



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.'

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Reflection by Greg Sunter

On a first reading of this gospel story, the reader is probably struck by the unfairness of the situation. The landowner has employed day labourers at different times throughout the day to work in his vineyard. However, come the end of the day, the landowner pays all the day labourers the same amount. Not surprisingly, the labourers employed at daybreak to work the whole day are upset that those who have only worked the last hour of the day are paid the same amount. The landowner reminds them that he is paying them what they agreed at the start of the day, and yet the reader is left uncomfortable about the whole arrangement.

Of course, this is the purpose of Jesus' story! The key to the story is in the introduction. Most of the kingdom parables told by Jesus begin with a formulaic statement, 'The kingdom is like ...' and this one is no different. What follows is almost always a description of an everyday event that is turned on its head. In all of the kingdom parables recorded in the gospels, Jesus describes a world order in which people respond in unexpected and sometimes confusing ways. His message is that the kingdom, or reign, of God turns expectations upside down. In the kingdom, people who are treated badly in this world are held in great esteem; the balance of power is turned upside down; and the usual order of things is challenged. The landowner's final comment in the parable, 'the last will be first, and the first, last', is a perfect example of the challenging nature of Jesus' kingdom parables. In the kingdom, those who hold themselves to be first in this world will be brought down, and those who are treated as least in this world will be exalted.

The Living Word

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

24 September 2023

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



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Rev. Peter Krigovsky
Secretary: Mrs. Zenna Azar (Tuesday 9.30am—5.30pm)
Address: 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall NSW 2198 **Telephone:** 9727 3759
Website: <http://www.smgh.org.au> **Email:** parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Facebook: [fb.me/smgh2](https://www.facebook.com/smgh2) **Streaming:** <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall
God and us Together

Principal: Mrs Monica Palmer **Website:** www.stmgeorghall.syd.catholic.edu.au
School Tel: 9727 0000 **School email:** info@stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES (English):
 Vigil Mass 5 pm (Saturday)
 Sunday 8.00 am & 10.00 am
 Weekdays: Wednesday 6 pm
 Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9.00 am

VIETNAMESE MASS
 Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday)
 Sunday 5.30pm

RECONCILIATION
 Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm
 or anytime on request

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
 Wednesday 5.00pm—6.00pm
 Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
 Offered to those in need on
 1st Tuesday at 9.00am Mass

Baptisms: Sunday 11.00am
 Bookings are necessary

Children first Sacraments:
 Please contact Elaine Nehme email:
nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

Parish site maintenance:
 John Impala Phone TBA
 Ivan Leskur Phone TBA

Parish Pastoral Council:
 Bernie Freeburn, Veronica Dening,
 Elaine Nehme, Zenna Azar,
 Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz,
 Monica Palmer, Linh Bui,
 Jannette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

Finance Committee:
 Bernie Freeburn, Michael Anderson,
 Ted Goetz, Veronica Dening, Eileen Stevenson

Golden oldies:
 Lorraine Impala

St Vincent de Paul:
 Mary Scott

Scripture:
 Lorraine Corkeron

Music Ministry: TBA

Youth Ministry: TBA



COVID-19 is still around, Please use sanitiser when you enter the church.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES If you are interested in any diocesan events, please collect a copy of additional bulletin at the back of the church.

VALE FATHER JOHN O'KEEFE

Father O'Keefe, our parish's first parish priest has passed away at the age of 92. He oversaw the building or our parish presbytery, school and current church. His funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 27 September at 11am at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Catholic Church 458 Main Road, Norville. May the angels lead him to paradise, may he rest in peace. Amen
 Please let Fr. Peter know if you are planning to go, as there are other parishioners who might want to share a ryde.



VALE BERYL MORAN

Beryl has been a parishioner at St Mary's from the beginning has passed away at the age of 95. The Requiem Mass is scheduled on Friday 29th September at 10.30am in our parish church. May the angels lead her to paradise, may she rest in peace. Amen



Please note that due to the funeral, there will be no Adoration on Friday.

THANK YOU FOR SUCH A BEAUTIFUL GIFT - in honour of Jenny Falvy - the beautiful candle lighter/snuffer was presented to the parish on Thursday by Patrick Falvy. Thank you Patrick (and Jenny) for such a special gift.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY - the next Children's Liturgy will be this weekend during the 10am Sunday mass. We encourage all primary school-aged children to attend.

2023 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Registration and Information night occurred last Wednesday 13 September. If your child is yet to register, please send all enquiries via email: nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

HANDLING COLLECTION MONEY In light of recent incident in our church the Finance Committee at the meeting last week proposed the following in regards to handling the collection money:
 - it is never to be left out of view unattended
 - it is to be brought to the altar immediately after each collection
 - it is to be collected from the altar by a collector and carried as part of the recessional procession and left in the front sacristy
 - once the altar servers clear the back sacristy, it is to be transferred there into money bags by at least two unrelated people and deposited in the safe.
 Thank you for your understanding.



GOLDEN OLDIES BUS TRIP

Last Wednesday all were on time and marked off the attendance sheet for a long-awaited outing for our oldies. All behaved very well except one man whom I pulled into line. It was lovely to have jokes with each other and relax after so long away from our trips. Fr Peter said a prayer for us before we left. We headed south along the M5 then Camden Valley before heading to Mount Annan Botanical Gardens for some free time and a photo opportunity. We headed to Spring Farm to check out Frank's fabulous new home before arriving at Camden Valley Inn for lunch to feed my hungry 'little babies'. We enjoyed beautiful meals while chatting away to others including two couples who moved from our parish. Chips and lollies on the way home, we arrived back at 3pm. Kind regards, Lorraine Impala

BIBLE STUDY All young adults are invited to join us this Thursday at 6:30pm in the Church for Bible study! If you have any questions, please contact Grace at gracemokdassi@gmail.com

MONEY COUNTERS NEEDED Our parish is inviting retired parishioners to help with money counting. We are hoping to establish 3-4 counting teams of 2-3 unrelated people. All training will be provided. Please see Fr. Peter for more

information. Thank you.

WATER LEAK There is a water leaking into the church during sprinkler irrigation. Please use manual irrigation until the problem is rectified. Thank you.

BEWARE OF SCAMS One of our parishioners has received a scam email soliciting money in the name of Fr. Peter. Please note Fr. Peter will never ask you for money. If in doubt always check with Fr. Peter personally. Simply ignore any such requests without responding to them.

SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 02 9390 5810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **Our parish** has a folder with Safeguarding information in the church for parishioners to view. Check out the latest safeguarding newsletter. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

Date/Mass	Greeters	Commentator	Proclaimers	Extraordinary Ministers	Acolytes	Altar Servers	Altar Servers
September 23/24 - 25th Sunday A							
5.00 pm Sat	Chris Lockart	Pauline Tonkli	Mary Gibbons	Annette Simpson Eileen Stevenson	Laurie Simpson	Gabriel Azar	Anthony Torbay
8.00 am Sun		Jenny Freeburn	Danuta Maka	Nat Goetz Ted Goetz	Bernie Freeburn	Lucas Ross Joseph Ross	Nicholas Coorey
10.00 am Sun		Ghanem Family	Maurice Gili	Gill Cramp Alex Driessen	Andrew Driessen	James Ghanem	
September 30/October 1 - 25th Sunday A							
5.00 pm Sat	Lorraine Impala	Abraham Family	Pauline Tonkli	Eileen Stevenson Zenna Azar	Paul Evans	Gabriel Azar	Anthony Torbay
8.00 am Sun		Coorey Family	Goetz Family	Carmen Heredia Jenny freeburn	Mike Anderson	Lucas Ross Joseph Ross	Nicholas Coorey
10.00 am Sun		Rosemary Lim	Ghanem Family	Maurice Gili Gill Cramp		James Ghanem	



Please Remember in Your Prayers Our Sick

Lucia Zenere, Joseph Akkary, Beryl Moran, Paul Tonkli, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Paul Evans, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Barbara Kains, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Cornelius Van Baardwyk



Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died

Beryl Moran, Rev John O'Keefe, Josephine and Thomas Pientka, Elias Lattouf, Zarifi Lattouf, Joe Lattouf, Eddie Counihan, Mervyn Thompson, Antoine Wehbe, Halina Donarska, Tamam & Serg Nohra

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.
 May they rest in peace. Amen.*