

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

FIRST READING – Isaiah 55: 6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 144: 2-3, 8-9, 17-18.

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

I will bless you day after day
and praise your name forever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. R.

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.

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 – Philippians 1: 20-24, 27

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

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia

GOSPEL – Matthew 20: 1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one 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.

Let's reflect...

"So the last will be first and the first last." (Matthew 20:16)
You've heard the saying "It's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives.

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY

In Thanksgiving: Hysen Fernando, Janet Bordon, Annie Papasin, Lucia S. Calderon, Milani Querubin, Lynette Lawrence, Gina Penaranda, Eleanor Shewin, Dhen Santullo, Athan Eustace

For the sick: James Xavier (4), IF Xavier (4), Geroza Phillips (4), Soï Ale, Parveen Jawad

For those who have died recently: Marie Lorraine Bonne, Dorothy Braz, Leslie Macdonald

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Dolly & Tommy Lane, Richard D'Souza

ST. KEVIN'S PARISH

HAMPTON PARK

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Year A)



19th & 20th September 2020

PARISH CENTRE
120 Hallam Road,
Hampton Park, Vic. 3976
Tel: 9799 2108
Email: HamptonPark@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Friday (9.30am – 4:00pm)

PARISH PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Desmond Moloney
ASSISTANT PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Dong Tran
DEACON : Rev. Dr. Graeme Pender
PARISH SECRETARIES: Mrs. Michelle Rimmelzwaan
Mrs. Indrani Guinan
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
ST. KEVIN'S : Jason Micallef – 9709 8600
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES : Christine White – 8773 6700

Parish Website
<https://stkevins.org.au/>
'Support us' page
<https://stkevins.org.au/support-us/>
YouTube Channel
<https://youtu.be/k-qBOvfy-I0>
(st kevins parish hampton park)
You can now follow us on Facebook too!

Sacrament of Penance/ Reconciliation
Until further notice the Saturday morning time for the Sacrament of Penance/ Reconciliation will be suspended. Arrangements can be made privately by contacting one of the priests.

What's GCCM ???
GCCM stands for Global Catholic Climate Movement. Pope Francis sees the work of GCCM as helping to bring his encyclical letter, Laudato Si, to life. This year the Board of Directors and staff of GCCM held a meeting with Pope Francis to mark the fifth anniversary of GCCM's founding and the fifth anniversary of the release of Laudato Si.

Pope Francis urges the world's 1.2 billion Catholics and all people of good will to take urgent action against injustice of climate change and the ecological crisis, to protect the poor and future generations. Laudato Si is a compelling call to care for our common home, Earth, building on a long history of Catholic teaching.

www.catholicclimatemovement.global

Social Services Sunday, a time to reflect and give thanks

On 20th September 2020, we mark Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we are invited to give thanks and pray for all who stand with and provide support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our communities. Catholic Social Services Victoria comprises 45 member organisations, the 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who together, serve more than 200,000 people in need each year. We might give thanks too, for all in our parishes, who are so often at the forefront of providing practical support and care to those in need within their local communities, and beyond. Our attention is drawn to a recent event hosted by CSSV (Catholic Social Services Victoria), Counselling and Therapeutic Support in a Time of COVID, which provided an opportunity to become more familiar with mental health services, and how to practically reach out for or point to assistance.

A short reflection for 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

The justice and integrity of God flow throughout the whole of creation. God's generosity knows no bounds, and sometimes, as Jesus shows us in today's parable - it is too much for human minds to comprehend. Quite simply, God's ways are not our ways.

Isaiah, in the First Reading, calls us to turn back and seek out the Lord. The Lord is near to us, and full of mercy and forgiveness. The response to the Psalm declares that the Lord is close to all who call him. Our Lord is kind, full of compassion, and his abounding love is for the whole of creation. Such wonderful greatness cannot be measured.

St. Paul, in the Second Reading, declares that life itself is Christ, and his evident enthusiasm encourages us to fully embrace a life centred on Christ.

In today's Gospel passage in Matthew 20: 1-16, Jesus uses a parable of workers in the vineyard to challenge and stretch our thinking about those who are called to live and work for the Kingdom of God. We are all equal in God's eyes, and there is no room for human ideas of hierarchy and self-importance. The first will be last and the last will be first.

Friends, as we come to pray together, with Christ at the centre of all that we are and do, how might we live out these radical Gospel values in a world that is in so much need of the kindness and compassion of God?

May we have the grace to listen to the cry of the prophet, and to seek the Lord with all our heart, mind and spirit. In this coming week, let us pray for each other with a generous love, recognising that we are all equal as we work together in the vineyard of the Lord.