

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sept 20, 2020

ST. MARY PARISH WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Sept 22 - 7:00 p.m. Harry Moyer Req'd by Lorine & Florence Moyer
Wed. Sept 23 - 9:00 a.m. Adele Raftis Req'd by Ron & Marian Flanigan
Thur. Sept 24 - 9:00 a.m. Healing Mass for Bob McIntee
Fri. Sept 25 - 9:00 a.m. Patrick & Stella Mulhal & Dec'd members of their Family Req'd by Estate
Sat. Sept 26 - 4:00 p.m. Raimond Zettler Req'd by Mary & Bob McIntee
Sun. Sept 27 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

LECTORS

Sat. Sept 26 - 4:00 p.m. Rachel McCarthy
Sun. Sept 27 - 9:00 a.m. Debra Ross

CONFESSION only by appointment, call Fr. Joe at: 519-323-1054 ext. 7

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Sept 26- 5:30 p.m The People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Sept 27 - 11:00 a.m. Response of the soul of Harry Moyer Req'd by Agnes & Roy Diemert

Let us begin in earnest to work out our salvation, for no one will do it for us since even be himself who made us without ourselves will not save us without ourselves.

-St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

The air that we breathe, the bread that we eat, the heart which throbs in our bosoms, are not more necessary for people that they may live as human beings, that is prayer for the Christian that one may live as a Christian.

-St. John Eudes

A seed will not grow without earth and water; and a person will not develop without voluntary suffering and divine help.

-St. Mark the Ascetic

who work just an hour or two. When viewed in this way, the landowner seems unfair. That is because we are reading into the parable our own preconceived notions of how fairness and equality should be quantified.

A close read shows us that the landowner paid on the terms that were negotiated. The landowner, it seems, has acted completely justly. The parable goes beyond that, however, and we come to see that the landowner is not simply just, he is exceptionally just. He is radically just. He has given those who labored in the field for a full day their due pay. But he has also given a full-day's wage to those who worked only a single hour. No one is cheated, but a few receive abundantly from the landowner just as we receive from God more than what is merely justifiable or due. God, like the landowner, is radically just and abundantly generous. The workers who complain are made to look foolish as they lament the fact that landowner has made all workers equal. Indeed, what more could one ask for than to be treated as an equal at work or anywhere else?

The parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God's abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God's generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people. When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God's radically different ways.

Family Connection

The workers in this parable sound very much like squabbling children, comparing what they have each been given and making complaints to the parent. Among children there is a tendency to equate love with gifts and material things. This tendency can devolve into a spirit of entitlement, which runs counter to the spirit of gratitude. Any effort we make to overcome this tendency, to keep love from being entwined with gifts and possessions, will enable our children to accept completely the love that God gives freely and generously.

Catechetical Correspondence Course

Programs available for children from Kindergarten through to High School not currently receiving religious instruction. Preparation for First Communion and Confirmation for children not in Catholic Schools also available. Families work through the programs at home. Contact Monica in the Catechesis Office at 905-528-7988, ext. 2238 or check out our website at www.hamiltondiocese.com and click on the Catechesis Office for more information, printable registration forms or to register online.

Parenting Tip of the Month

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we live in very real ways. Children are not immune to the impact that the virus has had and have probably heard more than we realize between media news clips and overhearing adults talking. This is a time to talk to your children and help them understand more fully what is going on in the world. Tell them that they can help themselves and others to be healthy and safe by following the instructions given by their parents, by teachers at school and by other adults who care for them. Remind them that our Catholic faith adheres to the fact that every person has dignity and each of us has to do our part to keep all people as safe as possible. As a family pray daily for all people to remain vigilant in their actions so we can defeat this virus. Empowering our children with concrete information and actions to undertake can prevent the development of very real anxieties from developing.

Marriage Tip of the Month

Couple relationships often experience strain during times of stress and the last several months have provided some of the highest stress many couples have faced. It is important to step back and recognize why tensions might be running high and then engage in actions that can release the pent up stress. Try cooking together, walking, biking or hiking together, praying together, or any activity that will bring laughter to the day. It may even mean finding ways to have some time apart, whether that be one person being outside while the other is in, or one person being on one floor of the house, while the other is on another. Time together is wonderful, but too much can be distressing! Remember that you are in this together and together you can find ways to feel connected and beat any feelings of stress.

Experiencing Stress in Your Marriage? Thinking about Separation or Divorce?—Is your marriage not what you hoped it would be? Are you, or a relative or friend, heading for a possible divorce? Retrouvaille is designed to help marriages regain their health. The Retrouvaille program is highly successful in saving marriages and in helping them to thrive. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on Oct. 23, 2020. Please call 905-664-5212 or email: Teamrecine@gmail.com or visit the website at www.retrouvaille.org.

Struggling After an Abortion?

Either your own, or someone else's? Do you feel alone, emotional, or angry? Project Rachel is available to help. This confidential service allows people to workthrough their feelings on an individual basis, with a trained counsellor, and find hope and healing. Please contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry.
- John 6.35

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Mon.- Rev. F. Hubilla Tue.- Very Rev. W. Kuzma

Diaconate Formation Candidates
Thurs.- Rev. J. McSharry

Fri. - Rev. J. Okoko, i.v.Dei. Sat.- Rev. Ch. Tracey

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.
Roman 15.13

"Seek the Lord while he may be found..." While searching, listen; could be that you are being called to serve as a priest? If God calling you, contact **Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com**

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

God's ways are far beyond the ways of human beings.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 145:2-3,8-9,17-18

God is near to those who call upon him.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:20c-24,27a

Paul tells the Philippians to live for Christ.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

In the parable of the workers in the vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's generous mercy.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In today's Gospel, the parable of the workers in the vineyard appears to be an offense to common sense. Those who work a longer day ought to be paid more than those