar Falzon, Ignazio (Jim) Torrisi, Walter Gaspari, Charlie & Melina Bietola, Dr Raphael Panetta, Rosina & Michele Panetta, Rosa & Raffaele Fazzolari, Vincenzo & Caterina Cincotta, Mary & Sam Bietola, Frank Ientile, Maria Ientile, John, Annarita, Antonio Ientile, Natale Papandrea, Papandrea, Ientile, Cessario families, Angelo Fazzolari & Fazzolari family, Fortunato & Rosa Galluzzo & Galluzzo family, Rosina, Giuseppe, Salvatore & Bruno Panetta, Luigi, Rosina, Pasquale & Santa Genova, Mario & Dirce Gualdi, Antonino & Tindara Caravello, Alberto Tanzini, Angelina & Antonino Rando, Giuseppe & Maria Caterina Pupo, Baby Cove Rose Pupo, Emmanuela Delia, Angelo, Carmela & Paul Scicluna, Gregory Zammit, Christopher Cissie, Pauline Zahra, Lina Maria & Joe Mallia, Arthur McKenzie, Gwen McKenzie, Ellen Brown, Kevin O'Connor, Zilla Harriott, Silvestro Calandra, Walter Buhagiar, Rosina & Giuseppe Cessario, Frederick & Catherine Assender and the deceased members of the Zammit and Zahra families.

e-Petition to proclaim Modern Slavery Act 2018

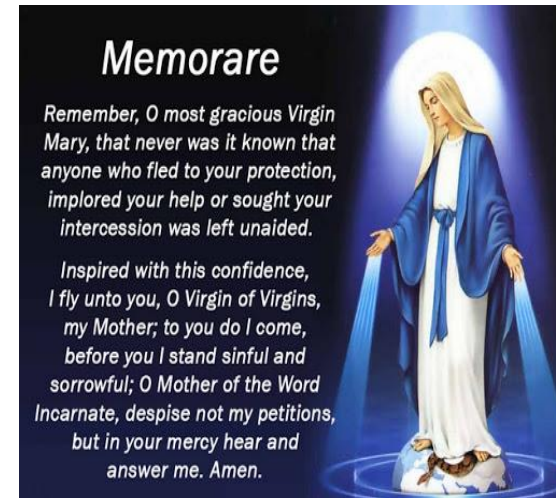
Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP is encouraging people to sign an e-Petition calling on the Premier and the NSW Government to take immediate steps to proclaim the state's Modern Slavery Act 2018.

Despite this law having passed parliament over two years ago, it still hasn't been brought into law, thanks to stalling tactics which have failed some of our state's most vulnerable citizens.

The link: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/la/pages/epetitions-list.aspx>. The closing date for signing the e-Petition has been extended to 3 November 2020.

Over 8000 people have so far signed the petition and with the securing of 20,000 or more e-signatures, a debate on the subject of the e-Petition will be activated in the Legislative Assembly.

We welcome into our Christian community through the Sacrament of Baptism
Evelyn Noonan and congratulate her family.



Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Outreaching to all of those who have experienced a marriage breakdown and question the validity of their first marriage as understood by the Church.

Enquiries: Ph (02) 6239 9813 Email: tribunal@cg.org.au

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